

Newent Neighbourhood Development Plan Steering Group

Report on progress

A meeting of the NNDP Steering Group (SG) was held on Wednesday 19th October and draft minutes have been circulated. Officers were elected (Interim Chair, Interim Secretary and Finance Officer). There were two items deferred: one consideration for co-option, and planning/preparation for “Vision and Objectives” meetings with our GRCC advisor.

The agenda for the next SG meeting will also include a skills audit, in order that we can identify areas where a consultants’ expertise should not be needed, as well as further consideration of their bids, depending upon the timing of consultant selection interviews, upon which we await the consultants’ responses. It is expected that these interviews will need to take place during November at times other than the monthly meetings: these may well be virtual meetings, with all SG members invited, and will report back to the next full meeting to enable a choice to be made, for consideration by the Town Council.

A further agenda item is likely to be a review of the profile of the NDP on the Town Council’s website, looking at ways to improve public understanding of, and engagement with, the process of producing the NDP. We will also ask for an update on ongoing surveys and research projects.

The intention of the SG is to keep to meeting on the third Wednesday of the month for the foreseeable future, with working groups, set up to address specific tasks, to meet in the interim.

Helen Selwood

Interim Chairperson, Newent Neighbourhood Development Plan Steering Group

2nd November 2023