



Ruishton and Thornfalcon Neighbourhood Plan Meeting of Project Team

Notes of meeting held on 30th January 2017

Present: Steering group members – Mike Marshall, Jim Claydon, Doug Lowe, Dave Duke and Catherine Faulkner (Neighbourhood Plan Administrator)
Other volunteers: Mike Hellings, Susan Sherry, Alex Sully, Stewart Thorne, Ian Tucker, John Capstick, Bridget Dickinson, Andrew Lukes, Jasmine Riches, Judy Cottrell

1. Apologies

Roy Bulgin and Brian Parkes

2. Introductions

Mike Marshall introduced Mike Rigby to the group.

3. Declarations of Interest

Jim Claydon declared that he is the Chair of CCS (Community Council for Somerset).

4. Mike Rigby – Bishops Lydeard Neighbourhood Plan

Mike Rigby gave an informal presentation to the group regarding the process they used, what went well and what they might do differently, and lessons learnt. The group found this update very informative.

5. Notes of the last meeting

It was agreed that the notes of the last meeting were accurate.

5a. Funding application update – The Administrator informed everyone that the grant money from the Big Lottery Fund had been received

5b. Guidance Notes – These have been published on the Ruishton.org.uk website

5c. Census 2011 data – This has been circulated to the group

5d. Removal of named person as lead for Housing Group – This has been actioned

5e. Existing traffic counts and motorway traffic figures – All but one set of figures has been received and will be circulated to the Highways Project Group only however, if anyone else needs the data, it is available from the Administrator. Mike Marshall advised that Mott McDonald are also carrying out an ecological survey for Highways England in relation to the A358 upgrade and it is hoped that this may become available to the Parish Council prior to waiting for a planning application to be submitted.

5f. Email addresses – The Administrator updated the email list and Dave Duke will liaise with Sue Sherry and Jasmine Riches. Responses needed from Ruishton.org.uk addresses so that it can be checked that emails are being received

6. Feedback from Project Groups

RUISHTON AND THORNFALCON PARISH COUNCIL

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN ADMINISTRATOR: Mrs C Faulkner

15 Woodlands Drive, Ruishton, Taunton, Somerset, TA3 5JU

Tel: 07740 624726 **Email:** ruishtonnp@hotmail.com

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Environment

Sue Sherry advised that Steve Parker from Natural England is more than willing to give us some expert advice on how to proceed. In mid-January she walked around Henlade Wood with Christine Loudon, a member of the Rare Plants Group, and Christine is very keen to go back for another look, especially when the orchids are in flower. Judy Cotterell and Sue plan to visit a few more local sites, including Fishpool Copse, over the next few weeks. Winter surveys have provided further evidence of otter activity in this area of the River Tone.

Transport

The Administrator is to continue trying to obtain the passenger numbers of the buses.

Action: The Administrator to continue trying to obtain passenger numbers on the buses.

It was explained that, with regard to highways and traffic, they may have to envisage different scenarios for the future depending as some highways matters are unknown. However, it was agreed that the baseline of what is in place is very important to begin with.

Employment and Business

It was explained by Mike Hellings and John Capstick that they have begun drafting a questionnaire for businesses. There is a possibility that a focus group may need to be run in the future.

General

Mike Marshall advised that the Parish Council is waiting for the air quality information to come through.

7. Household Survey

The Project Team went through the draft Household Survey and made some suggestions to the Steering Group regarding some corrections. These will be finalised and the Administrator will liaise with CCS in order to get the survey out to the parish residents by 20th February 2017.

Action: Administrator to finalise the amendments with the Steering Group and liaise with CCS as per the contract.

12. Date of next meeting

To be confirmed.

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