

NHP - Steering Group Minutes

Wednesday 26th November 2025

1. Notes of last meeting (September) and any matters arising

It was noted that an appointment with the Chamber had not yet been made.

2. Update on progress so far including some of the resident's feedback.

The last of the consultations took place on 22nd of November and had more attendants than others, though not as many written comments.

JC will compile all residents' comments and send out to the steering group in the next few weeks.

JC gave a presentation to the Men's Shed, noting that the steering group shared their frustration over development in the local area.

3. Jennie Pell, TVBC Economic Development Manager: advice and questions to help us.

Advised, if engaging business ask them about travel too. Consider what employment sites serve Romsey, to what extent that would inform the plan and take into account that people may prefer to work closer to home.

Consider creation of spaces that would encourage space for prime businesses.

Doing a retail survey would allow the plan to identify whether shops would be needed near to new development.

The vacancy rate in Romsey was low, about 3%, compared to 17% in Andover.

TVBC can enable but cannot force landlords to rent out their premises.

It was agreed to revisit this.

4. Other groups contacted.

This hadn't been done yet but would be soon. JP and JC had an interesting call with TVBC on young people and engagement and visits would take place very soon to Scouts and Guides and some of the group visits would be organized to fit in with the next stage of the plan.

5. How do we proceed now towards a draft Plan? What other advice should we seek?

Common threads from comments to inform questionnaire

Tim advised to look at groups priorities and peoples thoughts and use these to come up with common threads, and overarching visions and objectives. This would then be used to inform policies. Also to consider what the achievements should be over the lifespan of the plan.

Each working group should look at the comments relevant to their area.
So far groups had been established for ;
Land Use and Design Standards
Green Spaces and protection
Travel and Active Travel.

A Health group was still on the table.

All comments would go to each group and they would have a couple of months to pull relevant comments together.

Community; this could go in the vision part of the plan.
The plan must be supportive of what TVBC have said in their plan.
Developers must be pushed to create 'pockets' of community through development.

Members were happy for their email addresses to be shared amongst each other for the purposes of the group working.

The green spaces group could do with more people on it - if anyone would like to join please contact Jennifer.
Tim would send Green Space Guidance to CO who would forward it on.
If a Green space was to be allocated, the best possible effort should be made to inform the owner of the land.

CB volunteered to join the Green Spaces group and SC would join the Travel group. EV would help out on Green Spaces too.
Ideally each group should have four people.

6. Provisional dates for early 2026: Awaiting confirmation of RTC 2026 committee dates before deciding on these.

Future meeting dates:

17/12/25
14/01/25
25/02/26
25/03/26
22/04/26
27/05/26

All Wednesdays, 7.30pm, Town Hall.

7. AOB

None.