

**Orleton and Richards Castle Neighbourhood Development Plan Steering Group:Notes** from a meeting at Richards Castle Village Hall, Thursday 3 December 2015

**12/15/1: Present** at the meeting were **a) Members:** David English (DE), Richard Hewitt (Treasurer RH), Richard Jack (RJ), Peter Owen (PO), Donald Pickard (Secretary, DP), Mike Saunders (MS), David Small (Chair, DS)

**b)Apologies** received from:John Alderman (JA),Pauline Betteridge (PB),Martin Bradford (MB) and Elizabeth Moran (EM),

c) **In attendance was** Bill Bloxsome (Data Orchard)

It was noted that this is the last meeting for Donald Pickard as a member (and Secretary) and he was thanked for the work he had done. The Chair had had conversation with John Alderman who is having to withdraw from active work with the group, on health grounds.

**12/15/2:** Declarations of interest by members: none

**12/15/3:**The **notes** of the meeting of 5 November 2015 (151105 notes.doc) were received.

**12/15/4 Matters arising from the notes.**

11/15/6 Brian Powell to be asked to supply a paragraph re flooding/sewage in Orleton RJ consulted BrianP and has produced a paragraph to be incorporated

11/15/6 EM to contact Herefordshire Council re Ecological Network Map and Historical environmental data. No report was available: EM is producing photographs of significant features

11/15/6 Walk-round of the two villages on 16/11/25: was carried out successfully.

11/15/7 Rough Draft of plan has not yet been supplied by BB

11/15/9: OS copyright number has not yet been supplied to BB: copies of maps which have been brought to the meeting were consulted to ascertain the numbers required. DS and BB will work together to source the electronic copies of maps.

**12/15/5: Correspondence:** none received

**12/15/6 Report on current financial position and projection of expenditure**

No update was presented: the deadline for the end of the present grant will be January 2016.

**12/15/7 To receive reports from sub-groups meeting following the last meeting**

**MS** reported that the information for RC has largely been collected

**BB** drew attention to environmental issues which would have to be included

**DS** circulated a draft map showing possible variants which could be made to the Orleton settlement boundary. It was agreed that the variants shown are the likeliest for consideration, noting that one of the sites is vulnerable to flooding (and that the present Orleton PC planning position is to bar on any development until the village sewage problems have been resolved). BB summarised that it would now be possible to produce a further draft (as in Matters arising 11/15/7 above) and indicated that he would attempt to do so by the beginning of January. He requested that both villages kept him informed of issues to be included.

**The aim would be for the Steering Group to meet early in the new year to advance the Regulation 14 proposals.**

**12/15/8:** A Regulation 14 submission (proposals to be notified to the villages for comment) might be prepared and published by the middle of February. This would be followed by a Strategic Environmental Assessment and a Habitats Regulation Assessment (if required, since both villages drain into the Teme). Gemma has indicated that two weeks might be required to carry out this work.

Reg 14 is what is to be agreed by the Steering Group (Feb – end March). (Probably concentrating on Housing and Environmental Issues). To be followed by consideration of representations and any subsequent changes required to the draft.

Reg 15 is consideration and agreement by the Parish Councils

Reg 16 is the final agreement by the Hereford Council, which requires 6 weeks consultation, to be followed submission to planning inspectors and then the village referendum.

MS will prepare a note for the Grapevine and Castle News January editions indicating this process.

**12/15/9 Nomination of a new secretary for the Steering Group:** RH undertook to keep action notes only from each meeting on the understanding that BB will be writing up the amendments agreed at each meeting and preparing the final Reg 14 submission.

**12/15/10 There was no further business:**

**12/15/11 Date of next meeting: Wednesday 13 January, 7.00 at Richards Castle Hall.**