

Haslemere Vision – Culture, Leisure and Education.

Minutes of the third Meeting held in Haslewey on Wednesday October 16th at 7.30p.m.

Present: Ken Griffiths, Jon Taylor, Phillipa Guest, Melanie Odell, Chloe Nash, Jim Edwards, James Mackie, Lesley Banfield, Sharon Mitchell.

Apologies: Nikki Barton, Richard Oldham, Pamela Gimblet, Sue Stathers, Hamish Donaldson.

In Sue's absence, Ken agreed to write the minutes.

1. **Welcome & Apologies:** Ken welcomed Jim Edwards who was new to the group and as a consequence we all went round the table and introduced ourselves.

2. **Action Points from previous meeting:**

The CL&E Asset Register had been circulated and comments received which had been incorporated into the document.

Ken has spoken to WBC about the future of the Youth Campus and that would be brought out in the agenda item discussion.

Education, Chloe was here and would lead us on a debate about Education as an agenda item.

Tourism, Melanie had contacted the Haslemere Visitors Centre (VIC) and they had produced a Haslemere Vision tourism document which would be discussed as an agenda item.

CL&E input into other Neighbourhood plans. Three completed plans had been circulated to the group and these would be discussed as an agenda item.

3. **Youth Campus:** Jon had spoken to most of the organisations using the Youth Campus and was able to provide the following information with respect to the buildings / organisations.

Air Training Corps (ATC) Hut – 10 adult leaders and 43 cadets meeting twice weekly.

Army Cadets Hut – 3 adult leaders and 15 cadets.

St John Hut – Membership of Adult section, data still outstanding. Cadet section 12 – 15 members meeting on a weekly basis.

Scout Hut – Two Scout packs of 12 & 22 youths respectively meeting weekly. Beavers 18 youngsters meeting weekly, Cubs 30 youngsters meeting weekly. Numbers for Guides still being collated but there are 2 Guide packs and 3 Brownie packs. Note there are 85 youngsters on the Scouts waiting list but until additional leaders can be found they cannot be accommodated. The Scout Hut is also used for Adult training, District Meetings and camps.

Jon agreed to gather the missing data and it was agreed that we should further gather information on the facilities that they use. I.E garage for storage, shooting range etc. Jon agreed to extend this data gathering exercise to the Wey Centre in order for us to accurately gauge the uses of all Youth facilities in Wey Hill. **Action Jon.**

A lively discussion ensued on the future of the Youth Campus site but all agreed that there was a need to safeguard the facilities provided and if impossible improve upon them.

Ken reported on his communications with Robert Knowles (Leader of Waverley Borough Council WBC) on the future of the Youth Campus. After the initial request for a meeting was refused a second e-mail was sent asking the following questions.

- Does WBC have plans to develop the Youth Campus?
- If so, is this why the leases are not being renewed?
- If WBC does have plans for that area, will the council share them with the Vision?

The answer received was as follows: "in Mr Griffiths original e-mail, he states that Waverley are refusing to discuss the matter with the youth organisations, nothing is further from the truth, a number of meetings have taken place with officers and with Ward members. Officers are again meeting lease holders this month. **Nowhere is earmarked for development**, if and when sites are identified as required by government, there will be consultation".

To complement this work on the Youth Campus and Weycentre being undertaken by Jon, it was agreed that the facilities / users of Haslewey would also be brought into this debate. Sharon agreed to provide the data. **Action Sharon.**

Once all the data has been compiled against all the above buildings, youth campus / Weycentre / Haslewey, Ken agreed to draft a paper outlining options on ways forward. **Action Ken.**

4. **Way Forward on Education:** Chloe kindly led the debate on this, talking initially about her plans to engage schools / schoolchildren / parents with the Vision. In her experience, parents were still unaware of what the Vision is about. Chloe has already engaged with St Barts to provide a firm evidence based scenario on Schools / Education. That needed to be expanded across all schools. If we could involve the children it would bring in the parents.

Chloe has prepared two papers to send out to schools / schoolchildren, one asking for their views / ideas for the future of Haslemere and one involving them by taking part in a competition. These papers are to be circulated to the group for comment. Feedback needs to be sent back to Chloe by Sunday October 20th. **Action Chloe / All**

Secretaries / Chairman's note: These papers and initiative need to be put to the Vision Steering Group for approval and Ken will do this at the meeting on October 22nd.

Another way of involving the children would be to provide child friendly maps upon which they can draw their thoughts / outline their ideas.

It is important to bring all age groups together and as this is already happening in some quarters I.E. through the Wave / Churches etc, so we need to build upon what is already happening.

School provisioning / expansion is another area that needs to be examined and Chloe spoke about her own experience with her 5 year old daughter being offered a place at Milford and SCC paying for a taxi to take her back and forward to school.

