

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN STEERING GROUP MEETING

30 AUGUST, 2012

Minutes pages 1 - 4

Present:

Phil Applin
Charles Bates
Tom Baxter
Helen Crook
Elizabeth Dixon
Andrew Dow
Peter Emerson
Mark Haselden (Chairman)
Ann Hicks
Harry Nichols
David Morgan
Neil Pearce (Planning Consultant)
Tim Sanders
Dave Savage
Sarah Summers (Clerk)
Moira Takalis

1) Apologies

Apologies were received from Neil Basnett, Trevor Honychurch, Jenny Fradgley, Alan Marks MBE, Roger Matthews and Donna Savage.

2) Minutes

The minutes of the Steering Group Meeting held on 26 July were approved as a correct record.

3) Presentation – ‘Lucy’s Mill Footbridge – an alternative view’

Lloyd Beesley, a member of Stratford Voice presented the ‘alternative view’ for upgrading Lucy’s Mill footbridge, which includes public art along the river route. Currently the project is at the stage of seeking funding for a feasibility study and the search for a ‘host organisation’ to act as funding banker. The

Power Point presentation is too large to transmit electronically but a hard copy can be obtained from the Town Clerk upon request.

During the latter part of the meeting under Any Other Business, the question was raised when the Steering Group would debate the question of whether to include a proposal to upgrade the bridge in the Plan. The Chairman advised that this was likely to be discussed at the October Steering Group Meeting.

4) Chairman's Report

4.1 The Chairman met with the Chief Executive of the NFU which is the largest employer in the town, employing 1,700 people. Although the organisation is expanding its enterprise elsewhere, growth in Stratford-upon-Avon is not anticipated, primarily because:

a) There is a parking problem, exacerbated by most employees living outside the town, owing to the cost of housing.

b) There is a limitation in skills.

Thought was given to the merit of creating a significant housing development within the near vicinity of a large employer.

4.2 The Chairman went on to explain the main purpose of the meeting, which was for the Steering Group to determine and agree the next stage in the development of the Plan by pulling it together into a document.

He advised that the Plan will be drafted in three sections, and each individual section would be circulated to the Steering Group at least one week before the meetings in September, October and November.

The Management Group will take a view on what they consider are contentious and non-contentious issues. Contentious issues will go on the agenda for debate and are likely to lead to further consultation. Non contentious issues will not be subject to further consultation at this stage, but issues which were considered to be non-contentious may be 'picked up' by the community once the completed draft plan goes out to public consultation.

It is anticipated that a draft document will be completed by the end of the year, which is in parallel with the Core Strategy.

5) Proposal for Format and Content of the Neighbourhood Plan

Phil Applin and David Morgan used a Power Point presentation to explain the proposed format and how that format was determined. The Group was advised that there is no specified template, just mandated essential information e.g. evidence.

The proposed format will be:

- 5.1 Summary top level document – 20 pages;
- 5.2 Appendices detailing subjects referenced from the top level – maximum 60 pages;
- 5.3 Hard copy for the top level document and soft copy for the appendices.

Being put to the vote, the proposed format was AGREED but Elizabeth Dixon cautioned against just relying on a hard copy/soft copy as it may well be necessary to provide large print, audio and even braille copies upon request. Additionally, alternative languages must be catered for if necessary.

David Morgan was congratulated on his re-draft of the Vision Statement, which was AGREED in principle subject to minor wording changes:

- *To protect and enhance the things we love about Stratford – including the heritage of our town – for current and future residents and visitors;*
- *To make Stratford a better place to live today – by addressing concerns and supporting changes which people in this town would like to see;*
- *To support appropriate development to our town over the next 20 years which contributes to a good and sustainable quality of life for residents – including a strong local economy.*

It was considered necessary to tweak the statement slightly to make bullet point one more inclusive i.e. to include those 'working or studying' in the town'. Many thought the word 'today' in bullet point two was superfluous. It was thought that 'and visitors' after 'residents' in bullet point three should be included. David Morgan agreed to review the statement again.

David went on to explain the formatting rational. The Power Point presentation and David's paper on how the plan will look and its contents are circulated with the minutes. The word document on the Bus Station, also

included with the minutes, depicts the format and layout which those tasked with writing sections of the Plan, should follow.

The Chairman proposed and it was AGREED that an editorial team would be instigated comprising Phil Applin, Andrew Dow (photographs), Mark Haselden, Trevor Honychurch and David Morgan.

The first section 'To protect and enhance the things we love about Stratford' will be considered at the September meeting.

6) Updates from Working Party Chairmen and Planning Consultant

None at this time.

7) Public Participation

There were no public present.

8) Any Other Business

8.1 Lucy's Mill Bridge – debate in October (see minute 3).

8.2 Neil Pearce had advised the meeting earlier that the Neighbourhood Plan Area, to be adopted and agreed by the District Council, has been submitted. The proposed Area is now subject to six weeks consultation. Although the District Council has not responded officially in terms of approving the Area, they made no adverse comments during prior 'unofficial' consultation. It is likely that the Area will be confirmed within 8-10 weeks.

8.3 Peter Emerson requested that correspondence received from a local resident in Shottery be considered at the next meeting as an Agenda item.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 7:52pm.

ATTACHED:

Power Point Presentation – The Neighbourhood Development Plan Format

Word Document – Stratford-upon-Avon Neighbourhood Plan Draft v2

Word Document – Bus Station