

MASHAM NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN (MNP) STEERING GROUP

Meeting held on 19.07.2023 commencing 7pm at l'Anson's Offices.

MINUTES

Present: Neil Pickard (Chairman), Richard Mawer, Jim Dalton and Howard Mountain (NP Co-ordinator).

Apologies: Mark Cunliffe-Lister, Kelly Kitching, Beth Rodney and Flo Grainger.

NP welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1. Minutes of meeting 07.06.2023 - approved without amendment.

2. Public Consultation Questionnaire Responses

a) Consider effectiveness of additional targeted Public Consultation.

Up to now only four additional questionnaires have been returned, although it was anticipated that a number of others would be received shortly. These were spread across the age ranges and as such no significant progress had been made to obtain responses which are more representative of the younger elements (the under 50's generally and in particular the under 30's) within the population.

It was recognised that the age groups who are under-represented probably have less time available to complete questionnaires and a shorter on-line version will therefore be produced in the hope that this results in more feedback. Enquiries will be made to the School and Pre-school groups to establish whether the link to this could be sent out on their e-mail lists. Further publicity around the shorter version will also be carried out on social media and this will refer to testimonials relating to completed Neighbourhood Plans elsewhere to emphasise the importance of people providing their input.

Action: HM to circulate a shorter questionnaire to SG members for approval and contact School and Pre-school groups.

b) Initial summary of topics identified from public consultation responses so far.

On the basis of the responses received at this point there are a number of issues which are clearly of concern to the majority of respondents. These will be developed into Policies and/or Community Actions within the Draft Plan, subject to input from other respondents when the targeted consultation in 2a above is complete, and from Stakeholders, when the Stakeholder Consultation is complete.

3. Stakeholder Consultation. Review progress on this phase of consultation.

20 businesses, local groups and organisations contacted had so far returned their Stakeholder Consultations, and responses would continue to be sought from those which were still outstanding.

Action: HM to forward an up-to-date list to SG members.

4. Financial matters.

Position regarding grant funding for 2023-24.

Locality (Groundwork) are still not accepting any applications at this time. As the SG is continuing to work through the Public/Stakeholder Consultations no urgent expenditure is presently necessary but it was agreed that the PC will be approached if no grant funding is available when costs do arise.

Action: HM to monitor availability of grants and make an application as soon as possible. HM also to contact Kathryn Jukes at Directions (Planning Consultants) to discuss a tender for projected work until end March 2024 which will be needed to accompany grant application. NP to raise issue of PC funding when providing the NP report at the Parish Council's next monthly meeting.

5. Report on Masham Futures meeting held 13.07.2023.

The meeting had been attended by NP and HM and an update was provided on the progress being made with the Public/Stakeholder Consultations.

Discussions were held about the use of a shorter version of the questionnaire

for younger age groups and the use of focus groups. MCO thanked the SG for forwarding the responses received within the Public Consultation Questionnaire which related to their work.

6. Any Other Business.

None.

7. Date of next meeting.

Next meeting to be held at l'Anson's offices on Wednesday 27.09.23. commencing at 7pm.

Meeting closed at 8.20pm. Minutes taken by HM. Dated 24.07.2023.