

Minutes of a Meeting of the Blewbury Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

held in the Melland Room on 13 January 2014

Present: Ian Bacon, Nick Chancellor, Richard Farrell, Vanessa Fox, Joe Goyder, Angela Hoy, Mike Marshall, Alex Musson, Anton Nath, John Ogden, Gwyn Rees

Apologies: Jo Lakeland, Katherine Macdonald, Pat Mattimore, Dermot Mathias, Caroline O'Connell

	Discussion about whether neighbouring parish councils should be consulted. RF offered to go to Upton PC's meeting, or at least to speak to them, and to Chilton. Other parishes should be informed. Ian said he would draft some words for a letter to be sent to other parishes.	RF/IB
1	Minutes agreed , and action points completed (except website; Ian to follow up).	IB
2	<p>The launch event. Date set at 8 March. AM talked about the steering meeting on 9 January (minutes circulated previously). Steering Group to meet again in the next two weeks. Advertising to be moved forward. Stickers for people's windows? Anton asked how we would ensure that everyone's voice is heard, round the table? Quiz to be over supper rather than first, to allow people to arrive and settle. Alex (via Elphin) suggested asking the School to take part – to entice their parents in – but this isn't feasible in the time frame. So, speak to the PTA, put posters up etc. Elphin has said he would help to produce a large wall map. How are we to record who has attended? Pin or sticky dot on map, name and address, age group, when they come in. (Then this should be photographed/recorded.) RF to check with Parish Clerk about data protection issues. Anton said the website and the Bulletin should be used to provide the Village with weekly or bi-weekly updates. Most of the next meeting should be used to cover the Launch Event. Each table to have a facilitator's sheet to ensure everyone does the same thing. Invite Vale Planning Department, and Simon or Peter from the Community Action Group, Geoff Botting from Woodcote and Richard Webber from Drayton. Also Stuart Lilley and Janet Shelley (County & District Councillors). Anton suggested that our plan was very labour-intensive as opposed to getting everyone simply to write down their views and post them up on boards, however he also thought it should work very well if we were prepared to put the work in, provided we ensured that table-facilitators worked to get quieter individuals to give their views, and to avoid the more vocal people from 'grandstanding'. Facilitators to be briefed. It needs to be said that there <i>will</i> be new houses, and that although we can ensure that our views will be heard when planning applications come through, we may not be able to sway the final decision. Anton was asked to advise the group of his broad script before the event so it could be co-ordinated with other speakers' messages, and specifically to share anecdotes of other villages where their NP has been successful in influencing planning decisions.</p>	<p>All JG</p> <p>RF</p> <p>IB/RF</p> <p>AN</p>
3	<p>Ian passed round a tentative Time Line, which he is working on and for which he invites comment. We have not yet agreed objectives, priorities and visions. We should have loose suggested goals, and an idea of what type of housing we need. We should be very clear about what the outcome of the Launch Event should be. GR said we should also have a clear idea of where we go from here, what events we will be holding and what for, and how the process unfolds.</p>	All

4	Site identification and selection criteria. IB passed round the map showing sites that were considered for Cossicle Mead. (A site selection survey was carried out.) Also the housing planning applications since 2010. Infill versus green-field? This process needs to be seen to be transparent and democratic. It was agreed that we must all be careful about expressing views as to where housing should go and the nature of this housing, to avoid prejudicing other people's opinions.	All
5.	Housing needs. No further news to report at this stage.	
6.	Raising finance. No money in the bank yet. Parish Clerk checking the VAT issue.	RF
7.	Adding to Steering Group. Skills needed – architects. David Richards, Andy Bray? PR Person. Lucy (<i>Emma Southwell-Sander's sister</i>), Charlotte Carey, Kally Peigne?	
8.	Communications and Engagement. Logo, stickers. Website. Bulletin. Frequent reports – need to be planned. This needs further discussion, at the next meeting and a person to take charge.	
9.	Sustainability. No further news to report at this stage.	
10.	Living in the Village. GR circulated a document about household surveys, which take many forms. We will take this as a basis for later discussion. Do we rely on people handing in the surveys, or collect them? Who do we target? Etc.	
11.	Any other business. We have only one more Core Group meeting before the Launch.	
12.	The next meeting will be on 10 February at 7.30 pm in the Melland Room.	