

**Stotfold Town Plan Implementation Group (IG)**  
**2 pm, 14th January 2014**

**Present:** Cllr Sheila Bundock; Cllr Anne Clarey (chair); Wendy Craig; Pam Manfield (notes).

1. **Apologies:** Liz Anderson; Glenn Rickwood; Clare Whitty

**2. Matters arising:**

2.1 Roecroft Playing Fields: it appears Central Beds Council (CBC) jumped the gun. There should have been a formal consultation followed by applying to the Education Secretary for change of use from playing field. **Action: all** to watch for updates and take necessary action.

2.2 CBC has an Assets of Community Value programme by which residents can ask for land valued for community use to be listed. This gives protection against development for 5 years. It needs residents' signatures. **Action: PM** to forward link to AC; pursue ACV and check with Junior Football Club re: previous use of Roecroft Playing Fields.

2.3 The website to monitor developments successes and failures was not recommended for action by the Town Council, but residents will be reminded, via *Stotfold News*, to submit comments on new developments to the Town Council, for forwarding to relevant sections of CBC and county councillors. **Action: AC/Town Clerk.**

**3. Good Neighbours Group**

3.1 WC reported that, following the launch on 2nd December, the group is now well underway with 4 successful transports to medical appointments and complimentary comments from clients, plus several other requests for aid.

3.2 WC has given a successful talk to the WI about the programme.

3.3 The group will be applying for a grant for additional money as insurance cost more than anticipated. **Action: WC/Town Clerk.**

3.4 It was suggested that clients could be asked for a small donation towards petrol costs on 'in Stotfold' trips.

3.5 WC has sent in the first returns about the programme to BRCC.

3.6 WC was congratulated on the extremely successful start to this valuable addition to services to residents of Stotfold.

**4. Green Wheel**

4.1 AC reported that two meetings were held on 26th November: Stakeholders and Stotfold Green Wheel working party. The emphasis was on replies to the Arlesey Masterplan, with great need stated for an underpass or green bridge across the A507, linking the new development with Etonbury Academy. It was noted it is important to suggest as many alternatives as possible for this link, which will be vital to the safety of school children attempting to get to Etonbury and to make these points to as many sections of CBC as possible, especially Road Safety, Highways, Planning and to the police. **Action: all.**

4.2 The Deputy Town Clerk is investigating details of footpaths through Etonbury Wood for discussion at the next Stakeholder Meeting.

4.3 Andrew Gwillam, Rights of Way Officer will be attending the next Stakeholder Meeting.

4.4 AC, PM and Loudon Masterton met to discuss linking of paths around the town. A detailed map of suggested links/upgrades has been produced for discussion.

## **5. Education Section of Town Plan**

5.1 AC has been working on a draft questionnaire to go to lower schools to attempt to have more exact data on the lack of places in schools for children in new developments.

5.2 These will be distributed via the lower schools, Red Bear etc., delivered to the new development on Taylor's Road and publicised in *Stotfold News*.

5.3 AC will bring the questionnaire to the Enhancement Committee for discussion at the end of the month. **Action: AC**

## **6. Items for information only.**

6.1 SB pointed out that many of the tarmaced footpaths are in very poor condition and potentially dangerous, particularly the footpath through St Mary's Churchyard. **Action: AC/SB** to collate these for discussion at the Recreation, Public Lands and Lighting Committee.

6.2 PM had received a prompt response from the Customer Services Manager of Taylor Wimpey responsible for the Greenacres development, who gave assurances that, in the Spring, the Landscape Manager will survey the trees on Valerian Way and replace any that have died. **Action: PM** to monitor

6.3 The Manager of the Taylor's Road development has confirmed that the unsuitable slate ground cover and topiary trees will be replaced by grass and native shrubs, once the development reaches completion. **Action: PM** to monitor.

6.4 AC expressed concern that Nicola King (Aragon) had not reported back to the Town Council about work currently being done with the youth of Stotfold. Groundwork Trust are looking for a meeting place to engage with young people. **Action: AC** to investigate.

**7. Date of next meeting:** 2pm on 25th February at the Simpson Centre.