EAST BOLDON

East Boldon Neighbourhood Forum

Meeting: Monday 25 March 2019

Present:	Apologies:
George Maccoy	Delia McNally
Kirstin Richardson	Viv Davies
Dave Hutchinson	
Cllr Joan Atkinson	
Brian Navi	
Joe Thompson	
Roy Wilburn	
Jane Howarth	
Grahame Tobin	
Mervyn Butler	
Lesley Younger	
Susan Lawrence	
Howard Lawrence	
Mick Smith	
Phil Payne	
Kevin Ayre	
Christine Coleman-Smith	
Sue Balmer	

Minutes of previous meeting:

The minutes of the meeting were approved by members present.

Welcome from the Chair:

Kirstin welcomed members to the meeting.

Matters arising:

Planning for consultation event ensured that everything went smoothly.

Forum members attended CAF meeting: Delia voiced concerns relating to illegal disturbance to and killing of wildlife in the forum area. The police officer present urged anyone concerned about e.g. lamping to try to note registration numbers of suspicious vehicles. This may prove difficult as some landowners give permission to cull pigeons and there have been incidences of forged licence plates. EBNF can continue to raise the profile of the problem and may decide to write to the CAF again.

Feedback from 16th March consultation event:

It was agreed that the well-attended consultation event, held in East Boldon Junior School, was a success. Displays of pupil work and comments made by the children helped to initiate conversations about the forum area. Photographs, maps and information on stands led to animated discussions about housing, the natural environment, parking and an overall vision for the forum area. Comments from attendees were captured by forum members and on response forms, which everyone was encouraged to complete. Forms were available to complete at the event or later and online on the EBNF website. At this meeting, comments from completed forms were shared and discussed.

Thanks to members of Friends of the Parks who supported the event.

Action:

• Grahame to continue to oversee input of information from forms onto the forum website to provide data.

Green spaces and areas for designation:

Suggestions for the protection of green spaces in the forum area flowed from discussions surrounding the natural environment and connectivity of bridleways and waterways. When deciding upon policies, the forum must be mindful of "Locality" guidance and consider areas under threat in order to lessen negative impact

on nature. Wellbeing is also important. It was noted that there are no playing fields within the forum area as the junior school playing fields are not open to public use as they were formerly.

Areas, footpaths and bridleways cited as possible areas for protection or designation as green spaces:

- waterways and bridleways to the north of the village to provide connectivity for wildlife
- area behind Hunters Close, to protect bridleway and designate footpath
- footpath around Boldon Flats, to allow people to walk there safely during the day and promote the SSSI
- footpath next to houses on the Cleadon side of the forum area (on an OS map but unused and overgrown
- school playing fields
- Grange Park
- Mundles Park
- Archery field
- Sports clubs e.g. to improve cricket club and bowling green
- land in front of St George's church
- land surrounding war memorial
- MOD site (possible restoration to green space but this would need arrangement with the landowner)
- Victoria Allotments
- green space beside Burnside (already improved with more trees)

To qualify for village green status, it must be proved that the space has more qualities than simple accessibility. We must also consider practicalities e.g. justify upkeep and cost. A parallel was drawn with Rectory Bank in West Boldon, which is maintained by the Council plus volunteers. Bridleways in the forum area have already been mapped and gaps identified. The Council has a map of watercourses.

Action:

- Analysis of data to list priorities and organise feedback of results.
- Feedback is needed to retain interest in forum policy development, so will be posted on Facebook and on website.
- Joe has drafted letter to thank attendees/those who completed forms, plus addendum about outcomes. Dave to send out.
- Sue to research allotment waiting list.
- More discussion needed with consultant to determine how far practicalities curtail aspiration and specific criteria. Meeting with JoAnne planned for 01.04.2019

Street design and public spaces:

It was acknowledged that new-build areas are maintained at great cost to the Council, so they need to balance numbers of houses with ongoing costs.

It was noted that South Tyneside is not developing a Design Guide.

Discussion surrounded BC25 and BC26, which appear to be most at risk of large developments. Good design of outside spaces is essential for successful development. More research and discussion about e.g. external design of buildings and landscaping to support questionnaire for next consultation event. Pockets of homes in the forum area have their own identity e.g. Gordon Drive, Beckenham, Ravensbourne. An audit of "pockets" to illustrate design would help to apply principles.

Locality has checked on our progress with Aecom. With no definite housing figures from the Council, progress is slow.

Action:

• Jane to contact Locality in relation to progress with Aecom.

Community Character Statement update:

Howard gave an update on progress with the Community Character Statement and was thanked for the considerable amount of work he has done on this.

Action:

• Howard to continue with Community Character Statement in liaison with Phil to illustrate with photographs.

AOB:

IAMP:

Merv clarified that EBNF needs to take a position on IAMP. Phase 1 is under construction and there are 2 consultations for Phase 2. April 5th from 10-1 in Boldon Village Hall and April 23rd from 5.30- 8 pm in the Quadrus Centre. The impact of 4500 new jobs and changing traffic flows are important to the forum area.

Action:

- Dave to send reminder to forum members to attend.
- Reminder to be posted on Facebook with link to Pride in East Boldon.

Date of next meeting: Monday 29 April 2019 at 7.30 pm in Scout Hut Meeting closed 9.10 pm