

WERRINGTON AREA FORUM

MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 13th May 2019
AT THE BARN
NOTES FROM THE MEETING

<u>FORUM MEMBERS:</u>	Roy Beard, Rod Boulton, Ivan Hammond, Bill Mercer, Kay Molyneux, Vince Moon, Geoff Smith, Sally Weald.
<u>WARD COUNCILLORS:</u>	Cllr Judy Fox, Cllr John Fox, Cllr Steve Lane
<u>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:</u>	Cllr Sandra Bond, Charlotte Dew, Pauline Fury, Roger Proudfoot,
<u>VISITORS:</u>	Two members of the public

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Vince welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were received as above.

2. UPDATE ON FORUM ACTIVITY

A reminder of the Vision and Objectives

The people of Werrington wish to see a thriving, vibrant, caring and safe community where everyone of all ages feel comfortable and valued. We want to preserve the best of what we already have in Werrington - its distinctive character, heritage and natural assets, and bring about improvements with appropriate development. We want Werrington to become an even better place in which to live, work and visit.

The objectives of the Neighbourhood Plan will be as follows:

- The protection of the architectural heritage and distinctive characteristics of the area ensuring that any development contributes positively to Werrington's character in terms of the existing scale, density, location, design and layout.
- The maintenance and enhancement of the open spaces, natural habitats and green character of the area for the benefit of people, flora and wildlife including the preservation and improvement of access to the countryside.
- The continued improvement of Werrington embracing opportunities to support and improve services, facilities and local businesses whilst ensuring the maintenance of its identity, character and integrity

Sally distributed the promotional postcards and leaflets. She said that for those coming new to the plan there was some useful information in the leaflet. As a summary she explained that there has to be widespread consultation about what residents wanted the future of Werrington to look like. Following this a plan is written with consultants to detail the local planning policies which can cover what future development will look like, tree planting etc. Following this there is a formal consultation, the City Council then does a separate consultation followed by independent examiner who will ask for some amendments and then goes to a local referendum. The timescale will be community input until the end of the year, policy write up in early 2020, informal/formal consultation in Summer 2020 with the various other stages following thereafter. Community involvement has to be demonstrated and evidenced all the way through.

The Forum last met in May. Since then this year's money has been received from Locality on behalf of the government. The reports received at the last meeting, were presented and accepted at the Annual General Meeting held alongside Neighbourhood Council's AGM. The stall at the Carnival was very successful and a separate report has been made. A banner, presentation boards and 2,000 postcards and a handful of leaflets have been produced. Three separate Forum updates have been sent to members and anyone interested keeping up to date and this includes invitations to the various projects. The working group have met once but there have been many exchanges of emails.

With the receipt of the funding, ACRE the consultants have started the collation of the policy work, but that had to be put on hold pending the approval of the Local Plan. There is a workshop pencilled in for November BUT there has to be enough progress made to warrant this.

3. FINANCIAL PLAN

Geoff Smith gave the following information about the finances: In total £9,000 is available from the government. £581 was spent in 2018/2019. £7687 has been received for this year with £4800 budgeted for the consultants this year alone. This is being held in trust by WCA. So far expenditure has been made on printing, stands and banner.

4. PUBLICITY

- Postcards and leaflets need to be distributed. So someone needs to co-ordinate a list of doctors, dentists waiting rooms, community centres, foyers, community notice boards.
- Questionnaire is still on track to go out in with September spotlight. Still just under half of the area needs to be covered (about 2,000 copies).
- A lot of groups and community events have to be covered in September/October .. and introductions are needed into them. A presentation has already been made to 25+ Werrington Community Association members at their AGM.

5. STATISTICS

Copies of the statistic work was distributed to the meeting. Charlotte has done a great start on the statistics. There is a check list but a lot of it isn't relevant. So there is a bit of work to see what else is relevant and to use the consultancy budget to get ACRE to give some more advice on this. Sally asked for anyone with access to relevant data maybe on a professional basis to contact her.

6. CHARACTER ASSESSMENT ('Werrington 2020' Project)

Copies of the draft Character Assessment Form and the Map, showing the areas with the same characteristics, were distributed. This is one of the formal pieces of evidence needed to identify the different areas and characteristics of Werrington. It identifies the good elements of each area and what the planning difficulties are. There needs to be a large community input so an explanation and a form has been devised so that anyone can have a go.

Roy has already collated the streets into several different areas with the same characteristics. A list of streets has been made for anyone to sign up to.

It was requested that as the assessments are received they are circulated.

7. QUESTIONNAIRE

About half of the Spotlight deliverers have agreed to deliver the questionnaire along side the Spotlight in September. At Last Vouchers for a slice of cake (to eat in or take away) are being given as thank you. The Spotlight printer and Twenty 8 designs have quoted similar prices. Going with the local printer will be easier as we can batch up the questionnaires before the arrival of Spotlight. 6500 are being printed at about £850 at a cost price. There is a property developer interested in sponsoring the front page.

Copy of a draft example was distributed. It is expected that the front page will be detachable with a summary of whats going on and a following 6 pages of questions. The vision and objects will be included. There will be further reflection and input before it is sent to ACRE for their input. This has to be with the designer by end of August.

A discussion was made about where the questionnaires can be picked up and completed questionnaires dropped off. Suggestions included the Lighthouse Youth Centre letter box, At Last tea rooms, library, the Lounge. No conclusion was reached as data security was the main sticking point.

8. Next Steps

- Finalising and completion of data evidence
- Finalising and completion of questionnaire
- Promotion of Character Assessment
- Publicity with local groups (after issue of questionnaire)
- Questionnaire for young people and engagement with Youth Groups and schools
- Open Space Survey
- Contact with businesses

9. Date of next meeting

It was agreed that the next meeting would precede the Neighbourhood Council meeting on 14th October 7pm (possible venue The Barn)