

Minutes Tavistock NDP Steering Group meeting

Monday 17th July 2023

Tavistock Council Chamber

Steering Group members attending

Ursula Mann, Chair & Cllr
Pete Squire Cllr
Julu Irvine Cllr
Stuart Honey, Secretary
Dr Sharon Gedye (SFHEA)
Kit Harbottle
Gemma Loving*
Sue Spackman
Ian Wright

Apologies

Trevor Munro Cllr
Janna Sanders, BID Manager

Apologies other attendees

Wayne Southall, General Manager, Tavistock Town Council
Neil Martin, Cllr / Tamar Energy (Visitor)

*We are delighted to welcome Gemma Loving as steering group member, unanimously approved.

1/ Review of previous minutes 7th June 2023

Approved

Note: Sharon Gedye attended Devon Local Nature Partnership conference: *Local Nature Recovery Strategy – identifying priorities and actions* - very useful; learning about identifying and building in biodiversity green corridors into the plan; flooding and river restoration.

2/ Finance Report

We have had one invoice from Stuart Todd Associates (STA) for £825.00 for consultations with topic leads during the evidence gathering stage. We are anticipating that the bulk of consultant's time will be spent drafting policies from comments and new evidence gathered during summer, into Autumn, and attendance at future SG meeting, later this year to present draft plan. Grants from Locality remain unavailable, and no updates have been given regarding the renewal by DLUHC. This includes the technical assistance for a housing design guide which was applied for by the group in the previous quarter – and this is also on hold, so work on this cannot be progressed at this time. However, all other funding we need, will currently be provided under the TTC localism budget.

3/ Setting schedule for feeding back evidence and changes to STA for draft plan.

Consensus is that more time is needed in putting together the evidence gathering before handing material for STA to produce:

July – October: evidence gathering; policy outline; coordination between topic leads as needed.

October/November: All material from Topic leads, collated and sent to STA for drafting plan

TBA: Stuart Todd to attend SG meeting.

TBA(early 2024): Consultation with community on Draft plan – see 4/ below.

Timeline is such, that plan will be ready for submission, with community comments and SG responses in Spring 2024.

4/ Community Consultation

Methods to reach community include: opportunity to display plan at Library, Tavistock Chamber of Commerce presentation; we have budget to do a mailout to town residents; newsletter and social media; public meeting; Zoom meetings.

In the meantime, a summer update newsletter will be sent out

5/ Topic lead updates

Evidence gathering is continuing, supported by updates and surveys on social media and newsletter, ways to involve local community examples include:

Heritage survey for Local List, followed by research. July 31st deadline for submissions. (SS)

Community - TaviSkate/NDP survey on skating park is online; Use of/needs of Community facility survey being designed for social media/website/email. Meetings with groups arranged, including scouts. (TM, IW)

Transport - cycling survey being completed by WDBC currently, link to meetings listed below. Lots of supporting data has been sourced already and uploaded into Gathering Evidence folder on Dropbox by KH.

5/ Topic lead updates, Continued

Green space allocation is in progress, sites will need to be visited, landowners identified and contacted. (SG, JI) SG to provide list of sites to UM to find contact details/search land registry as needed. (UM) Landscape Views to protect social media and website details, underpinned by JLP Landscape Character analysis. May need to ask local photographers to document views. (SG, UM).

Housing Topic– proposal to back evidence gathering by interviewing about 10 local residents, directly affected by problems highlighted in finding the right affordable housing locally; human stories to supplement the graphs and the statistics. UM will contact Devon Communities Together (who did great work for us with the initial survey in 2022), to get costings for undertaking this project. The initial approach will be to do a call-out for people to be interviewed via local press and social media. It is felt that this work should be done by an external ‘neutral’ third party, rather than doing the work internally ourselves. SG unanimously agreed to allocate funds for this work, authorised up to £500.

GL who is an architect is going to join UM in housing topic. She will be looking at design guide information and reviewing Dartmoor and JLP supplementary planning guides as a starting place. Due to funding issues identified above it may be that individual policies will need to be identified rather than a full design guide to keep plan timing in place.

6/ AOB - Notice of external meetings

West Country River Trust 27th July 2023, 2.00pm Tavistock Council Chamber

Initial meeting to discuss details of flood catchment project for Whitchurch; explore ways in which NDP can support the work they are doing.

Emma Bristow, Devon County Council, Town Council members, and consultants, to discuss ‘Local cycling and walking infrastructure Plans’ (LCWIP) – Teams meeting on August 1, 2023 10:00am

7/Next SG meeting

6:30 pm Wednesday 6th September 2023, Tavistock Council Chamber

No further AOB Meeting adjourned at 7.30pm