

# **NOTES OF THE MORPETH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN STEERING GROUP MEETING**

## **MONDAY 11th FEBRUARY 2013 AT 3PM** **IN THE CORN EXCHANGE OF MORPETH TOWN HALL**

### **1. Present**

Councillor Ken Brown  
Councillor David Parker  
Councillor Nic Best  
Ian Campbell  
Councillor David Cowans  
Councillor Philip Ashmore  
Councillor Andrew Kelly  
Councillor Mike Sharp  
David Rowlinson  
Cllr Karen Carins  
Cllr Peter Stonell

### **Representing**

Morpeth Town Council – Chairman  
Morpeth Town Council  
Morpeth Town Council  
Project Coordinator  
Hepscott Parish Council  
Hepscott Parish Council  
Hebron Parish Council  
Mitford Parish Council  
Northumberland County Council  
Stannington Parish Council  
Pegswood Parish Council

### **Clerks**

Ms Gillian Turner  
Mrs Angela Logan  
Mrs Dee Cota

Morpeth Town Council  
Morpeth Town Council  
Morpeth Town Council

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Trotter (Morpeth TC), David English (NCC) and David Lodge (GMDT).

The Chairman welcomed all members present.

### **2. Notes of the meeting held on 14th January 2013**

The notes of the previous meeting were approved.

### **Matters Arising**

Members were advised that Colin Pearson will be giving a presentation on an Education Baseline Report he has prepared at the next Steering Group meeting on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March.  
David Rowlinson advised that he would send an invitation to Linda Vernon at Northumberland County Council to attend the meeting too.

**Agreed** - The Infrastructure Audit, prepared by the postgraduate students from Newcastle University, will go on The Morpeth Neighbourhood Plan website.

### **3. Feedback from Topic Groups**

**Proposal** – A second Topic Chairs Group meeting to be arranged in February 2013. The date is to be agreed.

**Agreed** – The notes from the ‘Visioning’ Workshop to be circulated amongst the members and attendees of the workshop.

The members were informed that Colin Haylock from Cabe will be spending time with each of the Topic Groups and Pegswood Parish Panel.

### **Housing**

Cllr Parker, Chair of the Housing Topic Group, advised that after the third meeting of the group in January 2013 he feels as though the group are becoming “snowed under”. Tom Johnston from Glendale Development Trust gave a presentation on Housing Delivery and spoke about the Trust’s approach to housing provision and works being carried out in Wooler. Martin Laidler summarised his guide to the SCMA and Joan Tebbutt also gave a brief statement on the Lock Report prepared by David Lock Associates for Northumberland County Council and the HCA.

### **Heritage**

Cllr Cowans, Chair of the Heritage Topic Group, reported that the group had held a positive meeting. The group was divided into four small groups to review and refine strategic documents and then give feedback. Three draft documents have been circulated by email (a list of area heritage assets, a narrative area history and a summary table of heritage planning concepts, area history and heritage) and a brief statement of the present position was given by Cllr Cowans. Other documents including maps, listed buildings and listed heritage green tracks/lanes were also made available.

### **Local Environment**

Cllr Best, Chair of the Local Environment Topic Group advised the members that the group is making good progress. 5 key issues have been identified –

- Quality of life
- Green Infrastructure
- Flooding (Implications of development)
- Energy & Sustainability
- Access (footpaths, cycle paths, transport)

A series of civic maps were made available to the topic group but they are still chasing a map of footpaths from Northumberland County Council. Colin Haylock from Cabe will be attending the next Environment Topic Group meeting on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> February.

### **Local Economy**

Ian Campbell advised that at the previous group meeting a list was produced identifying who else should be involved within the group and how they should be contacted. The Market Town Welcome report was circulated and discussed as were the Alnwick and Denwick Economic objectives.

## **4. Pegswood Parish Council**

Pegswood Parish Council is the only parish holding panel meetings and one took place on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2013.

The Draft Infrastructure Audit and Presentation was circulated amongst members and also views were gathered from the Topic Group representatives. Cllr Stonell advised that he had sent an email to Dee Cota which is to be circulated amongst all Steering Group members, regarding 2 policy

proposals from the Core Strategy which are a cause of concern to Pegswood Councillors. The Core Strategy document and what to do about these proposals will be discussed at the meeting on the 13<sup>th</sup> February. Colin Haylock (Cabe) will also be attending this meeting.

### **Hebron Parish Council**

Cllr Kelly reported that the updates on the neighbourhood plan will go into every newsletter and an issue was distributed last week. There is not a great deal of interest within the Hebron Parish and the only comment made at the parish meeting held on the 16<sup>th</sup> January was “What is the economic plan of this and what are we trying to be?”

### **Hepscott Parish Council**

Cllr Cowans advised the members an article on the neighbourhood plan was included in the latest edition of the Hepscott newsletter and that they are trying to keep people in Hepscott informed but there is a low level of interest at the moment.

### **Mitford Parish Council**

Cllr Sharp reported that the main issue for them is that of engagement. A big push on the neighbourhood plan will be done in Spring/Summer 2013 as at the moment the emphasis is on windmills with lots of leaflets being distributed about this.

### **Stannington Parish Council**

Cllr Carins advised the group that they are looking at training sessions and what is involved in producing a neighbourhood plan. At the present time, their emphasis is on windmills so the neighbourhood plan is happening in the background.

## **5. NCC Feedback**

### **(a) Core Strategy**

David Rowlinson advised the members that a Core Strategy drop in session is taking place in Morpeth Town Hall on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2013. Comments on the Issues and Options document will go live very soon and any specific questions should be forwarded to David English or David Rowlinson.

## **6. Resources & Support**

### **(a) Cabe**

At the Chairs Topic Group meeting on the 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2013 it was agreed that Cabe would facilitate 3 different workshops, the first one a ‘Visioning’ workshop was held on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> February in Morpeth Town Hall. Notes of this workshop will be forwarded to all members. Two further workshops will follow in March.

### **(b) Planning Aid**

Chris Anderson from Planning Aid is attending the Pegwood Parish Panel meeting on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> February to try to encourage engagement from the 'harder to reach' areas. Chris is also working with Stobhill Community Forum and has arranged meetings with KEVI and Abbeyfields schools in Morpeth.

**(c) Education**

Colin Pearson is to be invited to the next steering group meeting to give a presentation on the Education Baseline Report he has prepared.

**(d) Traffic Review – Managing Morpeth’s Transport**

Phil Jones from Phil Jones Associates is a consultant conducting a Traffic Review within Morpeth (but not in surrounding parishes). A workshop is to be held on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2013 in Morpeth Town Hall.

**Proposed** - Each topic group is to nominate a representative to attend the workshop and forward the name to Dee Cota and Cllr Brown.

**7. Any other Business/Date of the next meeting**

**(a) Press**

An invitation was sent out to Dave Black (Journal & Chronicle) and Anna Smith (The Herald), inviting them to an Operations Group Meeting. Unfortunately Dave Smith declined the invitation and Anna Smith did not reply.

**(b) Secretariat Support**

The members were reminded that Dee Cota works on the neighbourhood plan afternoons only.

There was no other urgent business to discuss and the meeting concluded at 4.10pm. The next meeting will be held on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2013 at 3pm in the Corn Exchange at Morpeth Town Hall.