



Minutes of Steering Group Meeting – NDP
Monday 6th February 2017, 7.30pm
St Peter’s Hall

In attendance:

Roger Townend	Rob Hunter	Rachel Underwood	Keith Hardie	Brian Roe
Paul Plowman	Sarah Beggs	Steve George	David Smith	
Barbara Gratton	Peter Gratton	Max Bassett (Data Orchard)	Roy Coldrick	

Apologies: Richard Gardiner.

1. Declarations of Interests

PG and BG – would like to build an eco-house next to their house.

BR – owns the Yew Tree Pub and the land behind it but currently has no intention to build.

SB – currently has no plans to develop her land, but this might change depending on what other development is proposed in the Parish.

2. Results of the Parish Survey

MB presented the results of the Parish survey. We had a very good response rate (76%), although those aged 65 and over were over represented. The majority of people who responded live in Peterstow village. Most respondents valued the peaceful, rural nature of the Parish and wanted to ensure that any development did not adversely affect this. There was no appetite for allotments and although more people favoured developing a polytunnel policy than not, it wasn’t a much greater proportion than said “no” or had “no opinion”. With regard to possible energy sources, the majority of respondents were against the idea of fracking and to a lesser degree wind power. However, solar power, water power, burning wood pellets and gas from waste products were all acceptable if carried out by private individuals or the community (not commercially) and natural heat in the ground was acceptable whoever carried it out. A large number of people said that they would use a community bus scheme even though it wasn’t a majority of the people who responded.

As for housing, over two thirds of residents thought that the minimum number required by Herefordshire Council (now approx. 21 homes) was about right. The preference was for limited single plot residential properties and expansion through small developments of 2-4 dwellings. It was thought that family homes, starter homes, adapted / easy access homes and homes for local people were needed most. Privately owned properties and low cost properties for outright sale were favoured. Whilst the majority of respondents felt that the NDP should not identify potential sites for business use (47%), 38% felt that it should and 15% did not have an opinion and therefore it was thought that this should be explored further with the Parish. Businesses could be developed from people’s homes without the

need for commercial-type premises and this could bring people to the area and reduce traffic on the roads. The key concerns of residents seemed to focus on traffic and flooding. The percentage of residents who have suffered flooding of some sort, whilst not the majority, was actually very high and this needs to be accurately displayed at the public meeting and taken into account in new developments. The most popular road safety improvements were speed indicator devices, better / new pavements and a pedestrian crossing.

DO still need to complete the free text comments part of the report which will be helpful to reinforce the data. Once we have the final version of the report, it will need to go on the website. We now need to start drafting our vision and objectives. **DO** will provide a document giving guidance on how to do this using the survey results. We have already been supplied with examples of vision and objectives, although **DO** are adding some more advice on how to deal with this where contentious issues are involved.

3. Update on Grant Application

Our current grant period was due to expire on 8th February, but we have secured an extension until 31st March. We therefore have until that date to complete the steps for which we have already secured funding, otherwise we must return the money. This shouldn't cause any problems because the preparations for our public meeting should be complete by that date. However, we must make sure all invoices are in and paid. **KH** is taking steps to secure funding for the following 6 months.

4. Planning for the Parish Meeting

This breaks down into 3 areas; drafting our vision and objectives, practical preparations and content. **PP, KH, SB and RH** agreed to prepare a draft vision and objectives for circulation before the next meeting so that it can hopefully be finalised at that meeting. **PG, BG and RU** will organise the practical details for the public meeting such as refreshments and publicity (**RU** will contact Norman about display boards, **PG / BG** will draft an article for the Peterstow Times to be submitted mid-February and we need to plan a leaflet drop to every household in the Parish notifying them of the meeting). **RH & RT** will prepare a framework for what information is to be displayed at the public meeting and how, so that at our next meeting we can allocate themes for groups to flesh out. **DO** will see if they have any examples we can follow, but essentially, we need to report the survey findings and (with the help of **DO's** planning consultant if necessary) put forward policy options for comment. Although we don't intend to suggest possible sites for development at this public meeting, we must tell the Parish what will happen in this regard. We might also want to give people the option to put forward sites, although there must, of course, be other opportunities to do so. We need to obtain the approval of the Parish Council for our public meeting plans – **RH** will organise this.

5. AOB

The next meeting will take place at the usual time of **7.30pm** on **Monday 6th March 2017** in St Peter's Hall, Peterstow. There being no other business, the meeting closed at 8.49pm.