

**Stotfold Town Plan Implementation Group (IG)**  
**2 pm, 23rd February 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 Pam Manfield was leaving Stotfold for Wales. She was thanked for her input over the years.

2.2 The 20 mph sign on Hitchin Road had been adjusted.

2.3 No work agreed by Co-op managers at a meeting in 2011 with IG had been carried out, except giving permission to site the notice board. **Action: AC** to discuss issuing a new invitation with the Town Clerk.

**3. Updates**

**Good Neighbour Group: WC**

3.1 The Group had been represented at the Civic Service, the theme of which was very supportive of community activities in the town.

3.2 Two new volunteers had joined, making a total of 29.

3.3 Dementia Friends had given a successful talk to the volunteers.

**Etonbury Green Wheel: PM**

3.4. A lot of work had been going on to improve rides, install benches etc in Etonbury Wood.

3.5 The masterplan was on hold because of restructuring in Central Beds. Local groups and the town/parish councils had been asked to press CBC to ensure that it was clear who was spearheading the project and that the Green Wheel still was providing the support needed.

3.6 A variety of work has been completed in local areas, including hedge planting in Astwick; resurfacing of footpaths in Fairfield and between Astwick/Stotfold/Arlesey; agreement has been reached between the Eleemosynary Charity, Stotfold Town Council and Teasel about the proposed Common Road Community Orchard.

3.7 There was concern about litter on the A507 at the gateway to Etonbury Wood and on Malthouse Lane.

3.8 Green Infrastructure funding of £25,000 is available for community projects. The group were asked to suggest suitable schemes, including the Community Orchard; benches on Kingfisher Way; the proposed Valerian Way Nature Reserve and extending the wildflower meadow in the Mill Nature Reserve.

3.9 The Pix Brook scored highly as a problematic water source and there are to be consultation works on improving the water quality.

3.10 SB raised concern about the unadopted footpath near the Old Roecroft Playing Fields. Vans had been seen doing ground maintenance and clearing shrubs. Drew Gwillam to be ask what is happening about adopting the footpath and who owns the land. Town Council office staff to be consulted. **Action AC..**

**4. Business/job opportunities in Stotfold: AC/WC**

4.1 A comprehensive list of employers was provided, giving details of 86 "roadside" businesses; 45 advertising in Stotfold News on average and 150 website sites. **Action: AC** to update the business section of the Town Plan.

4.2 The group raised concerns that brownfield sites continue to be used for housing.

**5. Education for children in Stotfold: AC**

5.2 The group was disappointed that only 49 questionnaires had been returned, especially since the questionnaire went out when there was considerable news coverage of lack of school places.

5.3 There was concern that the expansion of Etonbury School would make difficulties for younger pupils, but it was understood that the governors of the school did not feel this was a problem.

5.4 **Action: AC** to ensure that the education and the business survey was available to all councillors.

5.5 Since there had been no further contact with Mike Fayers, AC would contact him again about adding items to the Town Plan. **Action: AC**

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

7.1 CP noted that the Biggleswade Chronicle had run an article on the new Community Centre and play equipment on the Land South, noting that "Grange Drive had still to be opened." Residents of the Land South felt they were cut off from the Co-op and the Town Council had always intended the road should be opened. However, there had been and still were, considerable worries about the potential dangers of opening the road.

7.2 WC reported the disappointment that only 54 people had so far responded to the Patient Participation Group (PPG) questionnaire, despite wide advertising and distribution. The results would be published in Stotfold News in April. She also reported that there had been little support from the Practice Manager and that the group would cease to exist in its current state, so the practice would have to develop a new online PPG system. It was noted that the practice was required to have a functioning PPG by national NHS.

7.3 There were queries about work being carried out in the field next to St Mary's School. It was believed to be an archaeological survey, prior to a building application. **Action: AC** to raise at the next Planning Meeting.

**7. Date of next meeting:** 22nd/23rd March at 2 pm. (Date yet to be finalised)

**Action: AC** to book room.