

Stotfold Town Plan Implementation Group (IG)
2 pm, 14th April 2015

Present: Cllr Sheila Bundock; Cllr Anne Clarey (chair); Wendy Craig; Pam Manfield (notes); Cllr Colin Phelps; Clare Whitty.

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

2. Matters Arising:

2.1 WC reported that, following Patient Participation Group Meeting discussion, an article about appointment organisation would be sent to *Stotfold News*. **Action: WC**

2.2 The Good Neighbour Group had received no response from Mike Fayers about insurance queries. It was worrying that, since the activity occurred across the county, there was no central assistance on this.

2.3 The remainder of matters arising would be covered through agenda items.

3. Education for children in Stotfold: AC

3.1 It was noted that the response from Mike Fayers for information for the questionnaire had been limited and not very useful, despite several reminders.

3.2 AC will work on amending questions. There is money available from Town Plan funding which could be used for questionnaire production.

3.3 CP suggested that the questionnaire could be included with the Festival programme and/or in *Stotfold News*. **Action: AC** to liaise with St Mary's and *Stotfold News*.

3.4 It was suggested that a draft asking residents for priority issues could be available for the Town Council stall at the Festival Fete. **Action: AC**

4. Town Plan Monitoring Sheets

4.1 The new Wanderbus now had new timetables. Needs to be added to section 16.2
Action: AC

4.2. The gates at the Co-op still needed to be amended to improve their safety. (Section 9.1) **Action: AC**

4.3 It was noted that the Stotfold side of the new bridge across Pix Brook on the Land South needs work to make it safer. WC, CW and PM will do an update of the previous survey of the Land South and report back. Date to be confirmed for walk. **Action: PM** to co-ordinate.

4.4 Improvements are still needed to the frontage of the Co-op on the High Street. (Section 9.1.) **Action: AC**

4.5 Two typing errors were noted in 16.2 and 16.3. **Action: AC** to amend.

4.6 It was noted that a Speedwatch group is being set up. (Sections 14.3 and 14.6.)

4.7 There are ongoing issues with parking at St Mary's school. A meeting with the Town Council, the school and CBC has been suggested. (Section 15.1)

5. Good Neighbour Group: WC

5.1 WC reported that 300 jobs had been carried out, 80% of which involved transport. There were now 25 volunteers, with several new applications. The maximum for insurance was 25 so the insurance would have to be raised for next year. **Action: WC**

5.2 £50 had been raised at the Tabletop sale. Remaining items would be sold at the Festival event.

5.3 There had been a generous donation of £135 following the Civic Service. **Action: WC** to write to thank the Mayor and Rev Bill Britt.

5.4 Following discussions about how to convince male clients to seek help, there will be social evening at The Stag with free tea or coffee and a chance to meet the volunteers.

5.5 Feedback forms have been developed and sent out.

5.6 The quarterly report had been sent in to BRCC. It was noted that no response was received from these. **Action: WC** to contact BRCC

6. Green Wheel (GW) update: PM

6.1 A significant amount of work has been done in Etonbury Wood, including installing two new bridges and clearing another ride. 8 benches have been ordered and waymarking posts will be installed. Ash die back is being monitored. The formal opening will be later in the year; local schools are being asked how they would like to use the site.

6.2 Cliff Andrews has produced a useful sheet showing timescales for already funded projects. Ideas are being collated for the masterplan for the final application for major GW funding.

6.3 Resurfacing of the main drive in Fairfield and habitat enhancement will go on later this year. The new cycle route from A507 to Fairfield inside the hedge is being worked on.

6.4 The funding application for the land in Astwick bequeathed to the parish for conservation will be resubmitted, as an addendum to the Green Wheel. Matching funding has been received from Astwick residents.

6.5 Manor Farm Co-operative will be approached again about using the beetroot field as part of GW. Since it has to be used for agricultural purposes it was suggested that there could be cover crops to feed overwintering birds or pollinating mixes of wildflowers to attract bees; hedging could include fruiting trees/shrubs. **Action: Brian Collier/Anne Clarey.**

6.6 Cliff Andrews has been appointed as Sustainable Communities Manager and will oversee the Green Infrastructure Team.

7. Accessible Stotfold

7.1 A survey form was included in last month's *Stotfold News*; no response had yet been received.

7.2 AC is beginning a list of work that needs to be done, including the footpaths on Rook Tree Lane, aided by the Twins Group. **Action: all IG** to feed in work needed, so AC can relay this to the Town Council Office to alert CBC.

8. Items for information and work

8.1 SB reported that North Herts were cutting bus services further, which was extremely bad for rural communities.

8.2 PM had contacted CB Highways about the plant containers removed from High Street and was awaiting a response.

8.3 There is a piece of waste land between the houses on Mulberry Close and the Greenacres site, which could be used as a (tiny) green space, possibly with at least one tree. **Action:AC**

8.4 PM reported that the demonstration in support of Old Roecroft Playing Fields had been very successful and received good press coverage. 544 residents had signed the petition which was presented to the full Council Meeting at Chicksands on April 9th. CW, PM and SB accompanied by Nora Beale took the petition and PM spoke on behalf of residents. Discussion was not allowed but a written response will be sent. An Independent Councillor had tweeted about the heartfelt need of the community to retain its green spaces.

8.5 It was suggested that Drew Gwillam should be contacted to ensure the adjoining footpath to the Old Roecroft Fields is made into an official pathway. **Action: PM**

8.6 There was concern about the danger of the bend near the Crown, at the junction of Astwick Road and The Green. A roundabout needs to be installed. **Action: AC** to take to Town Council for discussion.

8.7 It was noted that there will be no election for the Town Council; the Chair of IG will be elected at the first Enhancement Meeting after May 7th.

9. Date of next meeting: 2nd June at 2 pm at the Simpson Centre. Action: AC to book room.