



# Ruishton and Thornfalcon Neighbourhood Plan Meeting of Project Team

## Notes of meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> March 2017

**Present:** Steering group members – Mike Marshall, Jim Claydon, Doug Lowe, Roy Bulgin, Dave Duke and Catherine Faulkner (Neighbourhood Plan Administrator)  
Other volunteers: Mike Hellings, Stewart Thorne, Ian Tucker, John Capstick, Bridget Dickinson, Judy Cottrell, Julia Curtis

### 1. Apologies

Susan Sherry, Alex Sully, Andrew Lukes and Jasmine Riches

### 2. Declarations of Interest

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

### 3. Notes of the last meeting

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

- a) Existing traffic counts and motorway traffic figures – traffic counts circulated. Bus passenger numbers and collision/accident figures still being sourced. **ACTION:** The Administrator to contact either Ross Henley or David Fothergill to see if they can obtain the accident figures.
- b) Parish Council is waiting for the air quality information to come through – not yet received. This has since been received and it was agreed to forward the information to Jim Claydon in the first instance (**ACTION**)
- c) Administrator to finalise the amendments to the Household Survey with the Steering Group and liaise with CCS as per the contract – survey issued **ACTION: The Administrator to circulate an up to date figure of the return rate.**

### 4. Nexus 25/A358 update

Mike Marshall updated the group and explained that the employment site is now called Nexus 25. The informal consultations end on 31/3/17. The statutory consultation is due to start on 1/5/17 for 6 weeks. There are no further public consultation events being held as TDBC are intending to use their website and the press as a suitable PR method. Responses from the public can be submitted in the 6-week statutory consultation period. After this, the design will be submitted to their Planning Committee.

Details of the A358 and Motorway upgrade are expected to be out in mid-April. Details of the A358 upgrade is not expected until after the May elections.

The £6.3m available for the Toneway improvements are solely for the Creech Castle junction improvements.

## **RUISHTON AND THORNFALCON PARISH COUNCIL**

**NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN ADMINISTRATOR:** Mrs C Faulkner

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## 5. Project Groups – updates since last meeting (if relevant)

### Environment

Judy Cotterell advised that she and Sue Sherry had walked Fishpool Copse and advised that there is no public access.

### Community

Bridget Dickenson and Julia Curtis had met to discuss ideas about the Community Section of the plan. They had identified existing facilities that are being, or have been used, to build community. They had identified that some of these facilities might have potential for further use. They had also identified other facilities, which bring people into the area, but they felt do not actively build community. They also noted that the Scout Hut in Ruishton Lane exists and was built by Bernard Collins but it is without running water and Henlade Beavers, Cubs and Scouts now meet in Creech village Hall. There are other groups which build community, but meet in people's homes such as the Book Club and Ladies Coffee Club. Others are networks on social media e.g. Ruishton Mummies and Daddys. Health walks also take place monthly.

They had also considered what they felt was lacking had had identified the following:

- Sports facilities
- Café
- School of sufficient size, given growth predictions
- Lunch clubs
- Choir
- Book exchange
- Allotments
- There is no place for those needing care to go e.g. a residential or nursing home. Those who need this care must leave the community to find it.

The project group had recognized that they need to do more work on demographics, as they suspect there are not many people in the 16-35 age-group living locally, but are not sure. They also identified that they need to investigate whether there are any clubs or facilities in Henlade particularly e.g. in Ivy House Park.

They had also thought about care in the community, about what care is currently provided in the Parish, both formal and informal. All the above are initial thoughts and they await the results of the questionnaire to give further information.

### Education

It was explained that a survey/workshop had been carried out that morning by CCS with a small selection of students attending Heathfield Community School. A cross section of ages and abilities had been selected by the school to give a diverse representation of ideas.

Roy Bulgin and Jasmine Riches are to meet with the Headteacher at Ruishton Primary School shortly with a draft questionnaire so that those students can give their input into their thoughts regarding our Parish.

### Employment and Business

Mike Hellings and John Capstick advised that they have drafted a questionnaire and were thinking of doing 20 face-to-face interviews to get feedback on the survey. The Administrator advised that there is funding available through the Grant to support obtaining information via a survey and/or a focus group. This money could be used to pay a consultant to undertake the face-to-face interviews if that would be helpful or facilitate a focus group. It was explained that the Business Survey had been

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calendared in to be issued by end June 2017 on the Project Plan. It was agreed that a meeting would be held between Mike Hellings, John Capstick, Mike Marshall and Jim Claydon in April to put together a plan on Business Consultations. The Administrator will also attend these meetings. **ACTION:** The Administrator to arrange a meeting.

#### **6. Project Plan Update**

A Project Plan has been drafted and had been circulated with the agenda. The dates had been based on several things including the grant money timetable, statutory consultation periods. Everyone was reminded that Village Day can be used as a consultation means if some gaps in information are identified in the Household Survey or if clarity is needed on some of the information gained. The Administrator explained that extra lines can be added in to the Project Plan as we agree any extra work to do.

#### **7. Workshop**

A workshop was held to consider Assets, Needs, Opportunities and Threats with in our Parishes. A summary of the information gained will be reported on separately.

#### **8. Date of next meeting**

To be confirmed but is likely to be end June 2017 which will be after the survey results are received.

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