

Clerk to the Parish Council
South Petherton Parish Office
Frogmary Green Farm, West Street
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COMMUNITY PLAN STEERING GROUP TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Community Plan Steering Group (“the Steering Group”) is a working group of South Petherton Parish Council (“the Council”).

1. Membership

Membership of the Steering Group shall constitute up to three (3) members of the Council and up to nine (9) members of the community who are not also members of the Council.

All members of the Steering Group will be required to act in accordance with the Council’s Code of Conduct.

2. Steering Group Chairperson

A chairperson will be appointed by the members of the Steering Group at its first meeting.

The chairperson may be a councillor or a community member.

The chairperson will be the main point of contact for the Steering Group and will convene and chair meetings.

Should the chairperson of the Steering Group not be a member of the Council, a lead councillor will be appointed by the Council to provide updates at Council meetings.

3. Quorum of the Steering Group

Four (4) members of the Steering Group shall constitute a quorum of the Community Plan Steering Group of which one (1) must be members of the Council three (3) must be members of the community.

If the number of members present (not including those debarred by reason of a declared interest) falls below the required quorum, the meeting shall be adjourned, and any business not transacted shall be transacted at the next meeting.

4. Meetings

Meetings shall be held as required and copies of the notes of the meetings shall be circulated to the full Council.

Meetings of the Steering Group shall be open to the public unless a valid reason is given for excluding the public. Members of the Council and the public may speak at the discretion of the chairperson of the Steering Group.

5. Decision making

The Steering Group is a working group of the Council. It cannot make decisions or speak on behalf of the Council. Any recommendations made by the Steering Group will be subject to approval by the Council or, under delegated authority, by the clerk to the Council.

The Steering Group shall have a budget of £1,500, held by the Council, to be exercised through delegated authority by the clerk in line with the Council’s Financial Regulations. Any additional expenditure should be agreed at a meeting of the Council. In all cases, the Council’s Financial Regulations will be applied.

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Members of the Steering Group will discuss matters with the aim of reaching a consensus. If, after full discussion, consensus cannot be achieved, the differing views will be recorded in the notes of the meeting and communicated to the Council.

6. Purpose and scope

The purpose of the Steering Group is to work with the residents of the parish of South Petherton to produce a Community Plan.

The aims of the Community Plan are:

- to involve and engage local people in identifying and addressing local needs;
- to give direction to the Council in deciding where its priorities should lie; and
- to provide a mandate to the Council for spending local council tax-payers money.

7. Responsibilities

The Steering Group shall have the following responsibilities:

- a) To ensure that, as far as is reasonable, all households and organisations that have expressed an interest in being involved with the production of the Community Plan have the opportunity to contribute to it.
- b) To work with the Smart Communities team in accordance with the agreement made between Smart Communities and the Council.
- c) To cover the costs of any printing, venue hire, event, postage or any aspect of producing a Community Plan that falls outside of the support provided by Smart Communities.
- d) To keep residents informed of its activities by regularly publishing news in local media and by providing regular updates at meetings of the Council or its committees
- e) To make recommendations to the Council on any matter that require a decision by the Council.

8. Reporting

The Steering Group shall report in writing to the Council or a relevant committee of the Council as and when necessary/requested & shall be a standing point on each agenda until completion.

9. Life of the Steering Group

Once the Community Plan has been approved and adopted by the Council, the Steering Group will be disbanded.

10. Review

These terms of reference should be reviewed by the Council at its annual meeting, or earlier if deemed necessary.

To be agreed SPPC meeting – 3rd October 2022



SOUTH PETHERTON PARISH COUNCIL

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