

WILLAND PARISH COUNCIL

Neighbourhood Plan Task Group Meeting 7th November at Howden Lodge

Those in attendance: Stephen Little; Frances Wilcox; Alan Smith; Kate Taylor; .

Apologies from Simon Dilke-Wing

Stephen covered what had happened in the last meeting.

The group discussed the parish boundary lines, and a suggestion of taking the boundary up as far as Waterloo Cross, and how it would affect Uffculme and Halberton. It was mentioned that the Boundary Commission prefer clear boundaries like a river or a road which makes it is easier to define. Also considered was the boundary possibly being extended to include some of the houses under the motorway bridge at the end of Station Road, which at present is within the boundary of Halberton. Discussed what the benefits would be to Willand.

If preparing a Parish Plan, it is preferable to designate areas that can that can possibly be built on. The garage has already tried putting in an application to build. It was mentioned that we are the most densely populated area in Mid Devon with the least green open space.

Frances: If a Neighbourhood Plan is done for this area there are not many places/open spaces in Willand to protect: i.e. Jaycroft, the play area, football pitch, allotments etc.

Kate said that she had conversation with M.D.C.C. hoping that Parish boundaries are soon to be reviewed, but her contact said that the Ward boundaries are for review first, so it could be some time.

Alan is going to try and speak to a contact to find out about an up to date list of businesses as MDDC appears not to have one.

Stephen to talk to Ben (Mid Devon Planning) again about the business list. The meeting with employers and with community leaders to be set up for early new year as it is now too close to Christmas, and with the forthcoming election people are now too involved in other things.

Re engagement with neighbouring parishes. Chair of Parish C talked to Uffculme Parish Clerk. They have already submitted their response to the Boundary Commission about the ward boundary.

Stephen suggested that key questions for consultation could be...What do you think is good about Willand? What do you think will make Willand better? Also possibly What do you think represents Willand geographically?

There was a suggestion that it may be a good idea to bring in extra members to be involved in the task group and Alan has a couple of people in mind who may be willing to come on board and will talk to them about it.

Regarding somewhere to hold the employers/business lunch there are several different venues within the village which may be possible. Halfway House which has a skittle alley which might be suitable, the football club, village hall, church hall.

Meeting closed at approximately 8.30pm

Next meeting 7pm on Thursday 5th December at Howden Lodge