

EXMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN STEERING GROUP

Notes of 15th meeting held on Wednesday 16th November 2016 at 10.30 am at Exmouth Town Council, 44 Rolle Street.

NB: ACTION POINTS HIGHLIGHTED

PRESENT

Roy Pryke	RP	NPSG Chairman
Ian Cann	IC	NPSG Vice-Chairman
Rob Masding	RM	Transition Exmouth, & Exmouth Town Ward Councillor
Bruce de Saram	BdS	Exmouth Littleham Ward Councillor
Pat Graham	PG	Exmouth Town Ward Councillor
Keith Bungay	KB	Exmouth Community Association
Pauline Stott	PS	Exmouth Halsdon Ward Councillor
Tim Clatworthy	TC	Exmouth NP Project Administrator
Rev. James Hutchings	JH	Churches Together
Jan Garraway	JG	Access Strategy Planning

1. APOLOGIES

Mark Williamson	MW	Champion of Neighbourhood Planning for East Devon, & Exmouth Littleham Ward Councillor
Lisa Bowman	LB	Exmouth Town Clerk
Cherry Nicholas	CN	Exmouth Brixington Ward Councillor
John Thorogood	JT	Town Team & Chamber of Commerce
Brian Bailey	BB	Exmouth Withycombe Ward Councillor
John Petty	JP	Access Strategy Planning

2. NOTES OF LAST MEETING

The notes of the 14th meeting held on Wednesday 19th October were received as a correct record.

3. REPORT FROM JAN GANAWAY ON CYCLE/FOOTPATHS ACCESS STRATEGY MAPPING

JP's document, 'Access Strategy Mapping for Neighbourhood Plan', attached, refers.

RP explained the timing for inviting JP/JG to this NPSG meeting – that NP had only now reached the stage of considering certain issues in closer detail, and that we had arrived at the point when we would welcome a concise document (perhaps one page of maps, one page of text) to include in our imminent Draft Plan, by early December. JG agreed to provide this.

JG explained some of the problems they had experienced marrying up on-site data with the mapping technology, and added that currently they were unable to share their information with people who would like to use it, in part because different organisations used different software. KB offered to do some research into how National Parks achieved this. JG added that their principal aim was to identify and describe new paths, and would be glad of volunteers to assist in the task. IC pointed out that it was important to enter these paths into Ward policies; KB advised that we should provide evidence, in the Plan, that the paths really were wanted.

JG said a mechanism was needed whereby future changes could be incorporated; PS suggested referring to the EDDC Green Space Strategy 2016-2026 (*hard copy now in NP library*); RP pointed out that, for the NP to be made, ETC would have to establish an implementation group to monitor progress on the agreed developments and that the Draft Plan would be subject to further comments arising from public consultations in the first half of 2017.

JG hoped a link to the Access Strategy could be included in the NP; RP hoped JG and JP would review the environmental aspects of the Draft Plan when it was ready.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM LAST MEETING

- 1) Meetings with educational establishments and youth groups currently on hold; IC suggested that these could take place after the First Draft has appeared, to give attendees something to consider and work from.
- 2) Engagement at public locations: TC to check with BB on progress of arrangements.
- 3) Christmas Cracker: NP Stall: 11.00am – 7.00pm, Strand. We currently have the following volunteers:
RP: all day, as and when required. IC: floating. KB: 10.30-12.00. BdS: 10.30-12.30. RM: early afternoon – end. PG, PS, JH, TC: to fit in when needed, or to let TC know. RP suggested no more than 2 volunteers at a time; if there were extras, they could wander off and spread the word... More volunteers welcomed, please!
TC to ask Suzanne Birkett (Cracker organiser) for details of where our gazebo would be placed, and to ask Derek if he can provide a table and 2 chairs. TC to also clarify payment details with LB.
- 4) Next year's NPSG meetings to be arranged once Full Council meeting dates decided. TC to inform NPSG asap.

