

# PAIGNTON NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM

- Blatchcombe
- Clifton with Maidenway
- Goodrington, Roselands & Hookhills
- Paignton Town
- Preston



## **MINUTES OF A FORUM & STEERING GROUP MEETING**

held in the Paignton Community & Sports Academy, Borough Road, Paignton  
at 6.30pm Wed 23 January 2013

[www.paigntonneighbourhoodplan.org.uk](http://www.paigntonneighbourhoodplan.org.uk)

[www.torbay.gov.uk/neighbourhoodplanning](http://www.torbay.gov.uk/neighbourhoodplanning)

### **In Attendance:**

Jane Brooksbank, Tracey Cabache, Philip Chapman, Marie Conroy, Anne-Marie Curror, Ian Curror, Matthew Dart, Cllr Bobbie Davies, Cllr Ian Doggett, Eileen Donovan, Lorna Gardner, Louise Gilson, Edward Harris, Alan Hill, Colin Hurst, Karen Jemmett, Helen Kummer, Cllr Chris Lewis, Katrina Lewton, Stuart Lewton, Andrew Mackmurdo, Aaron McClusky, Sam Moss, Melvyn Newbery, Mike Parkes (Minutes), Cllr Ruth Pentney, David Pickhaver, John Rowe, Ken Rowe, Tony Smyth, Michael Story, Cllr Alan Tyerman, Anne Waite, David Watts (Chairman), Audrey Wilcox, David Wotton.

### **Apologies:**

Cllr Jane Barnby, Jim Bonfield, Carole Box, Cllr Stephen Brooksbank, Cllr Dave Butt, Denise Clarke, Freda Dwane, Peter Fenwick, Laurence Frewin, Paula Hermes, Cllr Jeanette Richards, PS Tamzin Richards, Richard Stevens, Wanda Hollingsworth, Linda Norman, Cllr John Thomas, Catherine Wickens.

### **AGENDA ITEM – 1. APOLOGIES RECEIVED AND WELCOME**

**1.a.** Apologies received were as listed above.

**1.b.** David Watts, the Chairman, welcomed everyone and thanked the Principal and Staff of the Paignton Community & Sports Academy for the use of their Hall.

### **AGENDA ITEM – 2. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING (22 Nov 12) AND MATTERS ARISING**

**2.a.** There were no matters arising and Eileen Donovan proposed that the minutes be accepted as a true record and these were approved unanimously.

**2.b. Forum Resources.** The Forum's current account balance remained at £1,500 and the further transfer of £1,500 from Community Services was in progress.

**2.c. Forum's Regulation 5 and 8 Applications.** Application for Neighbourhood Area and Forum designation had been approved by the Local Authority on 6 Dec 2012. This meeting was, therefore, the first of its kind as it no longer carried the prefix of 'Interim'.

**2.d. Proposed development at Collaton St Mary.** The planning application had been refused on 10 December 2012 and no appeal had yet been lodged by Taylor Wimpey.

#### **2.e. Reference Group.**

(i) The Chairman reported that he and the Treasurer had attended the LP/NP's Reference Group Meeting on 13 Dec 12 in the Town Hall and gave a visual presentation of items that had been discussed.

(ii) David Pickhaver, who had also attended the meeting, confirmed that it had been agreed that there was a need to reassess both the Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) and Strategic Housing Land Availability (SHLAA) evidence base and that 'Peter West Associates' had been appointed to assist in this. All 3 Fora at the meeting had asked to be involved with this.

(iii) At this point Colin Hurst went back to item 2c and expressed his concern that at the Full Council Meeting on 6 Dec 12, approval of the Regulation 5 and 8 applications had been granted with certain caveats. One of them being that Paignton Neighbourhood Forum would hold a separate Steering

Group Meeting and that he held a minute of that point made in the meeting. DW drew attention to the revised officer recommendations approved by the council meeting. The requirements of the legislation had been met in full by the applications and their approval has been published on the council's website as required. His understanding was that the Council had been correctly advised and agreed that it was for the Forum to decide how it wished to arrange its meetings. CH said that he hoped that the LA would continue in its support the Forum Plan given all the hard work so far undertaken. DW went on to say that the Forum had commented on the Local Plan and at the Reference Group meeting on 13 Dec 12, the DCLG representative had confirmed that the Neighbourhood Plans could go ahead without having to wait for the new Local Plan, as many others have nationally. However, it remained the Forum aim for the two plans to work together.

(iii) CH stated that the Neighbourhood Plan needed to be in support of the Local Plan. Whilst not disagreeing, DW pointed out the importance of realism in the LP over such fundamental issues as houses and jobs,

(iv) Cllr Chris Lewis expressed concern that Preston Community Partnership had not been mentioned in the recent questionnaire. He was reminded that Stage 2 involved the two key areas and Stage 1 validation which had been covered during earlier meetings and that the next stage of the draft Neighbourhood Plan would cover all other areas including Preston.

(v) With regard to the idea of a separate Steering Group, CL felt that smaller groups were more efficient in the decision making process. The meeting was reminded that the decision to combine the Steering Group and Forum groups had been voted upon during the August 2012 meeting. Even if the Steering Group was to meet separately, it would still be large with a membership of 23 and would have more councillors than other members. This failed the community led and more inclusive approach the Forum has made clear it wishes to follow and would not be a more efficient use of available volunteer time. However, DW said that he wished the meeting to return to the subject of the Steering Group later in the meeting.

(vi) At this point, David Wotton moved that enough time had been spent on this item and reminded the meeting that there was still a lot to get through with a reducing amount of time. This was supported.

