



SHERFIELD ON LODDON PARISH COUNCIL

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN FORUM

Minutes of Neighbourhood Plan Forum held on 16th October 2014

Present - John Darker (Chairman), Alan Ball, Ivan Gosden, Sandy Johnston, Bruce Batting, Bryan Jenkins, Steve Levin, Oliver Bartrum, Mary O'Connor, Kathleen Gaiger and Peter Hayes (Minutes).

Apologies - Peta Alvares, Venetia Rowland and Eleanor Burt.

1. Introduction

JD welcomed everyone. He commented on the low attendance and emphasised the need to keep the public involved as work on the Plan proceeds.

2. Minutes of last meeting (21/08/14)

The Minutes were accepted as an accurate record.

3. Matters arising not on the agenda

JD updated on a number of issues since the last meeting:

- i) A policy-led Plan has been approved by the Parish Council
- ii) A meeting with Brian Whiteley (Planning Aid England) had discussed objectives and policies
- iii) Sue Jobbins (Shaping Communities) has been providing support for public consultations with harder to reach groups
- iv) Alex Munro (Maroon Planning) will address housing needs and policies at the next PSCNP meeting (22/10)
- v) A meeting with Action Hants (22/10) will look into an official view on local housing needs.

SL requested an update on re-definition of the Neighbourhood Area. JD said that the PC was awaiting an initial recommendation from BDBC which was now expected after Christmas. JD advised that there was likely to be 'slippage' in local government activities around the May 2015 election time.

4. A thematic breakdown for vision and objectives

Bryan Jenkins presented his personal approach to a vision for the parish, numbers at the meeting being too low for a practical workshop.

For his presentation (paper attached to Minutes), BJ had chosen themes which were common to a number of NPs: Economy/business; Village centre; Transport; Communications infrastructure; Housing; Design; Healthy community; Climate change; Natural environment; Historic environment.

BJ said that his guiding principles had been: land use; avoidance of 'poetic' language; an agreed vision leading to policies which will be used to adjudicate planning applications.

Discussion points during the presentation:

- Village centre: what about farm traffic if there was pedestrianisation – 'Four Horseshoes' to Goddards Lane?



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- Communications: cable services – not everyone was satisfied with Virgin
- Housing/economy: looks like urbanisation; there can be a downside eg The Shop has character and any changes could lose the personal touch. Keep the shop as it is, but make the parking safer. The 'slightly chaotic nature' of the village is appealing. The Post Office also adds 'character'. Don't change the style of the village.
- Land use: is about farming and leisure. Village represents 10-15% of the physical area. What about the rest of the area? Possibly won't include Taylor's Farm but Redlands will remain.
- Healthy community: having a GP clinic would restore what there was in the past.
- Climate change: extensive work is already being done with tall trees on the Green.

Comments and questions following the presentation:

JD: Re the non-housing environment, will a modern vision impact on things which are valued?

SL: What people want should be the decider. What's the process from here on?

BB: A vision with objectives to make it work. Build up the evidence base and consult further, ensuring that everything is evidence-based.

KG: How do you get to certain groups?

JD: Example of village hall users: WI; Bowls Club; Zumba

BB: We have to go out to them eg landowners

KG: Did good ideas come from the Questionnaire?

BB: There was lots of information but a limited age range (eg older people responded in the village)

OB: If people don't provide evidence, you go with what you have.

BB: A detailed list of consultations must be submitted, covering all areas of the community

SL: The village has a nature that we want to preserve. This should be the basis of the vision, not transport. Consider the rest of the designated area, excluding Taylor's Farm.

JD thanked BJ for his presentation which had provoked much discussion.

5. Date of next meeting

22nd January 2015. It was suggested that those on the mailing list be asked to confirm their attendance.