**Westbury sub Mendip Neighbourhood Plan Working Group**

**Minutes 31st July 2024**

**Present** - Chris Langdon [CL] (chair), Mick Fletcher [MF], Tony Westcott, [TW] Kate Chubb [KC]

1. **Apologies.**  Apologies were received from Sue Isherwood [SI], Dave Maguire [DM], Adamos Euripidou [AE], Guy Timson [GT], Penny Colwill [PC], Ros Wyke [RW]
2. **Minutes**. The minutes of the meeting held on 11 June were agreed. MF to post a pdf copy on the website
3. **Matters** **arising**. CL confirmed that he was taking forward with CNB the moderation of the Housing Needs Statement – amends as circulated to NPWG twice in last 6 weeks. For Neighbourhood Plan purposes NPWG will be asking Stuart Todd to advise on development of a short housing strategy document that sets the Housing Needs Statement within the context of the housing needs and priorities perceived by Westbury residents. [action CL]
4. **NP Grant update**. CL explained that the grant available was less than anticipated since an earlier grant had been overlooked. Only £4K rather than £6K was available for support for Stuart Todd and he was prepared to adjust his workplan appropriately. SI had indicated that the grant had been approved but would be asked to provide the written confirmation. [action SI]
5. **Stuart Todd support**. It was agreed that MF and CL would prepare initial drafts of aims and objectives for the NP under the headings agreed in the minutes. These would be circulated for quick comment & sent to Stuart for both review and translation into draft policies. [action MF & CL]
6. NP Objectives: Surveys: Agree how and when to feedback results of combined surveys and aims and objectives of NP arising

**Aims and Objectives** A draft set of aims (and some objectives within) were outlined during discussion for review prior to issue to Stuart Todd in preparation for feedback.

**Feedback to the village**. It was agreed that in feeding back results from surveys and seeking comment on emerging aims and objectives for the plan every effort should be made to attract a wider audience than just those prepared to attend village hall meetings. In particular it was important to seek views from younger members of the community. Proposals included; a sponsored event in the shop garden timed for school pick up time; piggy backing on existing meetings; local focus groups to be organised eg on Stoneleigh (DM?) Lodge Hill (PC?) Bell Close (MF to identify). A zoom event was also contemplated.

1. **Kate Chubb’s brief.** A brief for Kate had been discussed at a prior meeting & it was confirmed that it should focus on 1. A review of NPs from communities in and outside Somerset seeking to highlight strong and weak wording for policies as a guide 2. Identifying what aims / policies might be needed to add to the SCA to reflect the wider landscape setting of the village in the parish. 3. Understanding why proposals for protected green spaces and views in various communities had not been approved in the past and in the light of that highlighting priorities to be submitted through the NP [action TW to confirm]
2. **Membership.** It was agreed that MF would speak to Alistair Hood about whether he felt able to join the group and play an active part. [action MF]
3. **Next meeting**. It was agreed, provisionally, to arrange the next meeting for Monday 2nd September. **Now Confirmed**