

**Stotfold Town Plan Implementation Group (IG)**  
**2 pm, 29th September 2015**

**Present:** Cllr Sheila Bundock; Cllr Anne Clarey (chair); Wendy Craig; Pam Manfield (notes); Cllr Colin Phelps; Glenn Rickwood; Cllr John Talbot

1. **Apologies:** Liz Anderson;

**2. Matters Arising:**

2.1 No response had been received from Co-op Management. **Action: AC/KET** to pursue them for a response.

2.2 The flashing sign on Hitchin Road will be reported to the next Recreation, Public Lands and Lighting Committee. **Action: AC**

2.3 Work is almost complete on the school safety zone in Rook Tree Lane. Some road markings are still to be completed and the winning safety signs, designed by two pupils from St Mary's Academy, will soon be in position.

2.4 SB and AC had presented information about the new Sunday bus timetables to the Town Council. Letters had been sent to the bus companies and CBC about the lack of services. It was noted that the 391 timetable was different from the current information.

**3. Updates**

**Good Neighbour Group: WC**

3.1 Wendy Craig reported that there would be a talk by Trading Standards on 26th November at the Simpson Centre, from 2-4 pm. This would be advertised in Stotfold News. Thanks were expressed to Cllr Bundock for facilitating the free let of the Centre.

3.2 There would be a Christmas trip to Milton Keynes on 30th November. The focus would be on those who were in most need of transport and only clients would receive information about the event. A nominal charge of £5 would be payable in advance. A second date would be considered if there was great demand for seats.

3.3 The next GNG volunteers meeting will be held on 6th October.

**Etonbury Green Wheel: PM**

3.4 Pam Manfield reported that various tasks had been completed in Etonbury Wood; the new fence near the extension to Etonbury School had been wrongly placed and needed to be moved back to the parish boundary; the new bridge had been vandalised but had been repaired.

3.5 All were asked to report to Clare Wardle if the gate to Etonbury Wood off the A507 was seen to be open. There had been instances of fly tipping and there is the potential for illegal entry by caravans etc. **Action: all**

3.6 Work groups will be installing benches and bird/bat boxes on 26th September and 6th October and provisionally, kingfisher tunnels on 3rd November. Anyone who can help should contact Richard Lawrence. **Action: all**

3.7 It was noted that funding is available for planting wild flowers near underpasses. The monitoring group will collate their underpass information and forward this to Cliff, who can then decide on priorities. **Action: Saul Ackroyd/PM/Larry Stoter** to meet to collate and forward info.

3.8 Bridleway surfacing from Arlesey Road to Astwick was being investigated. There is some funding available.

3.9 Stress was placed on preventing the proposed plan for new houses extending the Beauchamp Mill area. All GW members were urged to attend presentations and make objections clear.

3.10 The new relief road for the new development in Arlesey is causing problems. There is no commitment to an underpass/bridge though this was in the masterplan. It was noted the route is vital as a safe route for children attending Etonbury Academy. **Action: all** to comment on this proposal.

### **Educating children in Stotfold: AC**

3.11 Anne Clarey reported that local businesses had been supportive of the request to have boxes for completed questionnaires, as had all lower and pre-schools.

3.12 The questionnaire would be advertised in the next edition of Stotfold News.

#### **Action: AC**

3.13 Cllr Stoter was thanked for agreeing to undertake the data analysis.

### **4, Business/job opportunities in Stotfold**

4.1 SB and WC had produced lists of businesses; many included the number of employees and if they lived in Stotfold. It was agreed that AC, SB and WC would meet to decide how the information should be reported. **Action: AC, SB, WC.**

4.2 A survey was needed of all schools and nurseries. **Action: CP**

4.3 Information was needed of food outlets by the next meeting. **Action: JT**

4.4 It was noted that there needed to be information about the vacant business sites available in the town. **Action: AC**

### **5. Land South Survey**

5.1 PM, WC and Cllr Stoter were thanked for the detail included in the survey, which highlights action needed by the developer, some of which affects safety. **Action: AC** to report to the Recreation, Public Lands and Lighting Committee.

### **6. Protection of green spaces and open countryside from development: AC**

6.1 All were aware of the potential site development in Astwick, which was being closely monitored.

6.2 There was an additional proposal for a development along Astwick Road behind the bungalows, which again would bring even more traffic onto an already dangerous road. It would also change the rural character of the northern part of the town, something greatly valued by residents. **Action: all** to raise objections when needed.

6.3 PM reminded group members of the new landscape designation of Local Green Space, introduced in the National Planning Policy Framework. The LGS "allows protection of valued local areas from new development except in exceptional circumstances". It will be subject to the same strong development restrictions as Green Belt areas. It was noted that this should apply to Old Roecroft Fields and potentially other areas.

6.4 AC had suggested that CBC present an update to the Town Council on Neighbourhood Plans. **Action: AC to liaise with KET**

### **7. Items for information: work to be done**

7.1 PM reported that she would be attending a CBC workshop on revising/improving their website and asked for suggestions. It was noted that there needs to be provision for information for those with no computer access. **Action: PM** to feed to workshop.

7.2 Teasel will be working on the Valerian Way proposed roadside nature reserve in the Autumn.

7.3 IG had been asked to suggest parts of Stotfold which would benefit from tree planting. **Action: all**

7.4 JT recommended that incidents of dangerous driving in the town should be phoned in to the police 101 phone line, so they can be recorded. **Action: all**

**8. Date of next meeting:** 3rd November at 2 pm. **Action: AC** to book room.