

Biddulph Neighbourhood Planning Working Group Meeting Thursday 20 July 2017

Attendees

Councillor Graeme Court	Biddulph Town Council- Vice Chair
Councillor John Jones	Biddulph Town Council
Councillor Oliver McGuinness	Biddulph Town Council
Councillor Wayne Rogers	Biddulph Town Council
Sarah Haydon	Biddulph Town Council
Sue Fletcher	Poolfold Residents
Bill Hockey	Resident
Alistair McLoughlin-Goldstraw	Resident
Angela Turner	Resident
Paul Kasperowicz	Resident
Chris Perkin	Resident

1. Apologies

Councillor Dave Hawley	Biddulph Town Council- Chair
Bob Hart	Biddulph North Community Association
Andrea Millington	Resident
Philippa Walley	Resident
Hal Wilson	Resident

2. Declarations of Interest

None.

3. Notes from last meeting (15 June 2017) and Matters Arising

The notes were signed as an accurate record of the meeting.

Sue Fletcher updated the group that there had been a stand at the Festival Launch event. A lot of information had been given out, but not much feedback was received. There had been some interest.

Sarah Haydon would pass information on in relation to the website development, when this was received.

Sarah Haydon noted that Jo Bagnall (SMDC) had emailed some potential dates for a catch up meeting, and suggested 2 August. The group felt that it would be better to meet with the consultants first, and then arrange a meeting for later in the summer.

4. Grant application update

Sarah Haydon confirmed that an application had been made. The website stated that there would be a 15 working day decision-making period as the group were also applying for a technical grant.

5. Consultant update

Sarah Haydon had emailed Urban Vision with the questions that the group had, and

read out the responses (italics):

1) You are working in other areas across the Staffordshire Moorlands, which means that you're familiar with policies and people. Is there any 'discount' available to us because there will be less time needed to learn about the area?

We have calculated our support package based on a guide of time. At this present time we have prepared the quote with us having an understanding of the local context, however as I am sure the group appreciate the issues facing Biddulph may be different to other areas or in terms of scale. If we do not use all the time as we have anticipated we will let you know and of course not invoice for that.

2) When you talk about price per day, what is 'a day'? Is this 9am-5pm or until the work is done.

We include a day rate which is based on 7.5 hours in a working day (although it is task driven as shown in the support table). Urban Vision Enterprise CIC know that working with community projects and programmes a 9-5 does not apply. We will be available to attend meetings in the evenings and weekends where necessary.

Chris Perkin felt these were perfectly reasonable responses and would demonstrate that the group had undertaken a due diligence. All agreed there were no further questions.

Hannah Barter had sent some dates to the group for an initial meeting. It was felt that 10 August would be the best. Sarah Haydon would check with Councillor Hawley to see if he was back and able to attend.

6. Arrangements for 'Biddulph By the Sea' on Saturday

Sue Fletcher felt that it may be a waste of time having a stand at this event, if the Festival Launch was anything to go by. Sue felt it was not just about giving people information, but about engaging with them. It was not always possible at this type of event.

There was a discussion about the group's involvement with the Local Plan consultation. All agreed that it was important to attend the right events where people could give feedback on emerging ideas.

All agreed that the group would not attend the 'Biddulph By the Sea' event.

7. Update on Theme Group meetings

Improving Infrastructure and Promoting the Local Economy groups had not met as members were on holiday and they now needed the support of the consultant.

Preserving Local Heritage Culture and Tourism- Sue Fletcher and Sarah Haydon had met with the Historical Society and delivered a presentation. This had been well received.

Housing Need and Design- Councillor Hawley is on holiday.

Community and Wellbeing- Councillor McGuinness noted that there was recent concern about the potential loss of paramedics, which needed further consideration.

Protecting the Environment- there had been a number of meetings. The group were

considering the Green Infrastructure Strategy and wading through a number of documents. Recommendations about green corridors, etc. had stalled until it was announced where development sites would be. Angie Turner noted that the District hadn't completed a Local Wildlife Survey, which was now being done. This group is slowly gaining members who are specialists; the newest member is from the RSPB and they are working on getting representation from the Woodland Trust.

Councillor Court noted that there was a new Chronicle reporter; it may be useful to invite him to a meeting, as we had with Erin. The group agreed this would be appropriate in September.

There was a discussion about communication. Chris Perkin stated that Facebook and the website need to be joined up. Sue Fletcher agreed that the message has to be right and we have to target groups and individuals in different ways.

Sarah Haydon queried whether the group felt that a consultation strategy was necessary. This would be a document that detailed the demographics of the town and then matched them with the most appropriate consultation methods. We could include details of all the groups and events that took place in the town, and then try to attend as many of these as possible. Sarah had looked at communications previously, and would re-visit this document.

Sue Fletcher thought this was a good idea. We need to get our ideas together about all the different groups that take place.

Bill Hockey felt that this would help to move consultation forward. If we can identify the gaps, we can get support and feedback from the consultants about how to engage effectively.

Sarah Haydon suggested scrutinising census information. Chris Perkin thought this would give us a steer as to where to go next.

Sue Fletcher said that the group needs to consider- *what, why, who, where, when, how* in terms of consultation methods.

Sarah Haydon proposed that we start with the numbers of people in the town and a list of groups, and all build on this with local knowledge. All agreed this was a good idea.

8. Date of next meeting

The date of the next meeting was discussed. If Councillor Hawley is available, the meeting with the consultants would be on **Thursday 10 August at 7pm**, with a pre-meet at 6pm to ensure we have a clear idea about what to discuss. Sarah Haydon would confirm this.

The meeting closed at 7.30pm.

Signed Date