

Stotfold Town Plan Implementation Group (IG)
2 pm, 14th March 2017
Council Chamber Greenacre Centre

Present: Cllr Sheila Bundock; Cllr Anne Clarey (chair); Wendy Craig (notes); Cllr Colin Phelps; Julie Stockford; Cllr John Talbot.

1. Apologies: None

2. Minutes of last meeting / Matters Arising from action points

The minutes of the last meeting were accepted with no amendments.

With regard to the issue of obstructions to footways, 40 households had been contacted to request clearance of overhanging trees & bushes, 39 gave positive responses. One new property was added to the list. It was suggested that it might be a good idea in the future to provide photographic evidence of obstructions prior to contact with home owners.

Drew Gwillam to be contacted for update on question of the land adjacent to Roecroft Central Academy – see also Point 2.

3. CBC Better Care Fund Plan – Health Hubs

Copies of the Central Bedfordshire Better Care Fund Plan were circulated for comment.

This is a lengthy document and AC suggested we read and any comments collated at the next IG meeting prior to passing to Cllr. Saunders. *The emerging vision is amongst us!*

The Plan is available to download from the CBC website.

4. Updates

Good Neighbour Group: WJC

Little to report since last meeting. One new volunteer has joined the group. The committee has decided not to have a presence at the May Mill weekend Steam fair, but will be having a stall at the Stotfold Festival weekend to be held this year at St Mary's school. This will both advertise the activities of the group and raise funds.

In view of the continued difficulties with mobile phone reception, a new Smart phone has been purchased which it is hoped will make client calls more reliable.

There has been a small increase in job requests from clients requiring wheelchairs. The committee is not happy with this development and is trying to encourage those clients to access hospital transport. Where wheelchairs have been used, usually two volunteers have been present.

PPG (Patient Participation Group): JT

Phlebotomy services update, Alistair Burt is supportive of an increase in services at Larksfield but feels this is an issue for the Practice. The current situation is as follows:

Blood sampling is carried out every day at Larksfield, by a trained nurse or Health Care Assistant (HCA) on the Larksfield staff, on a limited basis. Additionally, Lister phlebotomy service provides 35 slots on a Wednesday afternoon at Park Drive in Baldock for Larksfield patients to use; and on a Friday morning a Lister phlebotomist comes to the practice to take blood, offering 25 appointments. It is estimated that an average of 120 samples are taken per week, with a maximum capacity of ca 168 sampling occasions. The samples taken at Larksfield are couriered to Lister and laboratory test results for all samples are sent back to the practice.

No charge is made to the practice for the hospital phlebotomist, but the nurses and HCA are funded solely by Larksfield. No direct charge is made to the practice for the

blood tests. For this reason no expansion of the local sampling service is planned, although the demand/need is much greater than this, which results in many patients travelling to Lister hospital for tests, especially if time is of the essence.

This information was not available at the meeting, but was provided by the PPG. The full document is appended at the end of the minutes.

A monthly newsletter had been proposed, to be circulated to all PPG members by email. The IG felt that this method of distribution is not ideal, as those patients who might most benefit probably do not have email available. It was felt that a newsletter would be better presented via Stotfold News.

The out of hours MDoc service was to be discontinued, patients to be advised to phone 111 instead. The practice acknowledged that this would almost certainly result in a higher footfall at A&E along with higher costs to the Larksfield. Next PPG meeting 30th March

Etonbury Green Wheel: AC

The 1st Draft of the 'Etonbury Green Wheel' is now available and will be reviewed by Stakeholders, TCs and all groups involved. The IG (including Pam Manfield) has been closely associated with the Green Wheel since its inception. The original impetus for a Stotfold based Green Wheel came from AC and thereafter the IG invited Cliff Andrews to a preliminary investigative meeting. Comments on the draft have been asked for by 24th March. There will eventually be a public display of the plan.

Some extra funding is still available and ideas for the use of these monies are being sought. The TC favours improvements to the cycleway between Fairfield and Stotfold, relocating it to the other side of the existing hedge. The current path is thought to be too narrow to safely accommodate a shared footpath and cycleway. Other ideas include establishment of a pond to increase biodiversity, a community garden or more fruit trees.

6. Items for information:

- The Annual update will be available soon, but there will be a delay in its appearance on the TC website as this has not yet been reinstated. Similarly minutes of meetings are available, but not yet online.
- At the annual Town meeting the green space next to Roecroft Central Academy was discussed. Cllr Steve Dixon and the school Governors have plans to keep this for school use. The Head of the Academy has indicated that he would like to see the land used half for the school and half as a public open green space. The issue of the adjacent footpath will be raised at the next meeting.
- Cllr Bundock indicated that as the Stotfold Arts and Crafts exhibition will not be held this year, any profits from the Annual Fun Quiz might be donated to the Stotfold Good Neighbour Group instead of funding the exhibition.
- The IG proposes that Stotfold Central Academy be encouraged to participate in Festival week to further their links with the community.
- The IG may propose to the TC that they consider free lets of the new building if the hall is not privately booked, but only for community events.
- Finally - contracts for the new community building have now been signed and the TC is soon to take possession.

8. Date of next meeting: 2nd May 2017 at 2 pm. Action: AC