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GURNARD NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Report on the 20th meeting of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group, held at Gurnard Village Hall on Thursday 6th June 2013 from 7pm.

Present:

Councillors Aslam Javaid & Terry Nolan, **Messrs** Guy Boorman, Greg Malone, Bede Townsend, Richard Day, Carl Blenkinsop, Jon Pearson & Joss Bleriot, **Madame** Emma Stevens. Also Miles Seymour (Consultant), Estelle Thomas (Consultant) & Rusty Adams (Parish Clerk).

Apologies:

Apologies were received from Richard Cobden.

Presentation

Estelle Thomas gave a brief resume of her involvement with consultation techniques, of which she favours interactive methods. She began by stating that the aims and objectives hoping to be achieved through consultation exercises must be clearly identified and should include spatial elements, service provision, what goes where, what needs changing, impact of new housing, impact of changes/additions on existing residents etc.. Planning for Real was created in the Midlands as a means of gaining feedback on housing estate planning – it is totally interactive and facilitates input from all ages – it originates from “Neighbourhood initiatives” and is a totally non-confrontational method of consultation.

A large map and/or model of the area is needed to give an indication of the current Village status quo, and Community Action (IW) may still have some templates to loan (metal cupboard under stairs – they also have a folder of consultation techniques to loan). The process can start with Like/Dislike Cards with pictures/words on being provided, together with some blanks, which can be placed/pinned onto the map/model by the visitors – this can then move on to having more cards with new proposals picture/word cards (and blanks) for future development/projects to use. The cards can be colour-coded such as blue for transport, green for environment etc., which makes for simpler information gathering and analysis. All input must be recorded by us, and some comments etc can be removed during the day if it becomes cluttered (or unhelpful input), provided it is recorded before being moved – accurate recording can be tricky so splitting the Village up can help, perhaps street by street. It is more ideal if the event can be run over 2 consecutive days – those attending on the 1st day will spread the word! Steering Group members must be present all the time to explain the process and to encourage input, and the event must be extensively publicised in good time.

Use grids as people come in to record age, gender, etc (coloured sticky dots perhaps), and perhaps ask the yes/no question to having a “Gurnard connection” (live/work).

Have other activities on-going at the event too, such as a “post-it” boards for specific questions – large ones for written comments and small ones for yes/no answers and the idea of staging an informal “open forum” session in one corner was considered a good one – have people around to engage visitors in discussion. Publicity before the event (and at all other times) should focus on what has been done, rather than on what hasn't so as to effectively promote, encourage and motivate – perhaps issue a raffle ticket for a prize of some sort to everyone who visits the event. Focus Group work can be profiled at the event too, preferably in a format of identifying aims and objectives under each of the 4 categories.

Use the Parish Plan successes in publicity, especially how the action plan identified has been completed now through the work of the Community Projects Committee – i.e. promote this is a worthwhile exercise! Consider perhaps holding a different event for young people (Simon Dear may be able to assist with this), and try to encourage IW Council attendance/assistance/expertise at the event (Highways, Planning etc). Questions followed, and it was recommended not using the term “Planning for Real” for the exercise, and that when analysing the results categorise them into (1) now, (2) soon, (3) later, (4) never and (5) with help from others was suggested.

Matters Arising from 16/5/13

David Green:

Contact was made with David’s wife, who said he could not be here for today’s meeting, but a message was left asking if he could attend on 4/7/13 to speak to about biomass etc, but no response has been received yet.

