

SHEPTON MALLET NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

STEERING GROUP MEETING

Friday, 1st August, 2014

MINUTES

Present: John Parham, Mark Robertson, Neil Watkins, Neil Shearn, Karen Mercer, Peter Hillman, Greta Marsh

1. **Apologies:** Bruce Poole, Steve Nickerson, Anna Blackburn, Mike Perry, Robin Horton, Jill Weston
2. **Welcome:** John welcomed everyone to the meeting.
3. **Minutes from the last meeting** (4th July, 2014) were approved.
4. **Matters Arising from Minutes –**
 - a) John advised he had received a report from Jill Weston re the Navigas Report, and gave everyone a copy. This pointed out that the Shepton Mallets covered all areas of the town, not just Compton Road. John then advised out that the Navigas Report could not be changed, but that the note would be minuted.
 - b) Neil pointed out that people in the town did not seem to be aware of the Local Plan and the work which had been done so far by the Neighbourhood Plan. He suggested a mail shot and discussion on this then took place as a mail shot had been sent out before; at the beginning of the work to produce a Neighbourhood Plan.
 - c) Discussions then took place on how to address the issues continually being raised by residents. Karen made a suggestion on how to draw people into the stand at the Mid-Somerset Show, perhaps by providing pictures of an “awful” town in an effort to make people become involved to stop this happening to Shepton. Further suggestions were made on items already rejected by Mendip for Shepton. Peter suggested that as there was some confusion over what the Neighbourhood Plan could change, we should make it quite clear what it actually could influence.
5. **Project Co-ordinator –** Brian Poole felt he could not take this on. Neil then talked about someone he knew (Liz Bourne – liz.bourne@towns.org.uk) and advised she would be willing to come and talk to us about the work she has done on the Midsomer Norton Neighbourhood Plan. Discussion then took place on this and it was agreed that Neil would ask her to attend a Steering Group Meeting.

6. **Mid-Somerset Show**
 - a) Mike Perry has a gazebo and John has a “tent”, both of which could be loaned for the Show. Karen mentioned that Colin from Dredge & Male might be able to hire out a marquee.
 - b) John showed the meeting a picture of the banner used last year. Discussion then took place on whether to use this again or have another one made up.
 - c) Discussion then took place on what should be displayed in the stand area, and the form this should take. A question was asked on whether we needed to include details of the Mid-Somerset Show site development and discussion then took place on this; it was felt this should not be included as there would not be enough room. Discussion then took place on the format of the questionnaire. It was agreed we should have copies of the Neighbourhood Plan booklet available for people to read, and John said he would get some more printed.
7. **Unique Selling Proposition** – It was agreed this should be based on the History of the Town.
8. **Any Other Business** – Neil suggested statistics on information relating to the town should be made available for use in the Neighbourhood Plan.
9. **Date of next meeting** – Friday 5th September at 5.00pm in the Town Council Offices.

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