

CWNP Open Space Topic Group *DRAFT Minutes*

Open Space, Natural Environment, Countryside and Leisure

Meeting No. 1

Tuesday 18 June 2013 from 6.30pm – 7.45pm
Hartland's Quay, Eton

- 1- **Welcome, introductions and apologies for absence**
Present: Susy Shearer (Chair), Cllr George Fussey, Ian Bacon, Trevor Robinson, Cllr James Evans
Apologies: John Bastow, Nick Clemo, John Holdstock, Jane Daly
Susy welcomed all those present and thanked them for coming to the meeting.
- 2- **CWNP area: boundaries and existing open spaces** (SS)
 - *Wards include the Windsor section of Eton & Castle; Castle Without; Clewer East; and Park.*
 - *Some public open spaces are shared with other NP areas, eg. River Thames.*
 - *RBWM Open Space Audit provides a comprehensive list of all types of formal and informal public open space provision and is included in the "Evidence Base" documents which will be used to support the drafting of Borough Local Plan and, by extension, CWNP policies.*
- 3- **The current RBWM Local Plan: key "Open Space" principles and policies** (SS)
 - *TG members are encouraged to familiarise themselves with specific Local Plan policies relating to open Space Policies (R1-R6), as well as relevant policies in other sections of the LP, as these will not only serve as important background but also provide a helpful framework for considering the formulation of CWNP policy focus, structure and wording.*
 - *RBWM Open Space SPG interprets the policies, enabling implementation and Section 106 funding to be collected from developers. Familiarity with this will help residents understand issues relating to open space provision in the local environment.*
- 4- **The new Borough Local Plan: consultation details** (GF)
 - *Public consultation is expected to take place in Summer 2013.*
 - *It is anticipated that a draft BLP will go to Cabinet (members of the public will be invited to attend the meeting but not speak) and then out to consultation in August/September; redrafting based on results of this and incorporating more evidence will go into a final draft to be submitted to Cabinet in December 2013. There will be a Pre-Submission Consultation, followed by analysis of results, ideally leading to formal submission in January / February 2014.*
- 5- **RBWM "Evidence Base": what it is, its relevance and how to access it** (SS)
 - *The RBWM Council website link is http://www.rbwm.gov.uk/web/pp_evidence_base.htm*
 - *Documents included in this provide evidence which supports LP / new BLP policies will also support the drafting of NP policies.*
 - *Specific documents have direct relevance to different aspects of planning but also inform the whole of planning.*
 - *The RBWM Sustainability Appraisal will need to be taken into consideration at every stage of the NP process. NP inspection – what will be required in terms of evidence*
- 6- **NPPF policies: brief recap of relevant statements and principles** (GF)
 - *Overall vision: what is encompassed within "Open Space" designation*
 - *Greenbelt and certain types of specific designation receive more specific attention and guidance in NPPF policy than some other aspects of open space provision, and the "Presumption in favour of Sustainable Development" is the principle underlying the overall vision of the NPPF.*
 - *GF has created a Powerpoint Presentation which summarises paragraph references and headings and made copies available for TG members; this can also be posted on the CWNP website.*
- 7- **CWNP Open Spaces TG "Vision Statement": how we get there** (SS)
 - *Bray NP flow chart provides very clear "5-Step" guidance; this has been circulated and will also be posted on the CWNP website.*
 - *Evidence gathered so far, eg residents' and Post-It Note surveys and public awareness events such as previous Launch Events, gives a very good starting point for drafting a "vision statement".*
 - *What is still needed is a CWNP-wide residents' survey, which should be undertaken by all four TGs as a whole consultation, rather than by each TG individually.*

- *CWNP timetable for Vision Statement: Individual TGs to produce these in Autumn 2013 with a view to discussing and consolidating them at the November CWNP Steering Group meeting.*
- *Liaising with other NP groups is crucial to the whole process and will be undertaken as soon as possible.*
- *A revised timetable for the CWNP is being worked on and will be made available in due course.*

8- **Any other points for consideration and general discussion** (ALL)

- *Green routes*
- *Cycleways, public footpaths and routes including Windsor Jubilee Walkway*
- *Protection for existing spaces*
- *Identifying and designating new spaces*
- *Identifying the widest possible set of positive needs which would be met by open space provision*

9- **Agenda for next meeting to include:**

- *Presentation on Open Space Audit and Local Plan policies (SS)*
- *Presentation on NPPF policies and implications for open space provision (GF)*
- *Presentation of potential "key questions" for residents' consultation (TR)*

10- **Date and time of next meeting** Mid-July 2013 (TBC)

S. Shearer
20/6/13