

**MINUTES**  
**FAR COTTON AND DELAPRE COMMUNITY COUNCIL**  
**Planning Committee Meeting**  
**Thursday 12 October 2023 7.30pm**

**Present:** Cllr McCoach (Chair) Cllrs Plowman, Bright, Harris, Nicks and Levinge.

**85.23 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**  
**NONE**

**86.23 MINUTES:**  
To approve the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 14 September 2023.  
**RESOLVED to approve the minutes, with the addition of the attendees being added.**

**87.23 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**  
**NONE**

**88.23 PUBLIC SESSION**  
**NONE**

**89.23 PLANNING MATTERS**  
To consider the following applications:  
**NONE RECEIVED**

**90.23 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING**  
To consider the next steps in developing a neighbourhood plan

The Clerk summarised the work undertaken to date:  
The Clerk had given a [presentation](#) on Neighbourhood Planning at the October Residents Forum.

The idea of a neighbourhood plan had been well received with residents at the forum. Residents had asked how they could feed their ideas into the process and the following had been suggested:

- Open meetings
- Working groups
- An all-round collaborative process
- one resident suggested that we advertise some of what we do on local radio for those not on social media.

Ideas presented at the Forum included:

- Re-establish a local library.
- Upgrade the children's play area on Far Cotton rec – (+ provide a children's play area in Delapre?)
- Provide an outdoor Gym for teens and adults + suitable "play" equipment.

- Provide safe crossing points for pedestrians at busy junctions like Rothersthorpe Road/Towcester Road and Main Road/Towcester Road
- Ensure regular cleaning of streets and parks.
- Maintain the management and use of Far Cotton recreation Ground in keeping with its Town Green protection.
- Set and achieve realistic targets for crime levels.
- Achieve maximum possible flood protection
- Monitor and reasonably restrict the number of HMOs in the area.
- Perhaps? consider whether the bunding on Delapre Abbey opposite the houses on London Road should be removed.
- Entry to the area from the South via London Road has the QE cross. Provide a suitable sculpture for entry to the area from the North –
- Regularly publicise channels of communication for the reporting and resolution of problems in the area.

The Clerk then shared the [Semilong and Trinity Neighbourhood Plan](#). It was agreed that this was a good document to learn from. The Clerk will contact their steering group and ask for their thoughts on how they went about writing their neighbourhood plan.

A launch event was discussed, however it was felt that this may not be well attended and it was agreed that councillors and staff would ask local groups if they could attend their meetings and talk to group members about a neighbourhood plan.

The Clerk will also progress the grant application for a neighbourhood plan.

The Clerk will prepare a draft timeline for developing a neighbourhood plan.

**RESOLVED to note the agreed next steps.**

#### **91.23 PLANNING REPORT**

To review the planning report of applications approved, refused, pending, since the last meeting.

**RESOLVED to note the report.**