**Strensall with Towthorpe Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group**

**Meeting Notes April 25th 2017**

Present: Cllr T. Fisher, Cllr A. Bolton, Cllr J. Chapman, Mrs C. Whittle, Mr J. Millet, Mr K. Marquis (Chair).

Apologies: Mrs S. Jenkins, Mrs S. Nunn

The meeting opened at 7.15 pm and all were welcomed by the Chairman.

The proposed meetings with members of the Local Plan Working Group (LPWG) and members of the Steering Group arranged for 6th April then re-arranged for 10th April were now on hold.

The Chair referred to an email reply received 25th April from Rebecca Harrison to a request for progress information from the LPWG which indicated that officers were still studying / awaiting reports from the MoD and Technical Officers in respect of the MoD sites in Strensall and Fulford. It stated that once they had clarity then meetings would be arranged prior to public consultation later in the summer.

After discussing the current situation it was agreed that there was little point in continuing to compile the Neighbourhood Plan (NP) until City of York Council (CoYC) declared their position on the MoD sites.

The Chair referred to emails between himself and Kathryn Jukes when he had updated her on the current situation with lack of progress and she had offered to progress an application for government funds towards the costs of the NP. However the application information indicates that detailed anticipated expenditure was required and that any funds granted must be spent by 31st March 2018. It was agreed that there was little point in making an application at this stage although the current grant period expires in 2018 and it is not certain that another grant period will be arranged by the government.

The Chair referred to the presentation at the Local History Group on 29th March about Aerial Photography – it was agreed to contact the presenter to obtain further details of what could be provided and costs.

A document from Enventure Research had been received from the Parish Council Clerk offering assistance in researching the needs of the community. It was agreed to request details of costs and samples of work done for other parish councils.

A letter from Julian Sturdy MP had been received by the Parish Council in response to questions asked about holding a meeting with the community in respect of the planned MoD closure of the Strensall sites. He indicated that he had been in discussion with various government departments since the announcement and had also met with senior officers at City of York Council. Although no community meeting is yet planned by him he has requested in a parliament debate on 21st February 2017 that the MoD establish a local working group involving local residents but that this should only take place after the situation is clarified between the LPWG and the Steering Group.

The Chair indicated that he was on holiday when the next meeting was due to be held on 22nd May and unless there was any progress with CoYC then no meeting would be held. The Chair asked Cllr Fisher to arrange if necessary.

The agreed procedure to amend the designated area for the NP to include Towthorpe Moor Lane and Hazelbush Crossroads had not been progressed and although the documents were prepared it was agreed to await the outcome of discussions with CoYC.

Prior to tonight’s meeting the Parish Council Clerk had indicated that there was a vacancy at the Neighbourhood Plan Seminar due to be held on Saturday 29th April at the Principal Hotel, York. Those present were committed on the day but the Chair was able to attend and the clerk was requested to arrange.

Meeting closed at 8.15 pm