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| Meeting | 11 | |
| Meeting Title: | Neighbourhood Plan Working Group | |
| Date: | 29 th April 2016 | |
| Venue: | Holwell Village Hall | |
| Attendees: | Sally-Anne Holt (Chair Holwell Neighbourhood Plan Working Group) | SAH |
| | Steve Atchison | SA |
| | Phil Curtis | PhC |
| | Dave Hollex | DH |
| | Peter Macfarlane | PM |
| | Bob Pearce | BP |
| | Neil Peirson | NP |
| | Katrina Wall | KW |
| | Libby Wilton | LW |
| | Diana Gibbs (Holwell Parish Council) | DG |
| Agenda: | The aim of this meeting was to review the results and feedback from the Village Open Meetings held in April. | |
| | 1 | Apologies |
| | 2 | Opening Remarks |
| | 3 | Notes of last (10 th) Meeting – March 2016 |
| | 4 | Feedback and Results from Village Open Meetings |
| | 5 | Discussion of Way Ahead |
| | 6 | Date of Next Meeting |
| | 7 | AOB |

Actions

1. **Apologies**

Rodney Antell (RA), Patrick Constable (PC), Jo Edmondson (JE), Colin Evans (CE), Lord Aldenham (LA), and Robert Hole (RH) were unable to attend.

2. **Opening Remarks**

SAH opened the meeting by explaining that we had had a good response for the Village Open Meetings and received 53 forms so far, with a total of 216 comments. It was believed that over 30 villagers had attended the first meeting and at least as many for the second, making a total well over 60, and possibly many more (it had not been possible to keep an accurate tally).

The aim is, ultimately, to publish all of the results and responses, but that for now we will assess the details of the responses and comments to arrive at an overall consensus of the views received. This would be used to brief the Parish Council, so that they could then decide on whether or not we want to proceed with the Neighbourhood Plan.

Actions

3. **Notes from 10th Meeting (31st March 2016)**

No notes were available for this - it was an informal meeting to finalise and try out the arrangements for the Village Open Meetings.

4. **Feedback and Results from Village Open Meetings**

SAH proposed that we work in groups, to review the feedback, identify and summarize overall conclusions, and establish key points for reporting to the Parish Council. The Groups and their areas were:

Group 1 (PhC, PM, KW):

Transport & Highways / Employment & Business Issues

Group 2 (DH, BP, NP):

Amenities & Facilities / Environment & Landscape Preservation

Group 3 (SA, DG, LW):

Housing & Planning / Communications & Broadband

4.1 **Transport & Highways**

The main concerns identified were, in order of importance:

1. Speeding traffic through the village.
2. The problem of large HGVs travelling through Holwell.
3. The issue of parking at the Nursery School.
4. The limited public transport facilities available locally.

4.2 **Employment & Business Issues**

The main concerns identified were:

- Problems of running small businesses, particularly the lack of superfast broadband.
- The increased traffic and large vehicles that are associated with large businesses.
- The adverse impact that large businesses could have on the character of the village.

BP said that all of these agreed with the general feedback.

4.3 **Amenities & Facilities**

Issues highlighted were:

- The need to improve or replace the village hall, on same site.
- The need for a recreation ground/area.
- The need for other new facilities, such as a pub or shop.

Actions

4.4 Environment & Landscape Preservation

The main concerns identified were, in order of importance:

1. The impact of new housing.
2. Encouragement of energy conservation, including the use of solar panels and heat pumps, but not wind turbines.
3. Increased traffic, especially very large vehicles.
4. A need to encourage wildlife area and trees.

4.5 Housing & Planning

The main concerns identified were, in order of importance:

1. Any housing should be selected infill only, with no backfilling.
2. Housing should be/include affordable/starter homes for younger people (also sheltered housing).
3. Any developments should be small, of 3 to a maximum of 10 homes.
4. The open country and village feel of Holwell should be maintained (therefore, no backfill).

There were also comments about sustainability/amenities/infrastructure. But the general consensus was that people were comfortable with some small infilling, but not with larger developments and backfilling.

4.6 Communications & Broadband

There were two key issues here:

- Superfast broad band for all.
- Improved mobile phone signal.

There was some discussion of broadband shortfall in the village.

4.7 General

SAH said that there was also one other category – General.

SAH pointed out that some of the comments might be more relevant to a Parish Plan rather than a Neighbourhood Plan. NP commented that he thought that some people hadn't really fully understood the nature of the Neighbourhood Plan.

However SAH believed that, in general, feedback indicated that villagers like the community feel of Holwell, and have a positive view of the village.

Actions

5. **Discussion of Way Ahead**

PhC asked if we would have information about the number and frequency of comments. SAH said that she would go through them all and quantify the results. She added that this involves quite a lot of work; she will send out a pdf version of the summary.

11-1 SAH

BP asked when the results would be presented. SAH said that they would be formally presented at the Parish Council AGM on the 17th of May. However, she would also like to have an informal meeting with the Parish Council before this, to have time explain the details of the results .

NP pointed out that there will be a Parish Meeting before the Parish Council AGM. DG said that there will need to be an item on the AGM agenda for the results and proposals for a way ahead. SAH added that these meetings would provide an opportunity to remind people that this is a consultation process, and that it may not be possible to satisfy everyone.

NP reminded everyone that numbers at the Parish Council meetings tend to drop off as the meeting progresses. BP suggested that we ask the Parish Clerk, Keith Budgell, to put the Neighbourhood Plan feedback item early in the evening. PhC suggested that an alternative could be to have a special meeting, given how close we are to the 17th May. DG said that the Parish Council may propose having an additional meeting.

SAH proposed that we should not have another formal meeting of the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group until after the Parish Council AGM.

SAH also said that about 12 people have offered to help on the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group; SAH will contact them to find out more.

11-2 SAH

SAH concluded by saying that an overall message resulting from the Village Open Meetings is that we have had a very good response, and that we are excited about the results, all of which (including all comments) will be published in due course, whatever the outcome of the Parish Council meetings.

6. **Date of Next Meeting (DONM)**

Tbd.

7. **Any Other Business (AOB)**

None.