

Eccleshall Parish Neighbourhood Plan Group

January 15th, 2015 – Eccleshall Community Centre 6pm.

Present were:-

David Pimble	Brian Mason	Peter Bertram	John Allen	Chris Heelis
Peter Thompson	Gordon Dale	Barry Apps	Mac McCoig	

Apologies:- were received from Cheryl Hyland, Keith Weston, Paul Snape and John Baldry.

A reporter from the Newsletter was present and referred to the fact that Gnosall Neighbourhood Plan Group had inferred that Eccleshall was in breach of requirements by not posting a copy of the questionnaire to every household in the Parish. Mr Pimble indicated that advice received from Locality and Bob Keith from Planning Aid stated that the Group should consult as widely as possible, through a variety of Community Engagement Techniques and that it was not necessary to deliver to every household providing the questionnaires were widely available. The reporter then left the meeting.

Mac McCoig was welcomed to the group. Mac had worked with Stafford Borough Council and had experience of writing and comparing strategic documents.

David Pimble and Christine Heelis had attended a meeting of the Stafford Borough Support Group on Monday January 13th, 2014.

Potential Development – Cold Meece:- Representatives from Linford C-Zero had attended a meeting of the Parish Council Planning Committee on January 8th, 2014 and outlined the benefits they considered that a settlement on the brown field site that was formerly the MOD firing range could bring to the area. The homes would be sustainable and low energy aimed at creating a settlement with a community feel and identity.

It had previously been understood that such a development was too large to be included in the Neighbourhood Plan and was a strategic housing matter, which should be included in the Local Plan. At the meeting of the Stafford Borough Support Group on Monday, Alex Yendole had confirmed such a settlement would be too isolated from the Key Service Village and not sustainable locally. Mr Pimble intended to recommend to the Parish Council that subject to discussions with adjoining Parishes the matter should not be pursued or included in the Neighbourhood Plan.

The group discussed The Community Infrastructure Levy, which would replace the current Section 106 agreements and had yet to be adopted and implemented by Stafford Borough. These proposals would ensure that Parishes with a Neighbourhood Plan received 25% of the amount due on any development. There was also some discussion on the percentage of Social Housing and Affordable Homes that would be required as part of any development. It was noted that a planning application is to be submitted shortly by SARH and Housing Plus for a number of affordable homes to the rear of The Burgage.

The questionnaires had been analysed and Barry Apps had collated the information. Peter Thompson had compiled a list of the comments and the numbers of people who had raised them.

Mac McCoig had prepared a draft Introduction for the Plan using details from the 2011 Census.

It was agreed to include an update on the Neighbourhood Plan and progress to date with the March Parish Council Newsletter. Chipping Norton had prepared a paper: Looking Back, Stepping Forward, which include key facts on the main themes of the Plan and the most popular comments highlighted in the questionnaires. Mac McCoig offered to compile bullet points on the key facts with other group members to précis salient comments and highlight suggested plan objectives.

Mac McCoig agreed to look at Housing issues based on the questionnaire returns and Peter Thompson Traffic Matters, with help from other members of the group by forming sub committees. Meeting details would be circulated. David Pimble agreed to email the members of the group précis the points raised and to seek volunteers to examine other topics such as open space, employment etc and members were to be asked to assign themselves to one of the groups.

A further meeting was to be arranged with Bob Keith from Planning Aid. The week commencing February 3rd, 2014 was suggested and Christine was to contact Bob and circulate the details.

The meeting closed at 7.15p.m.

Neighbourhood Plan Group - Meet 8 – January 15th, 2014