

HASSOCKS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group held on 4 April 2012 at 7.30 pm in the Parish Centre, Adastra Park, Hassocks.

Present: Paul King (Chairman) Peter Gibbons
Leslie Campbell Ian Weir
Bill Hatton Judith Foot

Clerk: Linda Baker

1. **Apologies for Absence.** None.
2. **Declarations of Interest.** None.
3. **Appointment of Chairman.** Paul King was elected to chair the group.
4. **Minutes of the Meeting held on 2 February 2012.** The minutes were taken as read, agreed by the meeting, and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.
5. **Community Buildings.** Judith Foot tabled a list of community buildings in the village. It was suggested that it might be useful to compile a list of recreational spaces as well. It was suggested that a long term objective might be to provide a combined community facility bringing together a number of uses as happened in other parishes, for example Hurstpierpoint, and Southwater where the parish office, library, community hall and police were all in the same building.
6. **Visioning Exercise 14 March 2012.** A note of the outcome had been circulated. The meeting had focussed on the Business Plan rather than the Neighbourhood Plan, but had identified some areas councillors thought important.
7. **Housing Needs Meeting 22 March 2012.** Carol Tomkins of MSDC had outlined details of the statistics on housing need in Hassocks held by MSDC, and had emailed a further breakdown of the figures on one bed housing needs. The statistics were useful as background information, but more detailed analysis would be needed to draw any meaningful conclusions from the information on the housing register.
8. **Area to be Covered by the Plan and Issues to be included.**
RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND that the plan should cover the whole of the parish, including Clayton, and that MSDC should be advised of this.
The Vision Statement could be taken from the vision in the Village Design Statement 2008.
The issues suggested for inclusion were:
 - Market price and affordable housing
 - Employment/business/economic development

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- Transport
- Issues arising from Hassocks being a commuter village with rail links to London and Brighton etc
- Development of the village centre
- Parking
- Education
- Infrastructure, including water supplies, waste water, health provision
- Proximity to South Downs National Park/Tourism
- Conservation and wildlife, tree planting etc
- Visual appearance of the village, signage, overhead lines etc
- Flood Risk area
- Provision for older people, housing, transport, urban design etc
- Measures to minimise crime and anti-social behaviour

RESOLVED that Bill Hatton would draft a vision statement, objectives and possible questions for the community, for discussion at the next meeting. MSDC would be asked to advise if the Habitat Assessment Regulations would apply.

9. **Evidence.** This would be looked at once the issues were finalised.

10. **Community Involvement.** RESOLVED that Judith Foot would draw up a list of organisations, community groups and stakeholders who should be consulted.

RESOLVED that Ian Weir would consider how the community could be involved, through for example leafleting, public meetings, seminars or workshops, website, advertising.

Information would be obtained on how other towns and parishes had engaged their communities.

11. **Sustainability Appraisal.** This would be considered at a later stage.

12. **Draft Timetable.** RESOLVED that Paul King would draft a timetable for completion of the project for consideration at the next meeting.

All the information as above would be required by 30 April 2012. The Clerk would book a stall at the May 2012 Village Market so that councillors could publicise the Neighbourhood Plan and answer questions from the public.

13. **Date of Next Meeting.** Thursday 3 May 2012 at 7.30 pm.

There being no other business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.30 pm.

Chairman.....

Date.....

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