

Ewhurst & Ellens Green NP
Steering Group meeting minutes
2/11 2015

1. Attendance - TB, PG, VH, BA, AW & JA. Apologies - DQ

2. WBC responses - AW commented on WBC responses to questions put to them by TB & Ian Davis of Housing Working Group [HWG] at meeting

Allocation - Perhaps misuse of word allocation. His view is that WBC should first and probably are determining whether total quantity is deliverable i.e. there are enough sites. They will then identify and allocate land in major main locations, and will then allocate numbers to smaller locations without any specific site allocations. What they should not do is publish their Land Availability Assessment [LAA] reports until the plan is published, as former is part of evidence. There is precedence for that.

3. SEA [Strategic Environmental Assessment] - AW needs to submit baseline information on Parish, and whilst some of this information is available from WBC, he also needs

- Some information from DQ group on biodiversity etc. AW will email TB with list of required information who will pass on to DQ, together with request that we receive update on work by his group. **Action - AW/TB/DQ**

4. Surveys

4.1 Total of 453 responses to main village survey, and data on hard copies is now tabulated and passed to consultant, Lorraine Hart. BA to contact LH and ask if potential date for full analysis and then date for meeting with SG can be set. **Action - BA**

BA commented that 93% of respondents agreed with Vision Statement, and that it is clear that many more were hard copy as opposed to on-line, and it was agreed we must bear that in mind when disseminating any information to residents.

4.2 Young People Survey - Waiting for responses with over 100 distributed. AW to analyse when received. **Action AW**

4.3 Business Survey - 38 sent out with 11 returned [29% return rate] PG showed full data sheet of returns and agreed to summarise. **Action PG**

It was agreed that all 3 surveys should be summarised by a report stating what we asked, significant replies and conclusions, with issues, needs and threats. **Action AW, PG and LH/BA**

4.4 How to communicate findings.

- Usual posting on website, Ebulletin and Email to all volunteers and those residents who asked to be kept up to date on plan progress by email [group now established on TB email]

- Agreed we must distribute short flier to all residents, either with or by EVS or News and Views distribution network, and any distribution gaps filled from our own volunteers. This will now be New Year and will be drafted by JA when reports from above available. This flier would tell residents where full information available i.e. website, but also with drop in sessions with SG.

5. Vision Statement - AW suggested that we should look to have an expanded Vision Statement & Key Plan Objectives i.e. where we want the Parish to be at end of Plan

Period i.e. Settlements, housing etc. In any event the application to WBC for screening as to whether we needed SEA, required this. These could be changed subsequently in draft plan if events proved necessary. AW to draft and circulate. **Action AW**

6. Working Groups update

6.1 Housing

- date for visit awaited from Surrey Highways to look at and advise on access on sites remaining after initial screening.

- Group has contacted owners of Marshall's site in Horsham Rd and garage in The Street, asking if they wanted their sites considered for screening process for housing allocation. Wienerberger, owners of old Ewhurst Brickworks have already confirmed that, and TB has walked site with them.

- TB stated that ID had view that WBC screening programme was unnecessarily complicated and somewhat subjective and that a screening list from Horsham LP seemed more logical. This comprises a list of tests, with failure to meet any results in site being excluded for consideration for allocation.

- TB also stated that this group liked idea of expanded Vision statement and key objectives, with idea of developing key policies to be put to residents with site ranking questionnaire. AW suggested that perhaps, rather than defined policies, we should include key objectives that are relevant to this questionnaire. If these are accepted by residents, policies can then be drawn up by group for Draft Plan.

6.2 Community Assets - VH agreed that this group needed to prepare report summarising work to date. **Action VH**

6.3 Business - as agreed in 4.3

6.4 Environment & Biodiversity - as agreed in 3.

6.5 Infrastructure - AW had received recent traffic counts from Surrey for The Street, and would be looking at these again. TB requested that he check figures with Surrey, as these did not look right compared with The Common in Cranleigh i.e. either former too high or latter too low. **Action AW**

6.6 Central Support - BA to re-distribute reports on housing and population to all on SG. **Action BA**

6.7 Communication - JA confirmed copy date for News & Views Parish Magazine was 10th November and would circulate draft article for approval when requested input received. **Action JA**

7. Budget - TB will circulate revised budget. He stated that having talked to 2 NP teams, they had found application process for Locality Grants had become more time consuming and bureaucratic and that as it seemed we would not require any further consultants, current budget from Parish Council should be sufficient. At present we had about £3000 left in allocated budget of £5000 [£1000 and £2000 precepted in 14/15 and 15/16 and £2000 if required from reserves]. He was going to suggest to PC that they precept another £2000 in 16/17 with reserves hopefully not required. **Action TB**

8. Date of next meeting - Tuesday 8th December at 7.30pm.