

Minutes of Steering Committee No 44, Thursday 13th June 2024,

At The village Centre, Victoria Street, Englefield Green, 6.30pm to 9.15pm

Present: Mike Kelly (Chair), Terry Barnett, Alan Sloan, Fred West, Melanie Frobisher, Debi Hallett, Albert Jamieson, Erik Juul-Mortensen

- 1) **Apologies for Absence;** None
- 2) **Approval of Minutes of Meeting No 43;** Approved
- 3) **Declaration of personal interest in topics to be discussed;** none.
- 4) **Date of AGM;** Target date postponed to some time in August 2024.
- 5) **Accounts;** No movement for last month. **Mike to check with Locality that our account is closed.** Mike confirmed that Surrey CC through Marisa Heath will fund us for this year to the tune of £500. **Application to be made by Mike as soon as we have a bank account (see below)**
- 6) **EG Community Projects CIC;** Barclays is still assessing our application for a bank account. Until this is done and a bank account opened we cannot move forward on the Web site or application to Surrey CC for funding.
Fred to inform all when the account is opened .
- 7) **Sourcing of Funds:** Alan has identified and scheduled out a number of Organisations that provide either Project funding or materials (eg Trees). **Alan will continue this research, but also now provide relevant organisations with descriptions of our projects and find out if they are interested in contributing.**
- 8) **Website, Facebook etc.** Melanie now consolidated the membership list, but the numbers don't add up with possibly 100 still missing. **Melanie to talk to Rob and try and sort it out.**
We can't move the web site forward without a bank account. **Mike to produce an initial draft of the home page and possible other pages.**
Melanie needs to investigate what has happened (if anything) to the e mail address, if Rob is still forwarding e mails and how to extract it from him.
A Facebook page will be started by Melanie, once the web page is running.
- 9) **Projects arising from the Neighbourhood Plan**
 - a) Parking, Speed Limits, A30, Liveable neighbourhoods; Albert described the variables in assessing the parking situation- eg drop kerbs, houses with driveways, students, etc. these factors all need assessing and separating out so that a true picture of the situation can be obtained. **Street by street fact finding is progressing,** and the previous parking studies can be used as part of the analysis. Target is to submit an assessment for the November Surrey CC parking review.
Mike reminded all that unless 70% of residents agree to parking restrictions (whatever form they may take) then any scheme is dead in the water, and urged Alberts group to consider such a survey at the earliest opportunity especially given the restraints of term times and holiday periods.
On Speed limits, the group is concentrating on limits for Prune Hill, Priest Hill and St Judes and have also made submissions on Bakeham Lane and the A30.

Albert noted the LCWIP priority project, involving a £6 m upgrade of cycling and walking on Egham Hill from Runnymede to Virginia Water lake and is pushing for our involvement in this the feasibility stage.

A meeting was held between Albert Mike and Xavier Brice, CEO of SusTrans, who are the custodians of the National Cycle Routes, with a view to abandoning the section from Egham Bypass up to Coopers Hill Lane and redirecting it up the remodelled A30 and in through the village via the Transport Hub (see below) Sus Trans supports this potential change and it would free up the S106 money allocated to that for other cycling orientated improvements.

Mike to contact Mike Berry of RHUL seeking a meeting as a lot of these infrastructure adjustments affect RHUL and support for our objectives from RHUL would be useful.

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- b) New Trees project. Debi stated that Andrea seemed to be ‘doing his own thing’ and that various projects were progressing. Mike however, reported on a conversation with Andrea in which he expressed frustration with RBC and a lack of progress in obtaining permission to use RBC land. He was concentrating on progressing tree planting on narrow strips of land that are owned by Surrey CC, which appear to be along most roads adjacent to the pavements (anything beyond that being owned by RBC). The scheme he seems to have agreement to involve the planting and maintenance of trees along a number of roads by a charity .

Thus Trees/ hedges along Bond Street are in his opinion on the back burner. Mike suggested that Debi get in touch with Englefield Green Team to try and get Bond Street back on track, as they seemed keen on it. Meantime Mike will contact RBC to try and arrange a meeting to discuss all our projects where they involve RBC land, and try and establish the criterion for using that land and a way forward to obtain permission. Given that Woodland trust trees are probably too small for hedging etc along this area, we need to press on with other funding/ supply options including Surrey CC and Windsor great park. Alan to progress with Surrey CC tree initiative and others

- c) Forest Estate Garden Project. At the moment the three labour councillors do not appear to support this project and so it is on the back burner. Mike is trying to persuade them but is finding difficulty as they don’t respond.
- d) Central Area remodelling and signage. Support and potential funding from Marissa Heath. Mike to undertake sufficient design detail to go out for quotations for the work
- e) Mike will continue to liaise with Nick Day to see if WGP can help in any way on the projects. A meeting was scheduled for 11th July a long time ago and Mike will see if this is still on.

10) Planning;

All potential developments on the Agenda list were reviewed and it was considered there is no further action on any of them for the moment.

11) AOB-

12) Next Meeting- 11th July 2024, Possibly Mikes House if weather good.