**Crowhurst Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group**

**Notes of Meeting held on Monday 4 March 2019 at 7.30pm**

**in the Village Hall, Crowhurst**

**Present:** Gareth Bright, Ros Day (Chair), Tracy Hoad, Dave Howley, Sonia Plato, Martin White, Pat Buckle.

**Apologies:**  Chris Davidson, Diane Stainsby,, Ann Wilson, Willy Wilson,

**In Attendance:** 1 Member of the Public

Ros Day opened the meeting and thanked everyone for attending.

1. **Declaration of Interests**

1.1. All present declared an interest as residents of Crowhurst.

1.2 Item 3.2 - Land Use Task Group - Martin White declared a personal interest as owner of Church Paddock, Crowhurst.

2. **Notes of Previous Meeting** held on 4 February 219 - Approved.

2.1 **Matters Arising**

2.1.1 **Proposed Solar Farm at Upper Wilting**

Ros Day informed the meeting that Parish Council had written to Hastings Borough Council with concerns about the site proposed. The reply stated that the outcome of investigations will decide the final site.

2.1.2 **Proposed Art Project**

Following an article in Crowhurst News, a letter to the Steering Group was received from a member of the public. It was also noted that ESCC Highways Department had stated that art work is not allowed on verges. The meeting agreed that as this project was led by Chris Davidson, he would be asked to respond; and various alternative options for the siting of the art work will be discussed at a future meeting.

2.1.3 **Building Better – Survey from Civic Voice**

Ros Day reported that owing to the work required on the NP the deadline for this survey was missed.

2.1.4 **Design Workshop Presentations**

Requests had been received for copies of the Powerpoint slides used at the workshop. It was pointed out that the slides are covered by Copyright and Sonia Plato agreed to contact Ian McKay of BBM Sustainable Designs Ltd., for permission to circulate to participants at the workshop.

3. **Task Groups Reports**

3.1 **Finance**

Tracy Hoad stated there was nothing to report since the last meeting. The meeting agreed that it was important to heavily advertise the NP Referendum urging residents to vote and that banners and boards should be erected at various points around the village. Sonia Plato agreed to contact a local signwriter for advice.

3.2 **Land Use Task Group**

Martin White stated that the Group was meeting on 22 March 2019 and there was nothing to report at this time.

3.3. **Street Champions**

In the absence of Diane Stainsby there was nothing to report.

3.4. **Communications**

Gareth Bright stated there was nothing to report.

3.5. **Research/Heritage**

Dave Howley reported he had contacted ESCC about the various concerns regarding Adams Farm but had not received very helpful responses to his queries. He had pointed out the serious deterioration of the structure of this Grade II listed building which is the responsibility of ESCC and will now be worth considerably less than the £1.625m ESCC paid for it (and surrounding land). He has contacted Casper Johnson to enlist his help in getting a more positive response from ESCC. Dave Howley stated that working in partnership with other relevant groups could see the building become a community asset.

3.6 **Environment**

Sonia Plato reported that information and upcoming events arranged by the Group were in the March edition of the Crowhurst News. The RSPB were becoming more active and had also contributed an article in the March Crowhurst News. A local landowner had offered a piece of land for a wildflower meadow and Sussex Lund were being approached for funding towards establishing the site. More volunteers had come forward and representatives of the Group were attending the Battle Wildlife group at the end of the month. Sonia Plato stated that a wider network was gradually being built up and is helping to widen the Groups knowledge.

4. **Response to Reg 16 Comments**

Ros Day reported that the examiner had asked if the Parish Council had any comments on the responses received by Rother District Council following the consultation on the submitted NP. A response had been circulated to the Steering Group and agreed by the Parish Council. Other than some minor rewordings, the response will now be forwarded onto the Independent Examiner. The meeting expressed its appreciation for the hard work Ros Day had done on this in a short time. It was confirmed that all the comments received by RDC would be uploaded to its website.

5. **Consultation on the Draft Public Realm Strategic Framework**

Ros Day had circulated comments to the consultation to members and these were agreed.

6. **Date of Future Meetings**

**Steering Group** – Monday 1 April 2019 in Crowhurst Village Hall at 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 8.40pm.