5. FINANCIAL REPORT

There was nothing to add to the details circulated in last month's notes.

6. REPORT FROM EXMOUTH BUSINESS FAIR (27TH OCTOBER)

This was agreed to be, overall, a worthwhile event. Nevertheless, 50% of visitors to our stall were not interested as they could not see the relevance of the NP to their businesses. Many of the remainder however were sufficiently interested to engage in lengthy conversations.

7. FEEDBACK FROM FIRST DOP (DRAFT OUTLINE PLAN) GROUP MEETING (10TH NOVEMBER)

KB observed that most of the Ward policies proposed were broad strategies and wish-lists: what was needed now were more details, particularly of siting, together with evidence that the suggestions were wanted. IC added that the DOP (Draft Outline Plan) Group would work with whatever they currently had and whatever new proposals came in, but would have to subtract any repetitions, so it would be helpful if Ward Councillors sifted through future proposals before handing them in.

BdS was concerned that comments aired at his meetings might be regarded by attendees as action plans, i.e. that because they have been aired, NP and Councillors will therefore act on them and bring resolution; and the attendees would then complain if actions taken were not to their liking, or no action could be taken. IC thought the DOP Group would cover this, and RP added that suggestions that cannot fit into general policies would be added in an appendix as ideas for further consideration. KB pointed out that apart from the seafront, not much was coming up that was contentious, and what was most important in a NP was to separate land-use issues from non-land-use issues, and focus on the former.

Referring to SCHLAA (Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment), IC wanted to know what has been looked at and already turned down, and what was still being considered. He asked that **all Councillors look at PG's document 'Community Assets applicable to everyone throughout the Town' (previously sent out, but also attached) and add anything felt to have been omitted, both town-wide and for their own wards.** PS thought Exmouth did not have land that could be developed apart from brownfield sites; following discussion, it emerged that possible locations are Windsor Square, land behind the Parade shops, and the possibility that Jewsons might move out of town to Liverton Business Park. PS thought parking and quality retail should be main elements in future planning, considering the growth of nearby Cranbrook and that Exmouth provided the nearest beach – at a time when Exmouth's shopping facilities were shrinking. **IC asked PG and PS to add all these to their statements.** KB drew a distinction between a wish list and a needs list: the latter needed justifying, and with a growing population, there was justification for the above planning elements. RP/PS added that the Coastal Communities Team had just completed a survey, whose results would be reported to NPSG in due course. RP referred to ETC's imminent revision of the Council Action Plan, which could run parallel to the NP and asked **TC to check with LB on its development.** **RP volunteered to contact JT to see if he would like RP to talk to the Town Team.**

8. STAKEHOLDER AND OTHER IMMINENT MEETINGS ARRANGED

A meeting will take place on 21st November between RP, IC and Tim Spurway to clarify conditions for a grant application to further fund NP progress. On the agenda will be costing of anticipated expenses, housing and environmental issues, the way forward after the first stage, and the final order of play. RP expected that (1) our First Draft would be issued as a simple black and white document, but which included details of how later version(s) would be laid out and illustrated; (2) responses to this public document would be amalgamated into the next version; (3) the final version would be the glossy 'sales version' which would go to the Inspector.

At the time of writing further meetings with stakeholders are being arranged.

9. AOB

RP drew our attention to 3 relevant recent events:

- 1) The rejection of Swanwick Council's Neighbourhood Plan (the first NP to be rejected) by its own NP Steering Group, in part because the District Council changed so much content that Swanwick Council could no longer claim it represented the wishes of the constituents - *details already sent out to NPSG.*
- 2) Bishops Clyst NP: the Inspector's critical comments in the final pages may be considered a wake-up call in how to write a NP to our own NPSG... - *this has already been sent out, as part of the 9th November Cabinet document, but the Bishop's Clyst section is attached again here.*
- 3) REL: RP updated us with recent developments – *update shared at the meeting but also attached here.*

10. NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 14th December, 10.30am, ETC meeting room, 44 Rolle Street.