



COMMITTEE for ABINGTON HOUSING

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 4th June 2015 at The Institute

	Present – Bernie Talbot, Keith Stringer, John Ellis, Pennie Zimmern, Bob Chesham, Alison Johnson, Paul Pritchard, Simon Hood, Barbara Gorna, Julia Allen, Liz Sainsbury, Marc Wheeldon. In attendance – Mitchell Tredgett and James Thomas (Hill Residential Ltd)	Actions
1.	Apologies – Apologies were received from Tony Orgee	
2.	Minutes – The minutes of the meeting held on 23 rd April had been previously circulated and were agreed.	
3.	Local Plan – Bernie gave a brief update. The examination process had been temporarily suspended by the Inspectors who had concerns that the Plan did not have enough houses in it and issues around the Green Belt had not been dealt with appropriately. SCDC and CCC had been asked to reconsider and make amendments before the hearing process resumes. It was considered unlikely that the Local Plan process would be completed before the end of the year.	
4.	High Street/Pampisford Road site – a) Bernie had attended a Pre-application meeting at Cambourne with the case officer Andrew Fillmore from the SCDC Planning Department on 26 th May. Also present at the meeting were Hill with their architect and planning consultant. A representative of Bidwells was also present to represent Brian Moore, the landowner. The case officer asked for some aspects of the proposal to be reconsidered though he appeared to be supportive of it. Hill explained the minor alterations they were in the process of making in response to the meeting. b) A consultation event was booked at the Institute for Friday 19 th and Saturday 20 th June. The event had been advertised in the June Abington and Hildersham News and in addition Hill would be making a leaflet drop to ensure full awareness. Hill representatives would be present throughout and committee members also agreed to attend during the sessions. Draft plans would be available for attendees to discuss and also to take away with them. Hill agreed that they would be able to keep a note of those who were expressing an interest in occupying one of the new homes. Tea and coffee would be provided for those attending. c) Following the consultation event Hill will be working towards submitting a planning application towards the end of August.	All Hill BT

<p>5.</p>	<p>Linton Road site – Hill reported that they had made changes to the draft scheme as a result of the comments made at the last meeting. These included an earth bund and other steps to limit noise impact from the kennels, some play space and some one bedroomed units. Changing four of the affordable units to one bedroom had freed up a little space and had allowed for an extra bungalow to be fitted in. The total number of units in the current draft plan was 36.</p> <p>The tabled plan retained the allotment site in its current location. Minor alterations may be needed to facilitate access to the site but these should be able to be achieved by relocating allotment holders to vacant plots. Barbara reported that they were expecting to sign a 3 year license on the allotment site to give better continuity for the allotment users.</p> <p>The affordable houses will need to be sold to a registered provider. This could possibly be SCDC or a housing association. A decision had still to be taken about this and committee members were asked to explore local views on dealing with housing associations.</p> <p>Negotiations were still continuing between the landowner and Hill. Although in an advanced stage they were unlikely to be concluded before June 19th. The committee felt that it was important to show some information about plans for this site at the consultation event and it was agreed that some sort of a sketch plan should be available.</p>	<p>All</p> <p>Hill</p>
<p>6.</p>	<p>Church Lane site – This site was part of the ongoing negotiations between the landowner and Hill in conjunction with the Linton Road site.</p> <p>As previously reported the draft proposal for this site was to include 9 units in 2 courtyards retaining the flint walls where possible.</p> <p>No affordable houses would be included on this site as the required proportion would be transferred to the Linton Road site.</p> <p>As with the Linton Road site it was hoped to show a sketch plan for this site at the consultation event.</p>	<p>Hill</p>
<p>7.</p>	<p>Other Communication – Bernie had received a letter from Paul Coburn of 157 High Street, Great Abington. The letter had been circulated and the points were noted. It was agreed that Bernie should send a brief reply as Mr Coburn had indicated in his letter that he would attend the consultation event and his concerns could be dealt with in detail at that time.</p>	<p>BT</p>
<p>8.</p>	<p>Other issues – No additions issues were discussed</p>	
<p>9.</p>	<p>Village News entry – It was agreed that Bernie would book a slot in the next news for a late entry following the 19th/20th event. As well as reporting on the event the item would remind people to get on the housing list even if they are single.</p>	<p>BT</p> <p>BT</p>
<p>10.</p>	<p>Future meetings – It was agreed that the next meeting would be held on June 18th at 6.30 at the Institute.</p>	<p>BT</p>