At this point Ken brought in the Haslemere Vision: Evidence Base paper previously circulated to the group, which outlines the schools in Haslemere and provides information on children attending. This is based on 2010 data, so clearly needs to be updated. Ken took an action to write to Nikki in her role of SCC Councillor to provide the latest SCC information on projected school headcounts / expansion of buildings etc. **Action Ken and Nikki.**

There is a need for pre and after school care for working parents. This currently exists at St Barts but is this sufficient / convenient for all children across Haslemere? The possible use of Haslewey for pre and after school care was discussed which could easily be a hub for children from Shottermill Infants, Shottermill Juniors and Camelsdale. It would be fairly easy to provide a walking bus solution to all these schools from Haslewey. However, we also need to look further afield at the schools in Beacon Hill / Grayswood etc. Perhaps for these schools we could utilise the Hopper Bus facility.

All of the above fitted in almost exactly with a note sent to Ken from Sue (who was unable to be with us) but also brought out Secondary schools, 6th form colleges and for the older ages amongst us, the U3A - University of the Third Age.

Ken agreed to put all of the above information into a draft Education paper for us to use as our base document and then build upon it as our plans evolved. **Action Ken.**

5. **Way Forward on Tourism:** Ken introduced the paper as produced by the Haslemere Visitor Information as our base document and linked that with their website. All agreed that it provided an excellent starting point and that this would be updated as our thoughts / plans progressed.

It was agreed that the Railway Station is seen as a central hub / gateway to the South Downs and the surrounding areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty but there is little if any information for tourists displayed there. The same is true for Car parks in and around Haslemere. For example should information in Haslemere Centre point people to the Punch Bowl and information at the Punch Bowl point visitors to Haslemere?

Do the aesthetics of Haslemere meet tourist expectations, Does the whole of Haslemere need to be part of a Good Quality Public Realm design?

Do we need to have a Haslemere Events website which links in all of the excellent events that take place in and around Haslemere. A one stop shop for tourists through the VIC?

Do we need to have data on what visitors think of Haslemere? Melanie agreed to find what information was available on this through previous Health Checks. **Action Melanie.**

This can then be taken further, and enable us to introduce an evidence based survey on Tourism. Perhaps we can formulate a survey to be used at the Haslemere Christmas Market to bring any evidence up to date?

Does the Haslemere Visitors Information Centre (VIC) need to become a Tourist Information Centre (TIC)?

Brown Tourist information Signs, where are they to point people to the Museum for example. With the Hindhead Tunnel people drive past without knowing what tourist attractions are just off the road.

Ken agreed to incorporate the above points into the base document as produced by the VIC for all to comment upon. **Action Ken / All.**

6. **CL&E Asset Database:** Ken said that all additions / changes suggested by our group as well as those from the Steering Group had been included. However, feedback from the Steering Group and other workgroup members had been disappointingly low. There were still gaps but they would be filled as we progressed.

Ken spoke about looking at the deeds of open spaces / buildings in Haslemere held by various authorities which were kept at the Surrey Historical Centre in Woking to see if any covenants were attached to them which gave them protection from development or whatever.

Secretaries note: subsequent to the meeting, arrangements have been made for Ken and Robert Serman (President of Haslemere Society) to visit the Surrey Historical Centre and examine the deeds.

We agreed that the CL&E Asset database would continue to be another of our base documents.

7. **CL&E Structure of other Neighbourhood Plans:** We agreed that the information contained in the finalised plans from those Neighbourhoods previously circulated, contained some useful information for when we were in a position to formulate the CL&E plans for Haslemere. However, as we are still very much in the data gathering mode, we will come back to these later.

8. **Feedback from the people of Haslemere:** A very useful discussion took place on the need to ensure that all our work was evidence based and reflected the views of the people of Haslemere and the surrounding district. All that we have at present is feedback from the Open Events held at the Museum, Haslemere Hall, Lion Green etc, as outlined in the spreadsheet circulated with this meeting.

Some of the comments such as those from the flipchart used at the Haslemere Hall just referred to buildings such as Haslewey and it was agreed that as long as they were on our Asset database, that they could be removed from our rating of importance.

Melanie agreed to restructure the spreadsheet which would allow us all to rate each item as our individual importance level which could then be combined electronically to give an overall score based on everyone's input. **Action Melanie / All.**

9. **Workgroup Process:** As we were out of time, Ken asked for everyone's electronic feedback on the proposed workgroup process as drawn up by Stewart and previously circulated. Ken agreed to circulate this again and everyone was asked for their feedback which Ken would then take to the next Steering Group Meeting. **Action Ken / All.**

10. **Date of Next Meeting:** This is currently set for November 6th at 7:30 pm in Haslewey. Ken agreed to circulate other dates for subsequent meetings which included weekends / days as well as evenings in order to get an optimum date / time to meet everyone's needs..