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GURNARD NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Report on the 26th meeting of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group, held at Gurnard Village Hall in Worsley Road on Thursday 5th December 2013 from 7pm.

Present

Councillor Terry Nolan, **Messrs** Guy Boorman (Chairman), Richard Cobden, Carl Blenkinsop, Greg Malone, Bede Townsend, Jon Pearson, Joss Blériot, Richard Day, and **Mesdames** Emma Stevens & Sarah Wyeth - also Rusty Adams (Parish Clerk) & Simon Clarke (Clarke's Mechanical).

Apologies

Apologies were received from Miles Seymour (consultant).

Simon Clarke

A short reflection on green energy solutions for both new build and retrofitting in existing buildings was given by Simon which included biomass, gas, electricity, PV, air source, ground source, wood pellet, woodchip, ventilation schemes, rain water harvesting and insulation schemes up to code 5. The pros and cons of each system were explained with a focus on heat transfer, surface areas of heat exchangers and radiators, but at the moment gas remains the cheapest fuel. Questions followed.

Matters Arising from 21/11/13

a. Meeting with IW Council Planning Policy Team 26/11/13

This was considered a positive meeting with a frank exchange of views. Topics discussed included the influence of the Plan while it is being created, timescales, settlement boundaries, SHLAA site re-assessments, developer's consultations with the community, community infrastructure levy and the Place Road development application implications. With respect to the Place Road development evidence produced in the 1st general survey in relation to the value of green gap spaces is a material consideration and so **it was agreed that Guy would send this evidence to Sarah Wilkinson and Ollie Boulter, and also attempt to invite the developer to a Steering Group meeting.**

Focus Groups: (special focus on feedback from recent meetings with Martha James, Consultant)

- Buildings & Development – met on 28/11/13, and some areas are not yet being covered, but their importance was being considered. There is some concern over having the expertise to write the required policies.
- Environment – a good meeting on 28/11/13, but it seems more “evidence” is needed. The group is on track, but “pulling it all together” remains a challenge. The aims and objectives are stated, and the policy should reflect what needs to be done to meet those aims and objectives. Options and choices can be consulted upon, perhaps on line.
- Regeneration, Economy & Tourism – met on 5/12/13, and notes are coming from Martha soon. It is hoped to have a list of what evidence is already in place and what is still needed before Christmas, working towards prioritizing aims and objectives and a mission statement. Again it seems that more consultation is needed to obtain the evidence.
- Social Wellbeing & Community – nothing has been produced from this group.

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- Groups' Aims & Objectives – Once the groups have pulled everything together, **it was agreed that Martha's help may be needed for the policy writing** (if willing) - it needs one person to coordinate all the information content into policies is needed.

Village Consultation

a. Landowners & Developers

One further meeting with a landowner has taken place at Dottens Farm, and a future application for a strip-line development of about 8 to 10 units can be expected. There are no further meetings with landowners in the pipeline at the moment.

c. Green Space Designations

No real progress has been made on this – conversations with Martha led to the conclusion that, although consultation with landowners in this respect may be desirable, there is no requirement for it.

Neighbourhood Plan:

Programme: Copies of a programme updated to 5/12/13 were circulated which runs to July 2014, and **it was agreed:**

- **To move “complete focus group work” to February**
- **To delete “submit plan for examination” from February**
- **To move “approve policies as written” to March**
- **To insert “Draft Policy Consultation” into March**
- **To move N/Hood Plan referendum to June**
- **To ask how long the examination process takes**

Document: **Miles** was unable to attend, but **will e-mail the draft forward and introduction to everyone next week.**

Community Groups – Individual Consultation

Reports on outstanding group contacts were:

- Gurnard WI – **Bede** has still to progress this
- Gurnard Mums & Toddlers Group – **Bede** has still to progress this
- Cameo and IT Groups – **Bede** has still to progress these
- Gurnard Film Society – **Emma** has made contact, and is meeting next week – initial feedback indicates a “community calendar” would be a good idea.

Policy Writing

Whilst it is recognized that help will be needed with policy writing, identifying exactly what help is needed is fundamental if the Parish Council is to make an informed decision. **It was agreed that the groups will firm up on the actions identified following the meetings with Martha, and review what help is needed in January.**

Press & Publicity:

It was agreed that no Press Release was needed at this stage but that Richard would send a “thank you” message through the website to all supporters.

AOB

There were no AOB items raised

Meetings:

Next Meeting – Thursday 23rd January 2014 at 7pm – Venue TBC

Other meetings set were:

- 20/2/14
- 20/3/14
- 17/4/14
- 15/5/14
- 19/6/14

The meeting closed at 9pm