

Stratfield Mortimer Parish Council

Minutes of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group Meeting held at Methodist Church Hall, Mortimer on Tuesday 18 November 2025 19:30

Steering Group Attendees

Doug Overett – Meeting Chair (DO); Tennant Barber (TB); Graham Bridgman (GB); Bob Coe (BC); Neil Kiley (NK); Jayne Todd (JT); Sallyann Taylor (ST – Minute Taker)

1. Apologies

Joanne Emberson-Wines (JW)

2. Declarations of Interest

None were declared.

3. Approval of Minutes of Last Meeting

The minutes of 4 November were agreed with no amendments.

4. NDP and Reserved Land

DO reported that we are still waiting for the planning application for the reserved land, and TA Fisher are hoping to submit it next month.

5. Basingstoke and Deane Local Plan SG update

JT reported that the new group is progressing very well. They have held three meetings so far, and a comprehensive list of tasks has been created and allocated among members of the group. Data is currently being collected to support the objection to the proposed development of 350 houses.

A letter has already been sent to the Englefield Estate, and further letters will be issued this week to other organisations, including the ambulance service and the NHS Integrated Care Board (ICB). The group's focus areas include infrastructure, healthcare, education, and utilities.

The intention is to create a publicly accessible database of issues. The Regulation 18 consultation was expected to begin at the end of November, but it now appears this will be delayed. The B&D consultation meeting in Mortimer is currently anticipated to take place in January.

6. NP updates

The following policies were agreed by the SG: -

- Conformance Policy – keep as separate policy.
- Site Contingency Policy.

It was agreed not to include an Allotment policy as there was not a great demand for it.

The Natural Environment policy needs some amendments and TB will review.

GB will also review the Cross Boundary addendum policy. We need to add conformity with building heights and density.

Actions: TB, GB

7. Regulation 14 tasks

JT reported that she has created a task spreadsheet in preparation for Regulation 14. This spreadsheet will be available on the NP SharePoint. The group reviewed the spreadsheet, and the current status is as follows:

- The policies are almost finalised; they now need to be formatted by GB and uploaded to the NP SharePoint.
- WBC has agreed to conduct an informal review of the policies. ST will send them once they are finalised.
- ST will arrange a meeting with WBC after they have completed their review.
- Two requests for quotes have been sent by NK to planning advisors. A third request still needs to be sent to meet the SMPC Financial Regulations requirement for three quotes. NK to request another quote. The deadline for appointment is 1 December 2025 and policies to be returned by 31 January 2026.
- JT will take the lead on drafting the non-policy sections of the NP, with contributions from other group members where needed.
- GB will speak to a photographer regarding updated photos for the NP.

Actions: GB, ST, NK, JT

8. AOB

ST to upload the comments from the NP policies public consultation to the NP website and provide the link to DO so he can create an announcement on NP Facebook.

Actions: ST, DO

Close

Meeting ended 20:48

Next meeting 16.12.2025 at 19:30 at Methodist Church Hall, Mortimer.