

Meeting: Monday 23 April 2018

Present: Kirstin Richardson Dave Hutchinson Roy Wilburn Susan Lawrence Howard Lawrence Mervyn Butler Jane Howarth Joe Thompson Grahame Tobin Barbara Hutchinson Alan Younger Lesley Younger Ruth Marshall Brian Navi Delia McNally Sue Balmer	Apologies: Cllr David Townsley Cllr Joan Atkinson Cllr Margaret Meling
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Minutes of previous meeting:

Omission on the attendance list of Lesley and Alan Younger at the previous meeting, otherwise the acceptance of the minutes was agreed by the members present.

Locality grant

Jane Howarth explained the process for applying for neighbourhood grant support and/or technical support through "Locality". Information is online at: <https://neighbourhoodplanning.org/apply/> Under grant support, the forum can apply for £9K or extend to £18K for professional fees, consultants, technical reports or training sessions for members. The minimum amount for applications is £1K. The grant is for 12 months, to be spent in the next financial year. Locality advice is to apply for more than one technical package from those available. Aecom offers support: <https://www.aecom.com/uk/press-releases/aecom-wins-new-contract-deliver-neighbourhood-planning-support-across-england/> . Aecom supported Whitburn forum.

Discussion of where grant/technical support is needed:

- leaflet drop and room hire for consultation event (£1300 approx.)
- housing needs assessment (Council to be asked to reconsider providing data for our forum area)
- the website
- environmental study (at present anecdotal and not underpinned by evidence)
- study to give data to support greening of MOD site

Action:

- *Sub-groups to consider their needs for technical support.*
- *Grahame and Jane to meet to work on application.*

Continued concerns regarding the inclusion of the primary school site on the revised SLR:

Questions raised as to why the site of an active school has been included. If the forum wants to make a case for the primary school to remain on the site, there needs to be more information about why the decision has been taken to change the status of the site.

Action:

- *Invite comments from residents and attendees at consultation event in June.*

EBNF website:

Thanks to Grahame for initiating the website at: <http://www.eastboldonforum.org.uk/> Discussion surrounded what should be included on the website to assist in marketing the forum and clarifying its role e.g. constitution, minutes, surveys, photos, maps, links to subgroups.

Action:

- *Roy to meet Headteacher of Boldon Comprehensive School to suggest support from ICT group in school.*
- *Forum members to email Grahame to offer suggestions.*

Consultation event: June 23

- Good choice of date because Friends of the Parks is on the same day
- Time: 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. in United Reformed Church
- Banner and table with forum information to be set up in Grange park following the event

Action:

- *All sub-groups to decide on consultation themes and questions.*

Feedback from sub-groups:

Housing, economy, transport and built environment:

- Much progress made on housing, built environment and transport.
- Wish to adopt BFL12 design code to shape design of housing planning.
- Survey needed on website and tear-off slip on leaflet to capture data for housing needs analysis.

Transport:

- Parking of high concern. Working on assessment of current situation.
- Thanks to Howard and Susan for maps of e.g. cycle routes.

Economy:

- Separate consultation needed with businesses in the forum area as they may not be involved in June 23 event.

Natural environment and flooding:

- Met with representative of the Environment Agency. Talked about flooding which appears not to be an issue in our forum area. She suggested ERIC (Environmental Records Information Centre) as an agency to provide a report: www.ericnortheast.org.uk
- Delia has worked on Magic Maps (Government website giving information about the land). For information about habitats, species and geology within the forum boundary.
- Trying to source an impact assessment on ecology from Durham University.
- Delia has listed a diversity network of all plant and animal species in our area.
- CPRE farmyard birds action plan because of lack of pastures and disappearance of open spaces is pertinent to our area.

- Aim to develop games for children for awareness flora and fauna and involvement of families.

Accessibility, community wellbeing and education:

- Sub-group has over 80 contacts in the community.
- Face to face meetings are considered the best way to engage.
- Developing a questionnaire to gather information from organisations e.g. how would they like to see the forum area develop over the next 20 years.
- The same questions could be used for businesses.

Action:

- *All sub-groups to meet to prepare for June consultation event.*

Forum objectives:

Planners' recommendations for revised objectives:

The Planners recommended a new overarching strategic Objective 1:

- Ensure new development makes a positive contribution to social, environmental or economic needs and that any negative impacts are adequately mitigated.

They recommend that our existing Objective 1 be changed to Objective 2 and renamed "The built and historic environment":

- Ensure that new development makes a positive contribution to a safe and well-designed built environment and that it respects the historic environment of the Neighbourhood Plan area.

Objective 3 would be named as "The natural environment":

- Plan positively for the creation, protection and enhancement of networks of biodiversity and green infrastructure in the Neighbourhood Plan area including ensuring that there are linkages to wider green infrastructure networks.

Existing objectives 3-7 would remain the same but be renumbered 4-8.

These changes were agreed and adopted by the members present.

AOB

Vision statement is needed. Ideas for this could come from the community at the June event.

Delia has comments from the last consultation event.

Delia has useful questionnaire that could be tweaked for each sub-group.

We need to appreciate how much progress is being made.

More funding is needed to cover cost of leaflet drop and website but Locality funding takes 6 weeks from application.

Action:

- *Delia to send consultation feedback to Dave and Grahame*
- *Sub-groups to revisit Delia's questionnaire to tailor questions for their themes*
- *Brian to prepare printout of project plan progress for next exec. meeting*
- *All communication with the Forum via the Secretary by email to: info.eastboldonforum@gmail.com*

Date of next meeting: Monday 21 May at 7.30 pm in Scout Hut Meeting closed 8.55 pm