



Stroud Parish Council

Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of Stroud Parish Council held at Stroud Church on Tuesday 27th of October 2015

Present: Cllr D McKinney, Cllr O Howe, Cllr F Rogers & Cllr C Foulston.

Also Present: Mrs E Foulston (Clerk & RFO), Mr L Fanshawe & 1 member of the public.

1.06.15 Apologies for Absence. Apologies were noted from Cllr A Burges & Cllr D Paul.

2.06.15 Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests.

None.

3.06.15 Comments from the Public or Press.

The Chairman confirmed that the consultation being discussed at this meeting was open to all and encouraged members of the public to respond by the closing date of 28th October. A member of the public queried why a major aim of the consultation appears to be tranquility but reducing Stroud's settlement boundaries would push development towards the busy A272 which seems to be at odds with this aim. A lack of warning of the changes and time to look at these were also discussed.

4.06.15 Report – SDNPA Design Panel's AGM

Mr L Fanshawe reported on the recent AGM of South Downs National Park Authority's Design Panel of which Mr Fanshawe is a member. At the AGM the Preferred Options consultation and 15 year local plan was discussed. Mr Fanshawe raised the issue at the AGM that the suggested changes, which affect various settlements, don't seem to take into account Village Design Statements and Parish Plans and communities haven't been given much warning to look into these. Stroud has a history of building houses, on average 1 a year, and the planned changes would mean that less houses could be built than before. The only way of building houses would be via change of use or outside of the settlement boundaries which would be difficult to do. Mr Fanshawe suggested to the parish council that this could be an opportunity to discuss settlement boundaries again and potentially to request to increase these. He is keen for more housing within the village.

5.06.15. To Discuss South Downs Local Plan: Preferred Options Consultation.

The Chairman confirmed that he and Cllr Foulston had attended a recent workshop regarding this consultation where the changes to settlement boundaries was discussed. This is a significant issue as the changes would tighten both of Stroud's settlement boundaries. After a lengthy discussion (including comments submitted by Cllr Paul outside of the meeting) **it was resolved** that the Parish Council would submit an objection and comments to the consultation to confirm that they feel it necessary that the current settlement boundaries are retained as changes would be contrary to the Village Design Statement and Parish Plan. The council would be keen for further opportunity to discuss this in further detail with South Downs National Park Authority as there is a longstanding wish for both affordable housing and open market housing within the village..

Date of the next meeting will be Tuesday the 3rd of November 2015 at 7.30pm in Langrish School Hall.

Meeting Ended: 7.55pm

Signed
Chairman: _____ Date: _____

Clerk – E Foulston