

Meeting of Bovingdon Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

Memorial Hall

7:30pm on Tuesday 12th March 2019

Attendees:

Julia Marshall
Gary Gadston
Jenny Thomas
Clare Norton
James Cosgrave
Ben Richardson
Ros Goodyear
John Hislam
Neil Crockett
Brad Gunn
Paul Campbell
Hannah Beauchamp
Mark Frey (BEVA)

Hugh Schneiders
Ross Dorras
Dave Stent
Peter Gillard
Jacqueline Veater – Planning Consultant

Apologies:

Anne Barrett
Geraint Whalley
Carole Syms
Tracy Wood
Steve Bowen
Michelle Hildich
Peter Jarman

Welcome: New member – Peter Gillard

1. The minutes of the meeting on 12th February 2019 were agreed

2. Matters Arising – An area has been designated for storing NP materials & archives in the Memorial Hall.

Stephen Mendham replied directly to Chris M (BEVA); he contacted the CIL team at DBC and there was a liability on the development concerned.

3. Survey Update

Gurpreet had prepared an initial draft report of the survey results, which Jacqueline presented to the group. The report is just for discussion and to give an illustration of responses; it is not for publication or distribution.

The raw data from the survey has been downloaded onto Drop Box in the folder 'Neighbourhood Plan Survey - Survey Results'.

Some initial findings:

- There was a 'green theme', with outdoor activities popular (Walking/Nature). **Allocation of areas as 'green spaces' important for the plan**
- Little Hay was considered least important, that may partly be due to lack of knowledge of public facilities and footpaths. **Consider creating footpath maps & routes**
- Accessibility/Disabled provision – **should this be weighted, to reflect it as a minority group?**
- Majority against large housing developments, but over half want medium developments and three quarters small developments. **Affordable housing only available with developments over 10 houses (medium & large).**
- Brownfield and Infill sites were preferred. **Identify potential sites on map of Bovingdon**
- A mix of housing sizes, in a variety of styles was preferred; with a majority wanting sufficient parking. Energy efficiency was also important.
- It was considered most important that local people can remain in the area. **Hopefully the Housing Needs survey carried out by CDA will help us to address this.**
- Parking and traffic were the major concerns with respect to any new development and this theme was carried through the Transport section of the survey. Respondents wanted reduced congestion, less through traffic and more off-street parking.

- A large majority of respondents use the High Street shops at least once a week and many were keen to see a greater variety of businesses. Parking, cost and variety were some of the reasons given for not using them more.
- 27% of respondents said they worked from home with 13% running a business from home. Their priorities were improved mobile signal & broadband speed.
- 15 respondents completed the additional questions section.
- The final report will include 'word pictures' & quotes to build a picture of the long form responses.

Demographics of Respondents

57% of respondents were 45yrs or over, with 29% over 65yrs. This compares with 42% over 45yrs (15.5% over 65yrs), in the 2011 census.

91% of respondents owned their home compared with just under 76% in the 2011 census.

Need to gather data from younger people who are underrepresented in the survey

4. Questionnaires and Focus Groups

The Business group (BG) has prepared a survey to go out to the 150 (approx.) businesses in the parish. A list of all the businesses was distributed for all to check through and add/amend/delete; please note especially where there is information missing, i.e. email addresses. HS to send a list of the Farms.

All to check & send info to Brad

We need to target young people for their input into the Neighbourhood Plan through schools and clubs.

RD agreed for the Scouts & Cubs to be involved in the survey of younger people.

JM has spoken to some local secondary schools and they are willing to distribute a short survey to Bovingdon students.

Community Group & others with links to groups to meet and devise a plan of action.

There was not a great deal of general support for a new Community Space, but we need to speak to groups who use/would like to use the Memorial Hall to gauge their thoughts and requirements. AB has already approached MH users for their opinions.

All agreed the case for a new hall would need to be made to the community.

5. Neighbourhood Plan Programme

We are still pretty much on target for timings.

CDA report will be analysed by them.

Plan to have the NP Survey analysis completed by the end of April.

Aim to complete consultations with businesses, schools and other community groups by April.

Next Open Day to be arranged for July.

JM to check possible Sundays with BPC office

Next task will be to use the data collected to draft policies for the neighbourhood plan.

6. AOB

- AB checked whether any places available at dentists and doctors in Bovingdon. Both dentists have capacity; still awaiting information from the GP surgeries.
- Bovingdon Primary Academy census predictions appear to show that there will be reducing demand in the coming 2 years. There are spaces in most school years currently. CN to provide details to community committee.
- GG attended a meeting at Dacorum on viability of sites.

GG to share the data on Drop Box.

Meeting ended at 9:20pm

Next meeting Tuesday 9th April 2019 at 7:30pm in the Memorial Hall clubroom