

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE STEERING GROUP OF HASLEMERE VISION
HELD AT THE TOWN HALL ON TUESDAY, 17th FEBRUARY 2015**

Present: Stewart Brown (Chairman), Penny Bradley, Lesley Banfield, Crawford Christie, Jonny Fry, Cyndy Lancaster, John Moxon, Robert Silk, David Simmons and Diana Vartan.

In attendance: Susanna Brown, Libby Piper, Mathew Mainwaring

1. **Apologies:** Liz Burton, Stephen Bennett, Peter Isherwood, Stephen Mulliner, Vicki Purewal, Robert Serman, Richard Workman.

2. **Minutes of the last meeting**
Minutes of the meeting held on 20 January 2015 were approved.

3. **Matters arising**

Follow up to Woolmer Hill Technology College Workshop

Action: SB still to make a recommendation how to follow up on the idea of online mini-surveys for students before the next meeting.

Stage 2 Housing Consultation

The housing workshop on 31 January had been very successful and had focussed minds on a number of key issues. At the previous Steering Group meeting it had been agreed that we should stick to the decision not to go ahead with the Stage 2 consultation until after WBC publish their final recommendations on housing numbers. However this was dragging on and, at the workshop, it was concluded that it is unlikely that the housing numbers for Haslemere will change so much that the issues we need to consult on will be materially affected. SB therefore proposed that we should plan to get on with the consultation as soon as practical.

After discussion it was agreed to aim to go ahead with the housing consultation as soon as possible after both the national and local elections. Approval of the final document by the new Town Council would be necessary before proceeding but we would hope to consult in June/July.

CC agreed to put together the first draft of the consultation document by the end of February and SB would liaise with Sarah Nash to set up a meeting with members of HTC during the first week in March for a preliminary review of the contents. It was agreed that the document should be as short as possible. The current thinking is a document of 10-12 pages consisting of three parts, the main section on housing generally and two, much shorter, sections on specific development options for the Wey Hill Fairground and for Hindhead. It was also provisionally suggested that a separate document be produced and distributed to Beacon Hill residents to consider issues specific to their area.

**Action: CC to produce draft document for discussion with councillors by 1st March
SB to fix date for meeting with councillors for first week in March.
LBU to discuss the idea of separating the Beacon Hill consultation with PI.**

4. **Sustainability**

Jane Devlin made a presentation to the meeting followed by discussion. It was agreed that careful thought be given to monitoring and enforcement. It was felt that a lot of Neighbourhood Plans do not take this into account sufficiently.

There was a discussion of what sustainability objectives should be adopted for Haslemere and the objectives published by Farnham were used as an example. It was felt that they were too general to act as an effective screen when future planning proposals are being considered and it was agreed that a group comprising L Banfield, CC and MM would produce a revised list for consideration at the next meeting. It was emphasised that the objectives should not be confused with policies. What is required is a check list that each Policy Group can use to ensure that they are taking sustainability into account as they draft their policy proposals. JD suggested that once the list is agreed each group should decide on the three objectives that are most relevant to their area of policy.

JD confirmed that she will continue to be available to HV for consultation but has just taken on a full time job. It was agreed that we should seek a volunteer to liaise with Jane and guide the policy groups as necessary.

Action: **J D to send an email copy of her presentation to SB for circulation.
L Ban, CC and M Mainwaring to produce the required checklist before the next meeting.
SB to seek volunteers to act as the Sustainability Liaison**

NB: **LP and PB left the meeting at this point.**

5. The structure of the Neighbourhood Plan

In LBU's absence her first draft proposal on the structure/content of the final Neighbourhood Plan was introduced by RS and CL and was briefly discussed. The structure was broadly approved but SG members were urged to read the draft carefully and send any comments they have to L Bu individually after the meeting. The following points were noted during the discussion:

- WBC should be added to the list of "audiences" but it was agreed that residents are the primary audience and that the look and feel of the document should be primarily visual with text short, succinct and in plain English.
- The question was raised as to whether it was necessary to have both a " Key Priorities and Challenges" section and an Executive Summary
- There is no mention of the separate "vision/aspiration" document that we have previously envisaged to accompany and set the "scene" for the NP. Is this still desirable/necessary?

Action: **All SG Members to pass any thoughts or comments on this plan to LBU.**

6. Timing of the Stage 2 Consultation

Our aim is now to consult in June/July 2015

7. Any other business

(I) The area between the High Street, the Station and Wey Hill

SB advised the meeting of a proposal that HV should consider finding the necessary funds, in partnership with HTC, WBC and SCC, to commission consultants to prepare an integrated parking/traffic/housing/development plan for the area between the High Street, the Station and Wey Hill. The area encompasses a series of individual sites where significant developments may be proposed including the Waitrose Car Park, The BT

Exchange, the trading estate north of the Station, the Youth Campus, 5-21 Wey Hill and the Fairground. They are all potentially linked and might be better considered in the context of a redevelopment plan for the whole area. It was agreed that this idea is worth investigating further but it was emphasized that, if it goes ahead, it should not delay the drafting of the NP.

Action: SB to develop the idea further with members of the Steering and Housing Groups prior to sounding out HTC.

(ii) Community Assets

The application to WBC to list the Youth Campus had been lodged and JF reported that he understood that an application had also been lodged re the Georgian. SB undertook to establish if this was so and confirm to SG members. It was noted that we still awaited a list of further assets for consideration.

Action: SB to request R Serman to rculate a list of further potential community assets for the SG to consider at the next meeting.

8. Date of next meeting

SB explained that he would not now be able to chair the next meeting as planned on Tuesday, 17 March 2015. He would investigate alternative dates and advise.

Action: SB to advise new date

Subsequent to this minute the date of the next meeting has been changed to Tuesday, 24 March 2015