

Notes of Neighbourhood Planning Meeting 19 November 19.15, Pavilion, Bit End Field, Whittington

1. Welcome & Apologies

Present

Gareth Hyde, Cllr. Julia Spencer, Cllr. Phil Taylor, Cllr. John Cannon, Chris Jones. Clive Abbott, Phil Jackson

Apologies

Debbie Barnish, Francesca Jackson, Cllr.Thia Knowles,

2. Notes of meeting held 15 October& any matters arising that were not covered on the Agenda.

The Notes were proposed as a true record by Julia Spencer and this was seconded by Clive Abbott and accepted unanimously by those present.

Gareth Hyde briefed those present about the meeting with Richard Rayson, Staffs. County Council Highways Officer regarding traffic issues in the Neighbourhood. Richard has offered to talk with the NP Traffic Group if one was set up after the questionnaires had been completed. He had reminded that there was some funding available via the appropriate local Councillor.

Availability of future funding was discussed and all agreed that irrespective of likely availability of such we should still continue to identify the needs for funding as regards the NP.

A summary was given about the Neighbourhood Plan Open Meeting held in the village hall on 18th October that had given those who attended (over 100) the opportunity to learn more about the importance of having a Neighbourhood Plan for Whittington and Fisherwick, to find out what was involved in achieving this and most importantly enabling them to give and share their views about our community. Visitors were invited to offer their views and thoughts around the five broad subjects of Housing, the Environment, Village facilities, Traffic and Families.

3. Finance/Future Funding.

Phil Jackson summarised the 'spend to date'; funds earmarked for consultancy fees and the total 'identified spend'. He confirmed that a report would be submitted to Locality at the end of the month that should secure the release of the remaining £700 grant funding. The Interim Report that had been submitted had been accepted by Locality.

Whilst it was understood that there would be no further grant funding from January a further tranche of £23m would be available from April but the funding administrator wouldn't be known until nearer the time. In the interim Gareth Hyde and Phil Jackson would seek out other grants opportunities.

Cllr John Cannon advised that the Group should apply as a 'special circumstance' for funding from the Parish Council which could release £750 to support the Group from end December to end March. Also suggested that 'forward presentation of invoices' for known requirements should be considered. He also indicated the Parish Council's willingness to help maintain the momentum of the NP and that there was the possibility of up to £2.5 k being available up to April 2015 from the PC on submission of appropriate requests. He also explained the extra financial constraints the PC would be operating under in 2015.

4. Update on Questionnaire

Every effort had been made to ensure that the questionnaire was delivered to each residence in the neighbourhood plan area and similarly that everyone who wants to return such is able to.

Further publicity was planned through the appropriate local media during the 'live' phase of the questionnaire.

5. Youth Questionnaire

50 copies had been provided to the Youth Club and 25 had been completed to date. It was also available from the website. The Consultants would incorporate the results of this in their analysis. The Youth Questionnaire would contribute to achieving the wide demographic required to bolster the evidence base.

It was agreed that the general format of the questionnaire given to the Youth Club could be used as the basis for the other Youth Groups within the village.

6. Feedback from Locality Event

A resume of the event was given by those who had attended it. Useful links to organisations and relevant publications had been made available as had general background as to how the local authority (LDC) should provide support to the group.

Those present agreed that a request to meet with LDC should be made to tie in with the results of the questionnaire being available in January.

7. Any other business

The impact of and disruption that would be caused by HS2 was discussed and how this should be considered within the context of the Neighbourhood Plan.

The pending closure of the Youth Club was considered and how this should be referenced within the Neighbourhood Plan. A general discussion about an approach to the Planning Authority took place and it was agreed that such contact should first be made by the Parish Council. John Canon agreed to take this forward.

Julia Spencer had met up with a group of mothers with young children, some of whom would be keen to be involved on a Family Working Group when the Groups formed up in the New Year

8. Date of next meeting

17 December 2014, 1900, Bit End Field Pavilion.