

Minutes of Steering Committee No 17, 3rd may 2021, 7.30pm to 9.25pm

Present: Mike Kelly (Chair), Rob Buick, Fred West, Terry Barnett, Alan Sloan, Debi Hallett, Melanie Frobisher.

Guest; Sally Chapman

- 1) Apologies for Absence;** None
- 2) Approval of Minutes of Meeting No 16;** Approved
- 3) Declaration of personal interest in topics to be discussed;** None declared
- 4) Financial Report;** Fred reported all actions taken to return Locality Funds and interim expenses being processed through RBC
- 5) Writing the Plan**

Sally Chapman introduced herself and gave a brief description of her background. She felt that we had prepared much of the evidence base, but, as she said in her email (attached to the agenda) and given the responses to the questionnaire in favour of promoting green spaces and the countryside, we should employ an ecology consultant to identify further green spaces and recommend ecological improvements in the Area.

(Mike is pursuing a number of avenues to identify suitable consultants) .

In respect of an August 2021 completion of the draft Plan, Sally felt this was entirely feasible, though the evidence base material from consultants yet to be appointed may not be complete and there would likely to be some parts of the document that need tidying up.

Sally went on to describe the process after the draft is completed. Firstly Section 14 regulations require us to have a 6 week minimum consultation with stakeholders (residents, local authority, interested parties etc) at the end of which we produce a consultation statement either defending content commented on, or modifying the emerging Plan.

The consultation statement and the modified draft Plan are then handed over to RBC who organise an independent inspector, who can alter/ modify the Plan (without reference back to us). Once the inspector is satisfied, the Plan goes out for a referendum and comes into law if the residents etc approve it.

6) Progress on Actions arising from Meeting no 16;

Following the same order as the agenda;

- 1) Mike** will apply for the next grant as soon as the grant forms are posted on line.
Awaiting response from Locality regarding applying in 2 stages
- 2) Alan** awaiting response from Mike Berry regarding approach to Student Union
- 3) Alan** reported that a study of the centre of EG had in fact been undertaken with the recommendation that it become a Conservation Area, in 2012. RBC had not pursued it due to a lack of funds and situation continues today.
- 4) Rob** is distributing all planning applications and Terry is doing a thorough job of examining them and commenting on whether we should object or not, against the criteria we discussed.

- 5) **Sally Chapman** has joined us on this monthly meeting, and a visit to look at our area is arranged for the 12th May.
- 6) **Melanie** has gone out to the greenies again and there has been a number of questionnaire responses as a result.
- 7) **Debi** and **Fred** have arranged the art work, printing and distribution of a new leaflet announcing the closing date of the questionnaire and distribution is due from the 3rd to the 10th May by Royal Mail.
- 8) **Alan** and **Mike** had a virtual meeting with AECOM, and AECOM have subsequently issued a 2nd draft of the Design Codes for our review and comment.
- 9) **Debi** has arranged the hire of the Village Centre (28th Aug 2021) and the Hub (4th Sept 2021)
- 10) **Schedule** is up to date
- 11) **Terry** continues to study the cycle and footpaths.
- 12) **Housing Audit**
Melanie is working on the housing audit report, and requested a meeting with Mike to agree the format and content of the report. (meeting took place a few days later)
- 7) **Town Hall meetings (Open Sessions)**
All to have a think about the presentation content and report back to Debi. Debi and Mike then to meet to review what could be presented.
- 8) **Planning Applications.** Terry reported on concerns regarding an application in Victoria Street. The development contains a small shop. The issue is that this is a continuation of a development by the same developer, who has a number of adjoining small new shops which have stood empty for up to 4 years. Mike said that this was an ongoing situation which EGVRA were following, and that he and the chair of EGVRA, Keith Bendall, were meeting with the developer, and felt that depending on the outcome, EGV Forum should write objecting to the new proposals, Mike will report back on the meeting and we can make a decision then.
Terry also highlighted a proposal in Wick Lane, but felt it was not something to object to.
- 9) **Residents Questionnaire**
Approximately 350 have now responded to the questionnaire. Melanie's posting on the Greenies has produced more since last meeting.
- 10) **AOB**
None
- 11) **Next Monthly Meeting**
Thursday 27th May 2021, 7.30 pm

Actions arising;

- 1) **Terry** to monitor planning applications and keep us informed if there seems to be one relevant to our work.
- 2) **Terry** to continue to study cycle ways and footpaths to reach some recommendations to include in our Plan's 'advisories'
(Terry and Mike to meet to discuss)

- 3) **All-** to make suggestions to Debi re what displays etc should be in the Open Sessions. Mike and Debi to review and discuss a plan of action
- 4) **Melanie** to continue with the Housing Audit
- 5) **Alan** to continue to battle with RHUL
- 6) **Mike** to identify Ecology consultants for inclusion in our Locality application (following visit by Sally Chapman, also looking for consultants to help develop the village centre and look at traffic management)
- 7) **Mike** to make the Locality application.
- 8) **All-** to review the latest version of the Design Codes and **Mike** to submit a review to AECOM
- 9) **Alan** and **Mike** to show Sally Chapman around the Area on the 12th May.