

Neighbourhood Planning Meeting 18.2.19

Emma Kearsey – Chair (Parish Councillor), Chris Devereaux-Little 19:55 (Parish Councillor), Charlie McKenna, Megan Griffiths, Nic Clutterbuck, Paddy Ralph, Sue Morris (Parish Councillor), Mike Parker, Jim Goddard, Cheryl Pope

Present – Donna Bowles (Minute Secretary), Colin Chapman, Ian Pickford, Eckington Village Apologies – Jenny Westmacott,

Emma introduced 2 residents from Eckington village who were invited to talk through their experience of setting up a neighbourhood plan. Colin talked through what Eckington as a village is all about with it being slightly larger than Sedgeberrow. They began their Neighbourhood plan in Sept 14, when a local landowner wanted to build 100 houses, although the SWDP had only set aside 20 for the village. Following negotiations with landowners they are in the process of delivering 44 houses which involves down sized properties, affordable housing and bungalows. They advised that the proposed housing needs to be viable to developers, and as such consulted with a developer to work this out.

They advised that the Steering Group should consist of a Chairman, a data evaluator, a data manager, people skilled in environmental issues, a developer, a communicator, some parish council input. They also recommend having stakeholders – church, school, youth club etc.

They also stated that the following should be avoided – hangers on, disruptors, people with only single causes in mind, conflicted interests and too much parish council input.

Traps to be avoided are – analysis paralysis, over complication, over simplification and lack of cohesion.

Above all the Steering Group should be cohesive!

One route they took was to put together a legal contract with the landowners which will protect the village should the Neighbourhood Plan not go through. They have also stipulated what size houses the village needs.

They advised that a target should be set of what it is you want to achieve. Evidence must be obtained each step of the way of support. It is also vital to obtain the demographic, and an exit survey for evidence proving people understood/agreed the specific points of any meeting.

With regards to the questionnaire they had a Street Champion for each street, delivering and collecting surveys which provided an audit trail of how many were returned. They carried out online surveys as well as hard copies. For every consultation carried out each household had a flier, which also included the website address. They had a third party analyse the data – they used a company called Data Orchard.

A separate website from the Parish Council is also recommended for the Neighbourhood Plan.

They advised to keep Wychavon onside, hold frequent consultation events, be clear what you want to come out of the consultations. Provide regular village updates, get a logo, write consultation summary as you go along. What do you anticipate the final document looking like. Use mailchimp for emails.

Don't underestimate the time, cost, limitations of process, beaurocracy.

Don't be distracted by things not in scope, eg transport, traffic, speeding

Ask at each meeting if there is a conflict of interests

Colin and Ian left the meeting at 21:15 following thanks from all people attending.

Sue handed out an update from the Community sub group and talked through this.

In preparation for the next meeting Emma suggested each working group comes up with 3 key objectives for the area and 5 questions to work around the objectives to bring back to next meeting.

Emma to send out bullet points for each working group.

Next meeting date – Tuesday 5th March 7.30pm