(vii) Referring back to the Reference Group meeting of the 13 Dec 12, there had been general agreement by all 3 Fora representatives that the presentational style of the 'Winsford draft Neighbourhood Plan' in Cheshire was a good example to follow.

(viii) Also discussed at the Meeting was the "Neighbourhood Plans Roadmap Guide" discussed at earlier meetings and now on the Forum website.

(ix) In a letter to the LA dated 31 Dec 12, the Chairman had requested LA support with aspects of Sustainability Appraisal. DP confirmed that this would be forthcoming.

(x) DW reported that the Reference Group meeting had agreed that there was need for a Budget plan for Stage 3 for each of the 3 fora.

### **AGENDA ITEM – 3. PROJECT PLAN PROGRESS**

**3.a.** To mark the Forum's approved status, a slide was displayed giving the breakdown of Paignton Neighbourhood Forum membership as at December 2012. By Community Partnership areas it showed numbers as: 63 from Blatchcombe, 30 from Clifton with Maidenway, 21 from Goodrington, Roselands & Hookhills, 47 from Preston, 89 from Paignton Town and 11 from local organisations.

**3.b.** Also displayed was an initial assessment of the recently completed Forum Questionnaire – members were reminded that a copy had been placed on the Forum's website in preparation for the Forum meeting. The next stage of analysis would comprise:

(i) To add in all the 'comments' written in the Questionnaire Comments boxes.

(ii) An audit of the analysis by the Treasurer, Eileen Donovan.

(iii) Any further analysis as determined by the Forum.

(iv) The Chairman suggested that a specially convened meeting of the Steering Group to discuss the analysis further might be worthwhile, subject to the approval of the Forum.

**3.c.** Alan Hill agreed to lead further work on Question 21 of the Questionnaire which related to Collaton St Mary. CL queried the questionnaire response rate and wondered if more young people could be engaged by such media as Twitter, Facebook etc. It was pointed out that the response for the Paignton Neighbourhood area was much higher than the return for the draft Local Plan for the whole of Torbay which lasted from September to November 2012. It was also of interest to note that there were far more freepost responses than 'online'. The Chairman added that it might be worth using a telephone sample in Stage 3. David Wotton cautioned that all electronic surveys needed to take into account confirmation of the true identities of respondents whilst still ensuring data protection.. Following some discussion, the Chairman emphasised the importance of 'sharing and learning'.

**3.d.** The Chairman returned to the idea of a special meeting of the Steering Group to discuss aspects of the Questionnaire findings. He explained that a meeting last Summer had approved the joining of Steering Group Meetings with Forum Meetings as it displayed a true community led and more inclusive approach to Neighbourhood Planning and saved on the time of members. However, the Chairman asked for approval that an exception be made to trial such a SG meeting for the sole purpose of discussing the initial questionnaire results, PF recommendations and proposed formation of a Stage 3 drafting group involving all 5 CP areas. Several members expressed concerns at this move especially as Councillors outnumbered other members. CL attempted to allay concerns by stating that Councillors were also community members. Tracey Cabache thought that holding a SG meeting might prove more productive of people's time. With an objection by Karen Jammatt and several reservations by other members, it was agreed that on a one-off experimental basis, the Steering Group meeting could take place under the chairmanship of the Forum Chairman and for the Minutes to be taken by the Forum Secretary. It was made clear that the meeting would consist of the membership set out at paragraph 4.1 a) and b) of the Constitution (i.e. the Forum Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, together with the Chairs, Vice Chairs and Ward Councillors of the 5 Community Partnerships). Currently this numbers 14 Councillors and 9 non-council volunteers, the latter of which includes the volunteer Executive Committee.

**3.e.** There was a question from the floor regarding the Principal Hotel Accommodation Area (PHAA). In amplification, it was thought that question 7e in the Forum Questionnaire might have been misleading. The concern expressed was that HMOs seemed set to increase in one of the main tourist areas and would have a detrimental effect on Paignton sea front area. DW explained that the initial questionnaire analysis indicated support for preventing this and the meeting agreed to take this further as part of the closer assessment of the initial results in the first instance. Melvyn Newbury added at this stage that he wished to remind members that Oldway Mansion was also a prime tourist asset.

**3.f. Prince's Foundation report.**

(i) As a result of the Prince's Foundation visit and workshop last November, the PF report had now been received and the key messages were to be found on pages 2 and 9:

- Make the town centre a place where people will 'choose' to live
- Achieving Local Plan levels of growth requires urban and greenfield - and recognising the draft LP may change as it evolves.

(ii) The Chairman emphasised the importance of members volunteering to form a group to examine the PF Report and recommendations with the aim of reporting back to the next meeting. He asked that those wishing to help should give names to the Secretary at the end of the meeting.

(iii) The PF Companion Notes had been previously published on the Forum's website with the Agenda for this meeting and it includes the following breakdown:

**Housing Sites Summary (Slides 65 - 66):**

Existing 5 yr supply	1,600
Town Centre	600
Queens Park	450
Harbour	170
Western Area	402 – 673 (15-25 dwellings per hectares)
Clennon Valley	490
	+ 400 flats
Total	circa <u>4,300</u>

(iii) As above, the Chairman asked for volunteers to form a group to examine aspects of the PF Report.

**4. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING:**

Wednesday 27 February 13 at 6.30pm at a venue to be announced

The meeting closed at 20.20hrs.

Afternote:

The members who gave their names at the end of the meeting as volunteers for group involvement were:

1. Questionnaire Analysis: Lorna Gardner, Alan Hill, Sam Moss, David Pickhaver, Ann Waite.

2. PF Report Recommendations: Cllr Bobbie Davies, Lorna Gardner, Alan Hill, Karen Jammett, Sam Moss, John Rowe, Ann Waite.