

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

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

1. Apologies: Elizabeth Anderson; Glenn Rickwood

2. Matters Arising from action points

2.1 AC reported that David Bllock was still in a senior management post at the Co-op headquarters. **Action: AC** to ask the Town Clerk to invite Mr Bllock to attend the next IG meeting to address issues which were still unresolved after his last visit.

2.2 The unadopted footpath near Old Roecroft Playing Fields had been cleared by CBC, following a resident's complaint.

3. Updates

Good Neighbour Group: WC

3.1 The group was still thriving and the Easter fundraiser had raised £70. Isabel Collier was thanked for producing large numbers of items for sale.

3.2 The group had been nominated for the Cheering Volunteers awards from CBC. Pam was thanked for nominating the group.

3.3 There had been a request from residents of The Haven for volunteer gardening of the front plot. This was a large area and would need considerable time and effort, and a trailer to remove hedge trimmings, ivy, etc. A volunteer had called Cllr Clarey and Aragon Housing were alerted. It was evident this was a long-term issue and Aragon had organised to send a work party this week. It was agreed to wait and see what was done and, if needed, the Town Council would ask Aragon about their long-term plans for keeping this area neat. **Action: AC**

3.4 The quarterly report of the group (sent regularly to BRCC) was presented to IG members, who congratulated the GNG on the increasing number of jobs completed. Nine new clients had been added in the last quarter.

3.5 WC noted that they were taking care that requests did not go to named volunteers.

Etonbury Green Wheel: PM

3.6 PM reported that there had been little new action since the next meeting was due on 15th April.

3.7 She reported that the funding requests for the new dipping platform and extension of the wildflower meadow for the Nature Reserve had gone in and results were awaited soon. If the Green Infrastructure funding could not cover these, they would be picked up in the Green Wheel masterplan application.

4. Business/job opportunities in Stoffold: AC/WC

4.1 AC reported that the completed survey had been circulated to all councillors.

5. Education for children in Stoffold: AC

5.1 Copies of the collated results of the questionnaire had been circulated to all councillors.

5.2 AC had discussed this with Mike Fayers of BRCC and sent him copies of the survey. The IG members unanimously expressed serious dissatisfaction with the support they had received from Mr Fayers over this. **Action: AC** to contact again.

6. Items for information: work to be done

6.1 AC reported that the Town Plan Monitoring Sheets would be updated and would be sent to Mike Fayers. The updates would be made available on the Town Council website.

6.2 The IG group were asked to note that in May the Town Council reviews committees and chairs/vice-chairs. The IG members expressed the hope that Cllr Clarey will continue

to chair.

6.3 An overhanging hedge in Queen Street was reported and CP asked what action could be taken. It was agreed the matter should be reported to the Town Council which then sends a letter to the resident asking for the hedge to be trimmed. If this is not done, CBC can be asked to take action.

6.4 PM reported that Saul Ackroyd (Acorn); Richard Lawrence (ecologist, BRCC); Cllr Larry Stoter (Stotfold Town Council) and she (representing IG and Teasel) had conducted an underpass survey in March. This detailed significant plants and areas and indicated mowing schedules to safeguard and enhance these. Wildflower seeds and plugs were also recommended for some areas; funding for these is available via BRCC and Acorn and Teasel volunteers will assist with planting. **Action: AC** to report to next Recreation, Public Lands and Lighting Committee.

6.5 WC asked if there was an alternative to the unsightly spraying of areas around lamp-posts. Unfortunately, it appears this is the only effective way to deal with these areas.

6.6 SB reported that a second Wanderbus now served Stotfold and the timetable had been improved. **Action:SB:** details to go on the Town Council pages in Stotfold News.

6.7 SB also noted that the contractor for the 391 service had changed, as had the timetable. Unlike the Wanderbus, the 391 timetable had not yet appeared publicly.

6.8 AC reported that all Town Council committees had been asked if they had any specific tasks they would like the IG to carry out. **Action: AC** to check with committee chairs and also check the Town Plan monitoring sheets.

6.9 JT noted that the intended plot for the Community Orchard at Common Road allotments had been ploughed. He also noted that the new ditch had successfully ended flooding.

7. Date of next meeting: 17th May at 2 pm. **Action: AC** to book room.