

Meeting: Monday 15 July 2019

Present:

Kirstin Richardson
George MacCoy
Dave Hutchinson
Joe Thompson
Delia McNally
Grahame Tobin
Susan Lawrence
Howard Lawrence
Viv Davies
Merv Butler
Roy Wilburn
Jane Arthurs
Peter Arthurs
Anne Witherington
Phil Payne
Sue Balmer

Apologies:

Cllr Joan Atkinson
Cllr Jane Carter
Lesley Younger
Alan Younger
Miriam Hardie
Mick Jarvis
Ann Jarvis
Rev. Jane Cook

Minutes of previous meeting:

The minutes of the meeting were approved by members present.

Welcome from the Chair:

Kirstin welcomed members to the meeting and thanked new members for attending.

Matters arising.

Tilsheds Crossing:

Some residents attended the consultation event on June 22nd where they were able to discuss their concerns with Councillors Atkinson and Carter. There will be no more detail on plans for the 2 crossings and the proposed bridge before next year. A further meeting is planned between residents and Cllr Carter next week. Residents have asked Sue to attend and she will report back to the Forum.

Design Code:

Jane is corresponding with Locality and Aecom. A meeting or telephone interview will follow the publication of the Local Plan at the end of July.

Feedback from June 22nd consultation event

Feedback from the event was projected for attendees to view and Grahame gave an explanation of the returns. Lesley has completed an analysis of the feedback from the March event and was thanked for an excellent piece of work. Views from pupils in the Junior School regarding the same issues have been recorded and should be included alongside this analysis. A link to Sean's

research should also be included. It was felt that feedback from the June event should be analysed in the same way for consistency.

Action:

- *Lesley to be asked whether she will complete analysis for June event, with support from others as necessary.*
- *Grahame to add analyses to website when complete.*

Designation of Local Green Spaces

The draft list of Local Green Spaces was projected for attendees to view. Delia was thanked for her work in adding maps and information to each of the present suggested LGSs. She explained the criteria to be covered, which asks about usage and community value. There are different levels of protection which can be applied by the Neighbourhood Plan. These cannot be finalised until publication of the Local Plan shows level of protection needed for each. It was noted that the Junior School site may be the most contentious and in need of a high level of protection.

The list is not exhaustive and other sites may be added e.g. land behind Hunters Close, which contains a watercourse. Watercourses are important, e.g. Tiledsheds Burn, as they can create space for habitats, if they fall outside the green belt. Until now, terminology for sites, e.g. BC25, has been taken from the last Strategic Land Review, but sites will be renamed for the purpose of future discussion. The consultant has advised making additions to the list. BC25 is now termed North Farm.

St George's Church is on the list of LGSs and is a Local Heritage Asset. The PCC has drafted a letter to the Council to request action to improve the land in front of the Church as it is unkempt and unsightly. Similar areas in South Tyneside have been improved and the PCC are drawing attention to the anomaly.

Action:

- *Executive to meet Monday 22 July at 7 pm in Grey Horse to have further discussion about LGSs and the environment.*
- *Suggestions for further LGSs to be made with cross reference to ideas from March consultation event.*

Locality funding update

Grahame confirmed that Locality funding had come through to cover Consultant's fees, website, room hire and publicity. Funding covers the period from 03.07.2019 to 31.03.2019. Any monies unspent must be returned. Extra cash from donations totals £161.75.

Our story

Phil introduced his draft, explaining the rationale for the Forum and an account of progress made for inclusion on the website. He was thanked for his efforts and for the outstanding quality of his photographs, which will make the website attractive and illustrate the Forum area. When work is finished on "Our Story", hard copies will be available in e.g. the Library.

AOB:

Hard to reach groups

- George will arrange for a meeting with residents of The Grange once refurbishment work is complete. He also gave up to date information about mergers in management of housing groups. Any Forum publicity for the Grange or Langholm Court can be placed in lounge areas.
- Jane Arthurs told attendees of a group called "Happy at Home", which is run by a local charity. Volunteers visit people in their own homes and collect them for a meeting at the Methodist Church. They meet on the 4th Thursday of each month from 11.30 to 1.30. Jane has contact details and will liaise with Dave to get publicity to this group.

Community character statement

- Howard has almost finished the Community Character statement (version 3). The final document will be discussed before going on the website and will be sent to the Consultant for comment.

Parking

- Anne Witherington, who lives in Beckenham Avenue, commented on the continued problems with parking near the Metro. It was acknowledged that this is an annoyance for residents, but it is a very difficult problem to solve.

Christmas calendar

- Because Phil's photographs are so much admired, it was suggested that the Forum could produce a calendar. Viv Davies will investigate costs.

Meeting with planners

- Next meeting with planners is on August 19th.

Date of next meeting: Monday 16 September 2019 at 7.30 pm in Scout Hut

Meeting closed 9.00 pm