

**MINUTES OF HASLEMERE VISION STEERING GROUP MEETING
HELD AT HASLEMERE TOWN HALL ON WEDNESDAY 17 JUNE 2015**

1. **Members: Stewart Brown (Chairman)*, Lesley Banfield*, Crawford Christie*, Jonny Fry*, Cyndy Lancaster*, Liz Burton*, David Simmons*, Diana Vartan*, Vicki Purewal*, Peter Sherratt*, John Moxon (A), Robert Silk (A), Peter Isherwood (A), Stephen Mulliner (A), Simon Drake(A).**

*=Present (A) = Apologies

Also attending for part of meeting: Nikki Barton (see item 7 below)

The Chairman welcomed Peter Sherratt, one of the 2 new Haslemere Town Councillors who, following the local election, HTC has nominated as link trustees to join the Steering Group. The other is Simon Drake who was unable to join the meeting.

2. **The Minutes of the Meeting held on 14th April were approved.**

3. **Matters Arising:**

- The Beacon Hill/ Hindhead consultation was still under consideration and a discussion of these was put on the agenda for the next meeting.
- The possibility of an on-line housing survey for students would be looked at once the main consultation document was complete.
- **Business and Economy. Action: CC** to report back after a Chamber of Commerce meeting scheduled the next day on what decisions are made re. design of survey and proposed timing.
- **Sustainability.** contact with WBC on sustainability to be dealt with in July. **Action: SB** Sustainability to be placed on next SG Agenda.

4. **Stage 2 Consultation and Future Timetable**

SB thanked all for their comments on the circulated document and reported that the HTC review group had suggested that the length should be reduced, by reducing the Wey Hill Fairground section to one page and, possibly, cutting out Section 5/LT Strategy or reducing it substantially. Their concern being that this amount of detail might confuse/ put off respondents.

LB agreed that there might well be a case for reducing the Fairground section to one page and undertook to review how this might be done with the drafting group. She emphasised that the important aim was determine whether there is an appetite for mixed use development on this site and get a mandate for that from the community. It was agreed less detail might be given until that mandate is established. The detailed suggestions recorded at the consultation workshop could then be considered as part of a subsequent feasibility study.

Action: LB to consult with drafting group re. reducing Fairground to one page.

There was a strong feeling that Section 5 should not be lost entirely

Action: HV drafting group to look at how Section 5 might be it shortened.

Future Timetable: It was agreed that the aim should be for the NP to be ready for external review /referendum in sync with WBC – that now looks like the later part of 2016. Having decided to delay the Housing Consultation till September, a revised summary (copy attached to these minutes) was circulated. **Action – PLG** to develop a more detailed plan before the July Steering Group Meeting.

It was suggested that a Housing workshop should take place concurrent with the Stage 2 Consultation beginning in September – 1st, 2nd or 3rd Saturday in September to be agreed

Action: VP to propose a date before next meeting.

In parallel with the Stage 2 Consultation, a plan for reactivating the policy writing groups was needed. The revised timetable will require policy drafting to be complete by Christmas to give time to draft Neighbourhood Plan by the March deadline.

Action: SB to propose a date in August for a Policy Writers' workshop.

Action: SB to check what other local events are planned during the Stage 2 Consultation between 1st September and 16 October.

5. Appointment of additional directors of HV Ltd.

Having received no further nominations to join the board of HV Ltd, the appointment of CL and LBU as directors was unanimously approved.

The meeting agreed that it is appropriate that 4 directors should be cheque signatories. JF to become a signatory in place of RO who has resigned.

A date for the next Directors meeting would be set once the Accounts (being prepared) were ready. The next AGM is needed before end of September – **Action JF** to confirm date.