Combined Steering Group Meeting 28/5/13

Freshwater, Brading, Bembridge and Gurnard met at County Hall to compare notes. Each gave a short report on “The Story So Far”, which was followed by comparing local characteristics and how they impacted upon the Plan methodology. Discussion then focused on the basics and strategy for engaging with the community, and most had similar ideas on this. The meeting closed with some discussion on what the final document should look like, and primary & secondary data needed for the surveys. Brading is still in the early stages, with Freshwater initially giving low priority to their own H/Need Survey. Bembridge achieved a 25% response to the H/Needs Survey, and it was suggested that the completed H/Needs Survey should also be produced as an approved stand-alone document too. Bembridge has completed a Sustainability Appraisal, and **it was suggested that a format is sent to all for information.**

Village Consultation

Housing Needs Survey Returns

The survey closed on 31/5/13, by which time 520 forms had been received across all media. This, according to Census 2011 figures, is from 992 dwellings including 173 2nd homes. Accordingly the response rate is 52.4% across all dwellings, but factoring out 2nd homes this increases to 63.5%.

Housing Needs Survey Analysis

Initially this will be carried out “in house”, and a spreadsheet has already been completed to use to input the response information and e-mailed to all - about 50 or 60 forms will be distributed to each to process shortly.

The Wootton Bridge survey report had been previously circulated to all, and there was some discussion on the format and all the content of the completed survey report. Attempts will be made to access the Bembridge H/Needs Survey report, and then circulate it to all for information.

4th Public Meeting:

Further consideration was given to the need and timing of a 4th public meeting, and **it was agreed to postpone this meeting until much later on.** The outcomes from the Housing Needs Survey could possibly be incorporated into the combined focus group open day consultation exercise somehow.

Focus Groups:

It was mentioned that each Focus Group needs to work towards identifying what its aims and objectives are in terms of consulting with the community on their various remits, and then eventually creating a list of what the consultation proves to be the community’s aims and objectives under each heading.

- **Buildings & Development** – The group hasn’t met since the last meeting and there was nothing to report
- **Environment** – There was nothing to report save the fact that the next meeting is planned for 12/6/13.

- Regeneration, Economy & Tourism – An energy comparison sheet was handed out to all, and the only report made was that work continues on creating a car sharing scheme.
- Social Wellbeing & Community – a very brief meeting was held on 29/5/13 and no details were given
- Combined Focus Groups Exhibition
Community Action (IW) may have some materials to loan for this event. A request was made for the Focus Groups to each have an A0 poster of the whole Parish. **Rusty will arrange this and will also check with Community Action (IW) about materials and template availability.**
It was agreed that attempts would be made to fix the exhibition date as Friday afternoon and Saturday morning for either 13th & 14th OR 20th and 21st September at the Village Hall, hopefully in time to be advertised in the July/August edition of Gurnard News.
It was also agreed that the format of this 2 day event and the materials needed would be discussed in detail at the next Steering Group meeting.

Neighbourhood Plan Programme:

No changes were made to the programme, but **it was agreed not to have a presence at the Gurnard Regatta event on 10/8/13.**

Community Groups – Individual Consultation

Reports on outstanding group contacts were:

- Gurnard WI – there was no information available from **Paul**
- Gurnard Sailing Club – nothing new to add
- Gurnard Mums & Toddlers Group – this is still on **Bede's** list to follow up.
- All Saints Church – This is still on **Richard D's** list to follow up. (consider input to fayres & jumble sales etc)
- Gurnard Club (Age UK) – **Aslam** has spoken to the group to profile the N/Hood Plan, and the recent survey in particular. It was well received.
- Cameo and IT Group – these are still on **Bede's** list to follow up.
- Landowners & Developers – there are plans to meet with Clarke's Mechanical on renewables, and contact has been made with Smiths and Gurnard Farms. It was hoped Peter Griffiths would enable contacts to be made with SHLAA site owners and developers – **this access needs to be chased, perhaps through Paul Fuller.**

Press & Publicity:

It was again confirmed that a press release will be needed to profile the results of the H/Needs survey analysis in September. Also to produce a 2 sided flyer to profile the results and to thank the respondents, perhaps using the flip side to promote the planned Focus Group open day and open forum event in September. It was also agreed to promote the open forum and focus group event in the July/August Gurnard News, along with some early indications of H/Needs Survey response percentages.

AOB

Nothing was raised

Next Meeting

Thursday 4th July 2013 – 7pm (Venue to be confirmed)

The meeting closed at 9.06pm