

Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group - Tuesday 9th July 2013 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

In attendance: Steve Kendall (Chair), Jim Gledhill, Richard Hagen, Kevan Leigh, Dee Curtis, Joan Harradine – from steering group, plus: David Hearne. Clerk – Andrew Whiting

- 1. Apologies:** Tom Chevalier, Tony Lines DL, Martin Harradine (Planning Aid), Sian Farrier (CBC), Caron Kendall, Rupert Chapple, Saskia Duncan (CBC) on maternity leave & no longer part of the group.
- 2. To accept minutes of meeting of 9th July 2013** - The minutes were accepted. Clerk to contact Alexe Rose regarding producing the results of the Green Infrastructure workshop, the follow-up questionnaire and the exhibition 16th August – 3rd September.

The historic development of dwellings within Toddington from 1989 to 2011 supplied by CBC was noted and showed there was during the 80s and early 90s a lot of development, and much less so after that, 432 in 22 years, averaging approx. 20 dwellings per year over that period.

3. To discuss Key Principles and Intentions of topics discussed thus far

Steve Kendall circulated the document of suggested Key Principles - The group discussed each item on each topic.

David Hearne declared an interest on the land at and adjoining the parish council's recreation ground at Crowbush Farm.

The steering group agreed on the following;

Toddington Neighbourhood Plan Key intentions and principles

Recreation

- Maximise benefits of existing and future facilities through multi-use by different groups / interests
- Facilities in the centre of village should work for / be open to the widest range of users
- Specialist / dedicated facilities should be located where they can work best
- Footpath / bridleway network should be better integrated, and further developed and consolidated to encourage use
- Support and foster growth of key assets such as Theatre/Cinema and Youth Club
- Provide for growth of key infrastructure including allotments
- Develop a calendar of activities in the village
- Promote Village as a place of recreation

Business

- Support retention and growth of business in the village as a key component of a vibrant, sustainable and diverse place
- Manage and improve the village centre environment and appearance to attract residents and visitors to use local businesses
- Recognise the importance of improving all modes of access/ transport for business (parking availability for shoppers/ public transport for workers)
- Resist or mitigate further loss of commercial premises in the village centre
- Promote a flexible approach to business uses to enable vacant shop units to be taken up quickly
- Recognise importance of farms for actual and potential business developments
- Promote village as a place to live and work

Transport & movement

- Maximise the opportunities to improve the village (HGV ban, road narrowing, pavement widening etc) following M1-A5 link road
- Active management of traffic including securing traffic calming measures in key areas (centre, schools etc) and 20mph zones
- Manage car parking provision to maximise use of existing space for village residents and visitors

- Resist further loss of commercial and residential off-street parking
- Promote and secure measures to encourage better use of public transport and non-vehicle travel to school
- Improve signage and awareness of transport options (including appropriate parking places) to secure a better functioning, safer, and more attractive village centre

4. To discuss village map

Disappointment was expressed that we did not have at the meeting the Green Infrastructure results map as that would have been very useful starting place. **Clerk to chase Alexe Rose for map.**

It was noted that during the summer holidays the library is very well used and has events such as coffee mornings (e.g. on 10th August) and is especially well used by children including for reading groups. It was agreed it would be an ideal opportunity to ask users what their vision for the village was, using maps and questionnaires.

It was agreed that for a month, from 3rd August until 3rd September, we have a table in the library, staffed by members of the steering group, with blank maps that members of the public can draw their ideas on, and with questionnaires they can complete.

Clerk to liaise with Liz (Library Manager) to ask if it is possible and send out timetable of opening times to steering group asking them to volunteer for sessions at the library.

Future meetings - all in Lounge of Village Hall at 7.30pm except 20th August (see below);

6th August

20th August this will be in the Wilkinson Hall (due to closure of the Village Hall in August)

10th September,

24th September,

8th October,

22nd October