

NOTES OF THE MORPETH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN STEERING GROUP MEETING

MONDAY 10TH JUNE 2013 AT 2PM **IN THE BALLROOM OF MORPETH TOWN HALL**

1. Present

Councillor Nic Best
Councillor David Parker
Councillor Bob Robertson
Councillor Joan Tebbutt
Ian Campbell
Councillor David Cowans
Councillor Philip Ashmore
Councillor Mike Sharp
David Rowlinson
Emma Thomas
Cllr Peter Stonell
Colin Pearson
Peter Fuller
Chris Anderson
Elaine Langman
Sandra Ford
Sheelagh Halliford

Representing

Morpeth Town Council – Vice Chairman
Morpeth Town Council
Morpeth Town Council
Morpeth Town Council
Project Coordinator
Hepscott Parish Council
Hepscott Parish Council
Mitford Parish Council
Northumberland County Council
Northumberland County Council
Pegswood Parish Council
Education Topic Group
Transport Topic Group
Planning Aid (left at 3pm)
Planning Aid (left at 2.40pm)
Abbeyfields First School
Abbeyfields First School

Clerks

Mrs Dee Cota
Mrs Angela Logan

Morpeth Town Council
Morpeth Town Council

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Brown (Chairman), Cllr Kelly (Hebron), Graeme Trotter (Sports & Leisure Champion), David Lodge (GMDT) and Gillian Turner (MTC).

In the absence of the Chairman, the Vice Chairman assumed the chair.

2. Presentation by Abbeyfields School

The Vice-Chairman welcomed Sandra Ford, Sheelagh Halliford and some Year 4 children from Abbeyfields First School in Morpeth. The children gave a most enjoyable presentation and excellent interpretation of their view of the Neighbourhood Plan. Sandra Ford agreed to make materials from the presentation available to be posted on the website.

3. Notes of the meeting held on 20th May 2013

The Vice-Chairman welcomed all members present and invited introductions. The notes of the previous meeting were approved.

Matters Arising

(a) Planning Aid

Chris Anderson from Planning Aid advised the members that they had secured a 2 year project, in conjunction with Locality, to support communities developing a neighbourhood plan. Planning Aid will provide direct support and Locality will provide the financial grant. The qualifying body (Morpeth Town Council) needs to complete the application and both can be applied for through www.mycommunityrights.org.uk. Chris Anderson advised the members to submit an “Expression of Interest” as soon as possible and offered his help with the application form. It was agreed at the previous Steering Group meeting on the 20th May 2013 that Ian Campbell would submit the application. The meeting confirmed the recommendation that Ian Campbell should submit an “Expression of Interest” as soon as possible.

Chris Anderson also advised that he will write a report on the work previously done with Abbeyfields School and KEVI, to go onto the neighbourhood plan website.

(b) NWA meeting on the 9th April 2013

The members were advised that the notes from the meeting with Northumbrian Water on Tuesday 9th April are still draft and despite numerous attempts, have not been approved by Les Hall from NWA.

Agreed – NWA will be advised that if the notes are not approved by Friday 21st June they will be circulated and go on the website as they are.

(c) Risk Register

No comments were received regarding the Risk Register circulated for information at the Steering Group meeting on the 20th May 2013.

4. Issues & Options Consultation Scoping Note, Possible Report Structure and Project Plan

No comments were received on these documents but they will be looked at more in-depth at the Topic Chairs Meeting on Wednesday 19th June 2013. The members were advised that NCC had received a copy of the draft Project Plan timetable at a meeting on the 4th June and it was requested that NCC provide feedback on its compatibility with the Core Strategy and highlight any significant omissions.

5. Topic Chairs Meeting

A Topic Chairs meeting will be held on Wednesday 19th June at 2pm in the Council Chamber of Morpeth Town Hall.

The proposed agenda is:

- To confirm progress on the Technical Report
- To consider how the Technical Reports can be collated into one and what the approval mechanism for that will be
- To consider the structure of the Report
- To consider the format of the Issues & Options consultation

- To review the draft Project Plan

6. Resources and Support

See Matters Arising (a).

7. Topic Group Reports

Agreed – Available Topic Group reports to be circulated amongst the members.

Transport

Peter Fuller advised the members that the group had gathered together all the issues from the launch feedback to put into the technical report. This should be available by mid-June to circulate to the other groups for feedback by the end of June.

A letter was sent to NCC on the 28th May 2013 regarding progress on the Morpeth Transport Study. A response was received stating that a Transport Steering Group meeting will be arranged in mid to late June and Phil Jones will be providing an update on the work done to date and explaining the progress since the last meeting.

Sport & Leisure Group

The members were advised that this group held their first meeting at Storey Park Community Centre on Thursday 6th June. Graeme Trotter is the ‘Champion’ of this group and is doing a quick infrastructure/users audit and a questionnaire of the available facilities in the plan area.

Agreed – A copy of the audit and questionnaire to be sent to all parishes.

8. Parish Council Updates

Mitford

No meetings have been held since the last Steering group meeting. A village fete is to take place on Saturday 6th July where is expected that 25% of the population of Mitford will attend. There will be a stall at the fete to promote and raise awareness of the plan and seek more community engagement.

Pegswood

A parish panel meeting will take place on Tuesday 11th June at 1pm and the members were advised an interesting response from different people has been received in relation to the Core Strategy response.

Hepscott

Nothing to report

9. NCC Update

(a) Draft Plan Area

David Rowlinson advised the members that nothing had formally been agreed on the draft Plan Area and would report back on the progress at the next Steering Group meeting.

(b) Core Strategy Progress

The members were advised that a meeting had been held between NCC and representatives from the Neighbourhood Plan Steering group regarding the Core Strategy consultation document and key issues that had been identified.

Agreed – The notes from the meeting to be circulated to all members.

10. Any Other Business

- (a) The members were advised that English Heritage is interested in offering support and potentially liaising with the Heritage Topic Group. The next Heritage meeting will take place on Tuesday 25th June 2013 at 7pm, venue to be confirmed.
- (c) There was no other urgent business to discuss and the meeting concluded at 3.27pm. The next meeting will be held on Monday 8th July 2013 at 3pm in the Corn Exchange at Morpeth Town Hall.