**Minutes of Meeting of sub-committee with Shirley PC to Discuss Their Village Plan**

**Present:** J Bailey (Clerk), Cllr S Wolfe, Cllr E Scotcher, Cllr P Chambers, Cllr F Sills.

Cllr J Fletcher, Cllr Tony Taylor

**Apologies:** Cllr R Nuttall, Cllr G Williams.

**The meeting started at 7.30.**

Cllr Scotcher asked Mr Fletcher to explain the structure of their Village Plan and also to explain what power was achieved if the Plan is adopted by the Authority.

Mr Fletcher responded by saying that so far they had submitted the Plan Area to DDDC. They have mapped out land ownership in their parish and have details of age and other relevant needs of residents to assist them in their plan. Due process is being followed (very slowly) by the authority. They are being inspected throughout the process – the inspector is agreed by both DDDC and Shirley PC. If adopted the Village Plan will give Shirley Parish Council control over development in their parish.

Cllr Wolfe asked what sections are being included in their plan.

Mr Fletcher said that housing, transport and economy were being studied for inclusion in the Plan.

Housing – Shirley want to prevent large housing projects from taking place as their infrastructure can’t support this sort of development. He believes that what they need is some smaller homes for retired people rather than starter homes for the young – as young people (on the whole) tend to want to leave the area and go to towns/cities – whereas the elderly prefer to stay in the village but need to downsize. They would include a design statement in their plan to ensure that they kept a compatible type of environmentally friendly house design under their control.

Transport – our narrow rural lanes are an issue common to all the parishes in the area. He hoped that if we decided to have a Village Plan that we would liaise on common ground such as this.

J Bailey asked, hypothetically, if our PC was consulted on any issue and raised objections would this be documented.

The reply was that the result of a ‘consultation’ only has to be considered.

Cllr Wolfe asked if there was to be a conservation area.

The reply was that there is already an established conservation area in the Parish.

He was asked when they expected to finalise their Plan.

The reply was that they no longer expected to reach their objective because DDDC are slowing the process down – may not finish this year.

Cllr Wolfe asked how many of the surveys sent out to their residents were returned.

The reply was that of 120 sent out less than 60 were returned. It is their intention to approach residents who have not responded again.

The question was raised about how much the Plan was costing and where money could be raised to pay for it.

The reply was that there is a government body called Locality who will give grants if the request is carefully itemised. The cost is going to be about £7,000. This includes the cost of professional advice as well as printing costs.

There were no further questions so the meeting closed at 8.45.

After the meeting Mr Fletcher gave J Bailey copies of notes which summarised the progress of the plan to date.