

Meeting of Bovingdon Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

Memorial Hall

7:30pm on Tuesday 12th February 2019

Attendees:

Julia Marshall
Gary Gadston
Jenny Thomas
Clare Norton
James Cosgrave
Ben Richardson
Ros Goodyear
John Hislam
Neil Crockett
Peter Jarman
Brad Gunn
Steve Bowen
Paul Campbell

Hannah Beauchamp

Chris Mabley

Michelle Hildich

Carole Syms

Jacqueline Veater – Planning Consultant

Stephen Mendham – DBC Strategic Planning

Apologies:

Anne Barrett

Dave Stent

Hugh Schneiders

Geraint Whalley

Ross Dorras

Neil Maxwell

Tracy Wood

Welcome: New members – Michelle, Carole & Chris and Stephen Mendham from DBC strategic planning team

1. **The minutes of the meeting on 8th January 2019 were agreed**
2. **Matters Arising** – JM to check Hall space for storage of NP materials with Julie Steer. CS offered to take minutes in future (starting from May meeting)
3. **Open Day – Feedback from groups**
 - **Business** – *BG circulated notes and analysis from Open Day:* parking came across strongly as the main obstacle to business success in high street. Desire for a bakery, greengrocer, delicatessen and bus services after 9pm. Concern that there are no vacant premises for new shops, there are only two empty units available. The group will now design and survey businesses directly to gauge their opinions. JV asked the group to think about what policies could be developed from their findings. Consensus that the focus needs to be around parking.
 - **Housing** – *JC notes have been uploaded to Drop Box:* a good deal of negativity from attendees, as expected. Greatest number of green stickers were for the Bourne End development site; an element of 'out of sight, out of mind'. A number of people expressed an interest in developing the aerodrome. Other sites have since been put forward. Comments included to keep Bovingdon as a distinct and defined village and not to merge into neighbouring towns. Development should only take place in areas where there would be easy access to main roads/routes e.g. A41.
 - **Transport** – *BR evidence from the day is on Drop Box:* feasibility study was used as a discussion point. There were some comments about congestion around the airfield, but the main comments focused on Green Lane and High St, with speeding and parking/obstruction and lack of enforcement being the main issues.
 - **Community** – *Open Day notes, etc. need to be uploaded to Drop Box:* concern expressed over some of the airfield use – Bovingdon Market and noise from Drift Limits. In general people were content with the filming industry use, as clean, low noise, and unobtrusive.

Parking, was a large concern and the belief all medical services and schools are full. Comments on school were limited to added congestion at pick up times. Effect of the new Tesco's was mentioned, concern that it would not be for large shopping unless using a car and thus add to traffic problems.

Community group – to upload documents, etc. from Open Day and consider approaching doctors and dentists to gauge whether at capacity GG, JH, JT, DS, AB

- **What went well & what improvements can be made for next Open Day?** There was good turnout, with 310 people attending. The demographic was predominantly older people, but some younger people did attend. There have been people who have said they would like to have come but were unable. Need to find other ways to reach groups of young people. Perhaps focus groups and surveying their opinions through the schools/ clubs. Concern was expressed that we could not fit many more people into the Memorial Hall, although next time we can use the Clubroom as well. The Housing display was in a cramped space, which made it difficult for people to see and interact with the information. We will need more housing maps, in future. On the whole there was genuine interest, although some antipathy was evident. People were quite assured it was not DBC running the event, as they were concerned that DBC don't listen. CM queried whether CIL was payable on all new developments.

SM to check and email CM & JM

Possible improvements for next time:

- *Make the purpose of the day clearer*
- *Use the extra side room more*
- *Have a talk every 30 minutes*
- *Use the stage better for displays*

4. Neighbourhood Plan Survey

The survey closed with over a third of households taking part in the main survey. Delivery went very well especially as people knocked on doors, leaflets given out to remind people at school, and social media posting made a big difference. All the paper surveys need to be entered online, each one takes about 15 minutes. Julia needs help, so please volunteer! Be very aware of confidentiality required when entering the data.

5. Next Steps

JV distributed copies of the Bovingdon NP's 'Schedule of Work' (Also viewable on Drop Box)

We are on track with our timeline. Main points:

- The business survey is on track for Feb. ***BG to ask ALL to feedback on this by email***
- Analysis of both surveys is on course for the end of March.
- Plan to consult young people through schools - ***Community group to take forward in March, also to consider senior schools.***
- Drafting planning policies April to June by each working group.
- Next Open Day to be planned for June for formal feedback to the community. We will publicise this in the Bovingdon News, on the BPC website and social media.
- Over this time we need to gather more evidence for the plan e.g. GP waiting times, school admission list.

Delays to DBC's Local plan may enable us to influence the plan with our ideas.

6. AOB

JH asked for volunteers for Friends of Bovingdon Green Family Fun Day on 26th August – anyone interested to contact him directly.

Meeting ended at 9:05pm

Next meeting Tuesday 12th March 2019 at 7:30pm in the Memorial Hall clubroom