**ENVIRONMENT SUB-GROUP**

Meeting 4

3 June 2015

Present: Kathryn Bell, Sue Prochak, Martin Bates, Edward Flint, Amanda McIntyre, Stephen Hardy, Peter Davies

Apologies: Cherry Mitchell, (Alex Hammond).

1. Actions from previous meeting (see below) had all been completed. We went through the various work streams. Sue had organised a meeting with the environment agency (EA) for 24 June at 1400 at the Mill site to get their view on its feasibility for hydro generation. She had invited Alex to attend but had yet to get a reply. **ACTION**: Peter to contact Alex. We also discussed flooding and the EA. **ACTION:** Peter to contact the EA.

2. Amanda briefed on the energy efficiency work. The rules have changed and we now cannot demand a higher standard of energy efficiency than is demanded by building regulations. After discussion we agreed Kathryn’s formula that we would favour developers who improved on energy standards.

3. Edward raised the material used for buildings. While this is largely for the housing group we judged it was desirable to look into possible use of local timber for building (e.g. chestnut cladding). **ACTION:** Stephen to speakto Plumpton College at Flimwell.

4. Amanda raised energy efficiency in public spaces. We discussed possible use of biomass for the school or new doctors’ surgery or at the Mill site. Amanda mentioned the Green Deal and the possibility of public money. We discussed whether educating villagers on availability of money was something we should be doing. Stephen recommended focusing on the core NP drafting: wider initiatives such as education, while desirable, were secondary. **ACTION:** Stephen to contact Richard Watson.

5. Edward set out the position on green spaces and reaffirmed our need to focus not just on housing but to remember light industrial/commercial spaces in our planning. **ACTION:** Sue toinvestigate the community landscape fund. We discussed whether footpaths were for the leisure or our environment group. We agreed the answer was to ensure we liaised closely. Edward advocated linking up with other parishes. We also agreed that we could include money for footpath signage in our bid for funds from the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL).

6. Stephen briefed on the two meetings with developers and landowners. (Not recorded here as there are separate minutes of the meetings.) Concern was expressed about potential flooding behind the Ostrich were the Devine plans to be executed. There will be a third meeting with developers on 12 June. On 4 July there will be developers’ presentations in the youth centre.

7. I asked that the group look at the draft objectives I had circulated and comment on them to me before the next meeting. **ACTION:** all group members to do so.

8. DONM: Thursday 9 July at 2000, Peans Farmhouse.

9. All Actions will be uploaded to the website in a living document.