



PADDOCK WOOD NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN STEERING GROUP  
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**VIRTUAL MEETING TO BE HELD ON  
WEDNESDAY 20<sup>th</sup> MAY 2020 at 7.00PM.  
THIS MEETING WILL BE HELD VIA ZOOM**

As the main item on the agenda is confidential it is proposed that this meeting should not be open to the public. (ie Agenda item 6)

## **APOLOGIES:**

### **1. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

- To APPROVE the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2020 which have already been distributed. Due to COVID 19 no meetings were held in March or April.

### **2. Information items arising**

- Churchill Homes
- Strategic Sites Working Group – a Skype meeting is due to be held on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May

### **3. Holding remote meetings**

Paddock Wood Town Council has now resumed the holding of meetings. All meetings are being conducted via Zoom due to a temporary change in Government regulations which allows for decisions to be made remotely.

### **4. The Future of Neighbourhood Planning**

The Government has published updated Planning Practice Guidance for Neighbourhood Plans which includes new measures introduced in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. All Neighbourhood Planning referendums are cancelled until 6 May 2021. In the meantime, if a Plan has been through Examination and waiting for referendum, that Plan will be given considerable weight in the decision making process. The update confirms that work on Neighbourhood Plans can continue, but that social distancing measures should be adhered to. So, for consultation purposes, this means making full use of social media and other online tools such as video conferences and electronic surveys. Examinations can also continue, advising that these will primarily take the form of written representations. The updated PPG is available via the MHCLG website at the following link:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/neighbourhood-planning--2>

### **5. Financial report**

### **6. Recruitment of new consultant to lead the Neighbourhood Plan**

To consider the attached document from Troy Planning and Design. It had been hoped that Jon Herbert from Troy Planning might be able to join us for part of this meeting but unfortunately he is not available. If members of the Steering Group wish, a meeting with him can be arranged at an alternative time.

To compare these proposals with those presented by another potential consultant at the February meeting.

**7. Governance Document**

This needs to be presented to the Town Council once a new consultant has been appointed

**8. Any Other Information**

**9. Recruitment of new steering group members**

**DATE OF NEXT STEERING GROUP MEETING:** The next scheduled meeting is on Wednesday 17 June.

Dates and times of future Steering Group meetings: 15 July, 19 August, 16 September, 21 October, 18 November, 16 December.

Meryl Flashman 14<sup>th</sup> May 2020