

Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

Wednesday 18th November at 7pm
Zoom Virtual Meeting

Minutes

There were present: Cllr Tony Allen, Keith Greenberg, Emma Healy Barnaby Millburn, Joyce Moseley (in the Chair), Charlotte Slater, Phillipa Welby (secretary)

1. Apologies – everyone was present
2. Minutes and Matters Arising from 21st October 2020 – The date on the minutes from the previous meeting is incorrect – PW to change.
3. Consultation – The leaflets have been delivered and the posters are on display in the Library windows and the Council's Thoroughfare noticeboard. The deadline for the questionnaire replies was agreed as the 16th December. The posters will come down on the same day. CS gave a summary of the answers received so far:
Q1 Is the draft vision for Halesworth something you are happy with? 82.5% yes 17.5% no
Q2 Does it describe somewhere you would like to live in 15 years time? 87.3% yes 12.7% no
Q3 Would you recommend Halesworth to family and friends 87% yes 13% no
Q4 Do you agree with the objectives identified 76.2% yes 23.8% no

One response suggested that the V&Os are skewed towards the older generation – it was suggested that this could be rebalanced with reference to sport and leisure and youth services covered in objective 4.

CS & PW to look at age of the respondents compared to the population proportion in Halesworth.

CS will do an analysis for the next meeting.

PW to put a reminder out on social media to complete the survey by 16th Dec.

TA will arrange for a banner to go on the bridge railings.

4. Town Centre Connectivity Consultants and Masterplanning – The interviews went well and the panel consisting of RL, PD, DW KG and JM worked well together. The panel chose the company We Made That. There is a meeting with them next week to decide next steps. A Masterplanning brief has also been sent to them, asking for costings.
5. Long term car park updates – BM had circulated the latter from the developer – it summarises discussion between NP group and developer. BM will reply to him thanking him for the conversation. He has also agreed to meet with We Made That and give his thoughts to the connectivity project.
JM to contact Dickon Povey (ESC) to ask how the NP group could support the development within its remit.
6. Objectives – reports and updates – **All objectives should be forwarded to Chris Bowden at Navigus by the end of this month.**
Objective 1 – CS and KG - are having a meeting to pull all their information gathering together. It is a broad subject but the majority of the objective will be completed by the end of the month.

Objective 2 - EH and TA – TA has sent **EH a matrix of Q&As from estate agents. EH will review.**

Housing Associations, ESC housing dept and developers – still to be contacted. These responses then need cross referencing with the HNS.

JM suggested that other group members may need to lend a hand with this obj once they had finished their own if EH still too tied up with work.

Objective 3 – JM and BM – it was decided that the car show room land should be added to obj 2 as this would ideally be designated for housing.

JM still making contact with various landowners and Ridgeons' property manager and waiting for a reply from the Arts Station representative. This obj is ready to send to CB.

Objective 4 – KG and JM and BM – has been sent to CB for comments. It was discussed whether a professional updated survey was needed of playspaces in Halesworth.

Objective 5 – BM and JM - **BM to approve JM's notes and then circulate.**

Objective 6 – JM and TA – Cycling objs have been completed. There is a walking group meeting on the 30th November. And disability transport issues and public transport still needs thinking about

Objective 7 – KG and JM – **JM will send the feasibility study and Masterplanning brief to CB although draft policies will have to wait for the outcome of this work.**

7. Preparation for December meeting – Chris Bowden to attend. **JM to send as much of the objective work to him as possible beforehand.**
8. Budget update – The budget is not under pressure at the moment. The money we have available needs to pay for CB. There will be enough left to use £6/7K on the Master planning work rather than applying for a technical grant that would mean we have to use AECOM. JM will apply for the remaining £2K grant funding from Locality.
9. Comments from the group – It was agreed that the NP group should have their own Zoom account in order for them to be more flexible when arranging discussion groups. CS & KG had attended a meeting with the Seckford Trust CEO. They expressed an interest in bringing a school to Halesworth but their usual MO is to take over an existing building. However, a new build was not ruled out. This needs more discussion and the possibility of land allocation within the plan.

Dates of next meetings: 16th December (Chris Bowden to attend), 20th January.