

Stoffold Town Plan Implementation Group (IG)
2 pm, 5th January 2016

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

1. Apologies: Glenn Rickwood; Cllr John Talbot.

2. Matters Arising from action points

2.1 Highways are to be asked again to deal with the flashing 20mph sign on Hitchin Road.

Action: AC/office staff.

2.2 The Area Co-op Management have not answered to current issues. **Action: AC/KET**

2.3 Wendy Craig, Pam Manfield and Larry Stoter were thanked again for the work that had gone into the Land South Survey, which will be used by the Town Council when discussing snagging with the developers. It was noted that newly planted trees that had died were the developers' responsibility at this stage.

3. Updates

Good Neighbour Group: WC

3.1 The quarterly report for BRCC had been submitted in December. From October to December, 98 jobs had been carried out by 28 volunteers, averaging 7.5 jobs per week. An IG member who had used the service said its help had been "invaluable".

3.2 The AGM was held in December. It was agreed to keep a £500 reserve, leaving a healthy balance. An external audit had been carried out.

3.3 A grateful client had donated £100.

3.4 Trading Standards had to cancel their talk for clients at short notice but Advice Central stepped into the breach.

3.5 A Christmas tree had been prepared for St Mary's publicising the group.

3.6 The Christmas shopping expedition to Milton Keynes had been very successful

Etonbury Green Wheel: PM

3.7 The minutes of the meetings of the 11th September and 20th November had been reported to the Town Council by AC

3.8 PM reported that due to restructuring at CBC, staff were still uncertain about roles and responsibilities. Jonathan Woods who had been leading on the Etonbury Green Wheel for CBC has left; members of the group are trying to determine which officer at CBC now holds responsibility. **Action: PM**

3.9 There have been some problems obtaining support from local landowners but the concept masterplan was still going forward.

4. Business/job opportunities in Stoffold

4.1 The survey list was being completed, when it would be circulated to the Town Council.

Action: AC

4.2 It was noted that figures had not been received from Roecroft Lower School. **Action: WC**

5. Education for children in Stoffold: AC

5.1 The completed questionnaires would be handed to Cllr Stoter who would undertake data analysis. **Action: AC**

5.2 It was noted the largest collection point had been the Town Council offices. The total of 48 respondents was disappointing, in view of the wide publicity and the number of Facebook comments and presumed interest of residents in this topic.

6. Neighbourhood Plans

6.1 AC had asked the Town Clerk to request an update from CBC about a possible Neighbourhood Plan for Stoffold, since in 2013 a CBC representative had stated that this

was not needed. There was concern that surrounding parishes/towns were undertaking plans. Gerry Sansom (CPRE Bedfordshire and an Oakley Parish Councillor) had attended a town Enhancement Committee in December and explained the process of producing a Neighbourhood Plan.

6.2 IG members wished to be clear about the effectiveness of Neighbourhood Plans and were concerned about the amount of work involved. It seemed that the research from the Town Plan could be used. Further discussion will be likely at Town Council level. **Action: AC/KET**

7. Items for information: work to be done

7.1 A Patient Participation Group (PPG) questionnaire had been published in *Stotfold News* and emailed to many residents. It had also been sent to Arlesey's *On the Button* and the Fairfield newsletter. WC expressed concern about the lack of support for the PPG amongst public attendees and the practice members. Because of this the group was moving to a "virtual" PPG with a webpage alongside their Facebook page. It was noted that this might be able to be linked to the Town Council website. **Action: AC/KET/WC.** It was also strongly stated that Larksfield Practice needed to support the PPG with practical, proactive assistance, since having an active PPG was a NHS necessity.

7.2 Concern was expressed by IG members about the difficulty of making medical appointments by phone. Why was it impossible to make an appointment for the next day, if all current appointments were full? **Action: WC**

7.3 Following the success of last year's volunteer awards, CBC has extended categories to groups. **Action: PM** to investigate and report back once information is available on January 11th.

7.4 All members were urged to suggest sites round the town where trees could be planted. **Action: PM**

8. Date of next meeting: 23rd February at 2 pm. **Action: AC**