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## **GURNARD NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN PUBLIC MEETING 21<sup>st</sup> MARCH 2013**

The meeting took place at Gurnard Village Hall from 7pm and 88 people attended (including IW County Press), but no feedback forms were left.

### Welcome & Introduction:

Richard Day welcome one and all, and gave a brief update on why there is a need to complete a Neighbourhood Plan, what the Neighbourhood Plan hopes to achieve, how an independent consultant is being used and progress made so far.

### Housing Needs Survey:

Guy Boorman gave a short presentation on the Housing Needs Survey exercise, which was complemented with an IT projected display, explaining that the plan is to launch and roll it out in mid April with a delivery to each house.

He explained that it is in 2 parts, a total of 8 pages, and what the survey will achieve i.e. evidence of housing need in the Village identified by the residents not a developer, and emphasized just how important it is that residents fully engage in the exercise.

He added that the format being used has been verified and so will stand up to scrutiny, and that Part A would be completed by everyone, but Part B only by those who may move or have some other housing need in future years.

The distribution and collection process was explained: that all forms would be hand-delivered but that returns would be possible locally, by personal collection, by completing it on-line or by using a freepost envelope.

Guy closed by encouraging the completion of the form, stating that more than a 50% return is being sought, and asked that those present would assist by spreading the word in the Village.

### Focus Groups:

Richard Day reminded everyone about the 4 focus groups and a representative from each group gave a very brief update on their remit and progress:

- Environment Focus Group – Jon Pearson explained that additional helpers are always needed, and that the remit includes conservation, landscape character, views and the footpath network
- Regeneration, Economy & Tourism - Bede Townsend explained the neighbourhood plan had a much wider scope than just development and that this group's remit included tourism, local economy & future sustainability. More people are needed on this group too.
- Social Wellbeing & Community - Paul Fuller stated that this group's remit included the provision of local facilities and services, and these included leisure and recreation. More people are needed on this group too.
- Buildings & Development – no presentation was given for this group, as most of its remit was background to the housing needs survey which was covered earlier.

The rest of the meeting was given over to questions and comments from the floor, which included:

- The Green Towns & Streets Initiatives, which link well with environmental sustainability – leaflets were available
- With 55 homes for sale in Gurnard, are additional homes needed – it was mentioned that early indication from the Census 2011 showed 44 additional homes had been built in Gurnard in the past 10 years
- Holiday home %
- Effective planning application consultation and commenting
- Housing Need in Gurnard for people who don't live in the Village now (Secondary data, some of which will come from the planned IW Council island-wide housing need survey)
- What constitutes a representational response to the housing needs survey
- Neighbourhood Plan submission date
- Protection from developers during the plan preparation time
- Future housing demand – young people being catered for – Gurnard prices currently too high – need more “affordable/economical” in every sense to give young people the option to stay in the Village
- Local people being given priority, rather than wealthy 2<sup>nd</sup> home seekers (Village community sustainability?)
- How binding are the findings from the completed Plan
- Relationship between social and affordable housing
- Location of future development sites
- Provision of capacity of the local infrastructure, so as to cope with additional development
- How to provide economically priced housing without having any large development to go with it
- Funding of the Neighbourhood Plan process

The Steering Group was thanked and applauded again for its work, and the meeting closed at 8.25pm.