Approved

BECKINGTON NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN
STEERING GROUP MINUTES
Tuesday 7 April 2026
39 Goose Street, Beckington

Present:

Ben Richards (BR), Paula Fox (PF), Jo Hole (JH), Clive Winterbourne (CW)

Apologies for absence:

Debs Byrne (DB), Laura Parry (LP), Alex Richards (AR)

1. **Apologies for absence and Introduction**
   - Apologies for absence were noted and recorded.
   - BR explained that, although it had been some time since the last meeting, there had been significant progress towards a draft plan with significant assistance from Locality and AECOM. The next step is awaiting feedback from the LPA on whether a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) are required ahead of the Regulation 14 consultation. The residents' consultation on Valued Landscape (12 Mar 2026) had been a very useful opportunity to keep residents informed and hear their views.

2. **Minutes of last meeting (**2 Sep 2025)
   Minutes of the last meeting were discussed and approved for publication. ***Action: BR***.

3. **Actions arising from last meeting**
   Publication of minutes from 17 June, 11 August 2025: complete.
   LPA Housing Allocation Planning Figure: Ongoing. To be discussed.
   Update for October 2025 Network magazine: completed in November 2025.

4. **Ongoing/Future work and updates on progress**
   Draft Plan status. It was agreed that the next step in the draft plan production process would be:
   - Incorporating any feedback/recommendations from 12 March consultation.
   - Production of updated draft for discussion at next meeting.
   - Assembling a photo library for use with the NP. JH volunteered to take photos of relevant village scenes. She also suggested a competition for the front cover photo. This

was supported and might be conducted during the Regulation 14 consultation period. (**Action: JH**)

- The SG discussed how the NP would deal with issues that had been raised by residents of Rudge, particularly unlawful encampments. It was agreed that, although the main focus of the NP was housing development and that this really only affected Beckington (as the only primary village), it was important that the NP registered concerns of all residents.

LPA Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) screening.

- The request had been submitted to the LPA on 30 Jan and the response deadline was 17 April. Informal LPA feedback was that SEA and HRA screening would be required and that these should be conducted before regulation 14 consultation. Otherwise there was a risk that Regulation 14 consultation would need to be repeated if the SEA/HRA reports required amendments to the draft NP. It was expected that the production process for SEA/HRA would be around 3 months.
- Three quotes were being sought from companies that could conduct this work, for submission to the PC at their next meeting (14 April). The SG's preference would be AECOM because they are the most experienced at producing SEA and HRA, already have knowledge of Beckington and our NP and have worked on other local NPs including Norton St Philip.

Feedback from 12 March 2026 residents' consultation on valued landscape.

- Around 40 residents had attended to listen to the presentation by Georgina Harvey and voice their views. 19 comments forms had been submitted and all but 2 had been supportive of the Valued Landscape report's conclusions. The next step was to record the comments and share with Dave Chapman for incorporation into the draft plan.

Final versions of Open Plan report on Local Green Space and Views.

- Work was ongoing to contact Steve Kemp at Open Plan.

Liaison with LPA, Housing Allocation for Beckington

- Information from PC was that the LPA call for sites process was continuing. There was no timeframe for the production for a spatial policy or strategy that would lead to confirmed local housing requirement.

5. **AOB**

Correspondence: BR reported that he had replied to an email from a landowner following the 12 March residents' consultation. Details would be recorded in the Consultation Document. (**Action: BR)**

6. **Date of next meeting**

Tuesday 5 May 2026, 5pm at 39 Goose Street.

The earlier time was to allow Dave Chapman to attend.