

Shaftesbury Neighbourhood Plan Group

Notes of meeting on Wednesday 18th July 2013 at 4.00 pm in the Mayor's Parlour.

Present: Rachel Caldwell (RC) Shaftesbury Civic Society/ Shaftesbury resident
David Kerswell (DK) Shaftesbury Resident
Sue Minshaw (SM) Shaftesbury resident IN THE CHAIR
John Mitchell (JM) Melbury Abbas & Cann
John Parker (JP) Shaftesbury Resident
Jan Scott (JS) Shaftesbury Civic Society/Shaftesbury resident
Janet Swiss (JSw) Stour Row
Richard Tippins (RT) Shaftesbury Town Council

1. Apologies had been received from Clare Pestell and Brian Hughes.

2. Comments arising from Gold Hill Fair - Saturday 6th and Sunday 7th July.

MH had analysed the comments submitted on the post-it notes. It was generally considered that these showed a good outcome. They had showed a sympathetic approach to the Eastern development. Concern arose due to the fact that the number of properties allocated to social housing has been increased. Now considered to be 80%. JP thought the overall mix will change over time.

Other questions arose: (1) Regret that employment land to south of A30 has not been taken up (because of proximity to Travellers' site? (2) Eventual use of the site no longer needed by DCC for a school - with the hope that it might be available for community use. It was accepted that planning permission will have to be obtained.

RC asked if the results should be fed into Survey Monkey (in which case the Task Force could help). JS answered that now is too early for this to be done. JP confirmed that certainly Survey Monkey could be used when the time comes.

RT asked about the leisure facilities at Barton Hill and also about the Football Club at Coppice Street. He considered all these should be entered into an overall plan and Section 106 used.

JP warned that we must avoid ad hoc decisions - spatial planning will be necessary. JSw advised that Sturminster Newton started with a big plan of the town. JS suggested that we should set up an integrated plan for leisure.

Open Spaces - JP stated this group was in favour on setting up a green infrastructure plan. They are working on this and liaison should take place.

3. Buses

Discussion turned the service offered by Helen Reed from Nordcat. CP had suggested Friday 23rd August as the date for a visit to Melbury. This had been noted and she is going ahead with publicity for the event. DK offered to help.

The intention had been to book Nordcat for four Fridays in August. Other locations : Eastern Development on 16th and Ten Acres and Nettlecombe also on this same date. Other parishes which may join in considered to be Motcombe, Semley & Sedgell. SM said this fitted in with the meeting she had attended with Lester - i.e. the Cross-boundary aspect bringing in Wiltshire parishes close to Shaftesbury. JS agreed to make contact with the Motcombe parish clerk. An e-mail will be sent to Joe Duthie to give him information and suggest a visit from Nordcat.

4. Other matters

Funding : SM had made enquiries arising from the Dorset Community Action information contained in Shaftesbury Contact - July 2013 issue. She had applied for a referral form and is ready to send it off. Members agreed to this.

Surrounding parishes : JM pointed out that when Melbury got to know about the Neighbourhood Plan, they saw a lot of sense in joining with a larger community (i.e. Shaftesbury).

Future programme : It was agreed we need to work on the plan now. Set up and issue a Questionnaire based on recent consultation. JS pointed out that Gillingham had employed a Consultancy firm, and she recommended that members should refer to the Much Wenlock plan.

Workshops were considered. RT told the meeting that his wife has experience in arranging workshops and he offered her help in this respect. We could have a facilitated Workshop headed by project leaders. In this way the needs of the people could be laid before STC, A brief should be designed for the event and JS said we must have a project plan.

SM asked RT and JSw to help by drawing up a plan. It would be best to restrict this to certain aspects to start with - i.e. Leisure. RT considered that S 106 money should be spread over the whole area.

JM raised a suggestion made by CP regarding a survey to be carried by a 'through the door' survey, but this was considered to be too early at the present time.

Possible funding : RC read out the contents of an e-mail received from LD.

Miscellaneous: JM questioned the number of charity shops in the town. DK questioned the siting of supermarkets. In both cases it had to be agreed that our group has no responsibility in the matter. However - there is quite a lot of support for moving the Ambulance Station to a more readily accessible site.

5. Next meetings:

It was agreed to fix the date of the next meeting for Thurs. 29th August, 4.00 pm in the Mayor's Parlour.

Members were asked to take note of further meeting dates: 19th September, 3rd and 17th October - all at 4.00 pm in the Mayor's Parlour.

The meeting closed at 5.40 pm.

Further note

In order to man the Nordcat bus which we intend to send out to the Eastern Development on 16th August, and to Ten acres/Nettlecombe, we will be looking for two people to help at each site. (Morning = 2, Afternoon = 2).

The same may apply for 9th August if there is interest shown by Motcombe and Semley/Sedgehill.

The time will soon be approaching, so please let Rachel know if you would be able to help. This means your name, which date and which time of day.