6. Assets of Community Value.

A suggested procedure for future applications to list assets as Assets of Community Value was circulated and approved. (Copy Attached to theses minutes)

Two spreadsheets listing potential Community Assets identified by The CLE Work Group and by Robert Serman (with some duplication) were circulated to inform a discussion on what sort of properties should be registered in future. It was emphasised that there is no suggestion that all the assets on these spreadsheets should be listed. Listing means, simply, that, in the event that the asset is put up for sale, the community is given 6 months to put together a bid to purchase the asset in competition with other bidders. With this in mind SG members were asked to think about what sort of assets it makes sense to list. **Action: (1) all SG** members to go through the list and identify (a) which of these assets are worth considering and (b) any assets that should be listed but are not on the list. This would be

reviewed at the July Meeting. **Action (2)** The **Community Action Policy Group**, currently being re-organised, should then prepare a short list of "possibles" for the SG to consider at the September Meeting so as to then consult with the Town Council before taking any applications forward.

7. Update on Transport and Central Haslemere Strategy Studies

NB gave an update on progress on the proposed travel/transport study for Haslemere that will be led by SCC with HV as contributing partner. The main points were as follows:

- This was a great opportunity for HV to have a voice and be kept informed of longer term developments.
- However, there was only limited money available: Haslemere is a small market town with relatively minor transport/travel challenges. It will never attract large funds, is not on the LEP corridor/ falls just outside it and has to compete with Cranleigh, Farnham & Godalming for the small pot available.
- NB has awarded £3,000 from her Member's Allocation to HV to enable it to join the process as a contributing partner on the project.
- The project will be led by the Sustainability Team at SCC who have £10,000 funds to work in partnership
- NB had also met with Dave Sherperton of the Surrey Cycling group, and a £7000 fund was available for a Cycling Strategy.
- This meant that, in total, £20,000 was available for the Study.
- NB had had a meeting with SCC and a consultancy called Sustrans. They had concluded that, given the available funding, developing a holistic travel plan for the whole town was unrealistic and that a focus on the train station would be the best use of resources, looking at the walking, cycling and motorised transport links between the station and the surrounding town. The intention would be to capture the issues of connectivity and linkages between the 2 halves of the town in this. The proposal is to approach SWT as partners, and link the travel plan with the new, funded, 100 space cycle hub at the station, the station forecourt reconfiguration and additional car parking being proposed by SWT.

NB emphasised that real practical measures were looked for from the study which would help to overcome barriers to travel/access. Any thoughts from the SG were sought:

- CC expressed a concern that the project did not just become a commuter study. If you only question/ survey commuters, all you get is a Car Park response. NB assured the meeting that this was not the intention.
- NB was asked for an idea of Timescale and said that depended on SW TRAINS' response, and would probably know in Sept/ Oct.

In Conclusion: All agreed this was a valid project for HV to get involved in and that, working in partnership with SCC and SW TRAINS was a real opportunity, something that had been lacking in the past. HTC should be briefed and encouraged to support the project and, perhaps WBC could be brought on board as well.

- HV's contribution was seen as (a) financial, with the donation of the £3000 presently in the HV Account and (b) resources (e.g. people) to undertake surveys, collect responses at

the station etc. (c) local expertise and the results of community consultation and engagement HV has undertaken to date.

Action: CC, RW, DS and LB to form the working group to work with **NB** on the project.

- **SB** and **NB** to brief HTC and keep it updated and on board.

- **NB** was happy to distribute a draft.

8. AOB.

DS enquired whether the Transport Workshop that had been talked about in April was still needed. It was agreed it should wait until after the Stage 2 Consultation, possibly in late October.

LBu mentioned that interest from Fernhurst had been expressed in the NP being prepared by HV and it was agreed that this should be encouraged as a wider catchment consultation for the NP could only be a good thing. **Action: LBU** to set up a meeting.

SB led a vote of thanks to Diana Vartan for all her excellent work and minute taking in the past. He was pleased to confirm that, though stepping down from the secretarial role, Diana was keen to remain an active member of the Steering Group.

The minutes would in future be taken by Simona Teresi who was welcomed.

Meeting finished at 10 pm

Next Meeting: Wednesday July 15th