

INFORMAL NOTES FROM THE MEETING ON 2ND NOVEMBER 2015

Thank you for attending the meeting yesterday evening.

I have attached the copy of Hannah's presentation and Lees' presentation.

As the meeting centred around the points raised during the consultation and the follow up meeting that Lee is having with South Hams this week, then I am not intending to provide detailed notes from yesterday.

However the following points of discussion should be read alongside the presentations:

- Thanks were given to Hannah for her presentation and work to analyse the figures and also to Lee Rider for setting up the survey monkey questionnaire.
- Lee Bray stated that whilst the response from South Hams was very comprehensive he appreciated having read it through several times that it was in the spirit of trying to ensure that the Plan was robust and would stand up to scrutiny, particularly as a developer had sent quite a strong response to the plan and had seemingly a track record in challenging Neighbourhood Plans. Ross Kennerley reinforced that view and added that as the plan was the first in the South Hams to reach this stage the District was using it as something of a test case to establish what the legislation required and how rigorous the testing of the policies and objectives needed to be. He welcomed the opportunity later in the week for Lee to meet with the team and explore the approach further.
- Lee Bray asked the group "*Is there a need to sharpen the vision and/or create a brand?*" In discussion it was confirmed that the Vision should be retained unchanged as a lot of effort had gone into its creation but supported the view that whilst the Objectives were those developed by the community in Focus Groups that these were more aspirational and Lee was asked to hone these into shorter, more precise objectives which could ultimately be measured. The Steering Group view was that a brand could be helpful but ought not to be a part of the plan.
- Other questions were considered as follows:
 - *Is the plan's town centre focus correct?* The Steering Group was very clear that it was.
 - *Is the town centre drawn too wide?* It was decided that the town centre boundary should not be changed.
 - *Should more evidence be gathered?* The view expressed was that the evidence was appropriate for the plan.
- Lee identified that a Response Report was needed which he was drafting.
- Lee would explore whether Planning Aid had any residual time allocated to Ivybridge to run some of the issues past them to check the Ivybridge plan was compliant.
- A suggestion of a Design Guide was made and this could be created by looking at the Princes Foundation work on building design, but also by reference to the Sherford development where evidence of local vernacular included Ivybridge and Plympton - which would be relevant.

- There was a need to follow up on the DCC response and subsequent meeting that Lee and Lesley had attended in September. As a discussion with South Hams had also been mooted about transport and highways it was considered that this could be an outcome from the meeting in the week between Lee Bray and South Hams Officers, and that South Hams may be able to instigate such a meeting.
- It was likely that the next meeting of the Steering Group would be after Christmas and all agreed that this was sensible in view of the development of the Our Plan documentation but also the Housing Bill going through Parliament which would impact on the requirements for new housing developments as it was extremely unlikely that affordable housing could in future be defined.
- (Apologies from Cllr Croad were noted)

The meeting closed at 7pm.

Lesley Hughes, Town Clerk
Ivybridge Town Council

The notes of the **SG meeting last Wednesday** should set out SG decisions on the questions I raised in the same way:

1. New set of key objectives agreed with some amendments.
2. Confirmed that a town brand should not feature in the plan, although the vision contains the basis for a brand (healthy, creative and sustainable lifestyles)
3. Town centre area to remain unchanged.
4. Housing elements of town centre policies to remain unchanged.
5. Policy INP6 to be retained in the plan with some amendments to be drafted by Lee Bray for SG approval. (I'll aim to get to this early on so that you can seek SG agreement by email while it's fresh in their minds).
6. Delete reference to a target date for delivery of the transport solution.
7. Draft monitoring framework agreed, with some helpful amendments and additions.

I hope these pointers are helpful, Lesley. Do let me know if you need more. Meanwhile I'll press ahead with things to be done.

As ever - Lee