

DENMEAD NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Meeting Notes from the Forum meeting

Date of Meeting Monday 13 February 2012 in the Ashling Pavilion at 7.00pm.

Present:

Cllr Neil Lander-Brinkley (NLB)	Cllr Kevin Andreoli (KA)
Cllr Felicity Hull (FH)	Cllr Patricia Stallard (PS)
John Knight (JK)	David Griffiths (DG)
Peter Ambrose (PA)	Jane Andreoli (JA)
Jenny Nell (JN)	Pepe Chisenga (PC)
Nat King-Smith (NKS)	

Notes taken by Tony Daniells (TD), Clerk to Denmead Parish Council

Next Meeting: Forum: Thursday 15 March 2012, 7.00pm, The Old School

Steering Group: Friday 23 March 2012, 6.00pm, The Old School

1. Welcome

NLB welcomed everyone and extended a warm welcome to new members.

2 Apologies

Apologies were received from Jim Kerr; Jean Buckle; Brendan Gibbs; Gren Phillips; Steve Lincoln and John Reynolds.

3. What's happened since the launch

NLB outlined the successes achieved so far. These included

- forming a Steering Group (SG) to manage the project;
- definition of Terms of Reference which were available from the website;
- documenting of a project plan. This plan was in its early stages and needed confirmation of the work areas before it could be added to
- evidence from the launch together with that from Blueprint had been mapped against work packages and gave justification for the work packages.

Distributed at the meeting were notes from the Planning Camp held at the Eden Project and attended by Jenny Nell and Peter Ambrose. What was needed now was to decide how and where to start with the Plan and to make inroads into the work to achieve the same.

4. What's happened in the wider Frontrunner project

4.1 Update from WCC - JN gave the following updates

- there was no funding from Government for a 5th wave of Frontrunners
- WCC's Joint Core Strategy was out for consultation and testing for soundness before being adopted by WCC and sent for external examination.
- NPPF was in draft form and whilst there was no date for its adoption, April was considered to be a possibility. The Localism Bill had commenced in parts, and it also referred to secondary legislation.
- WCC were receiving interest from other parishes who wished to start a NP. It was planned to run a training event in April. Places would be limited.
- WCC had three major development areas and eight named larger settlements, of which Denmead was one. It was only these that had housing targets allocated to them. It was now planned to look at the smaller site allocations in these named settlements.
- Once adopted the Joint Core Strategy would replace the Local Plan. There was a need to progress the NP and get hard evidence in place to justify the option chosen. As well as having a NP, it was also key to be able to deliver it.
- PA gave an example where a development was allowed in Rutland based on a draft Plan.

4.2 The Planning Camp – Peter Ambrose gave some feedback on the recent Planning Camp held over the weekend of 5-7 February at the Eden Project. This was a very impressive and

valuable event, with input from a consortium of contributing organizations with skills in community led planning. The major message to come out was that engagement with the village and its residents was fundamental and key. An example of this was the South Marston vision and development principles document, (paper copy supplied at the meeting), which gave a good shopping list and explained to the village what was trying to be achieved. JN emphasized the importance of

- Resources and skills
- Project management and leadership in the process
- To look at what was happening around you and not just looking at the village in isolation
- Suggested phases
- Success factors
- To keep the motivation going and understand the risk factors

The material from the weekend would be made available via the Eden Project website at some stage.

There followed a lively discussion, with the following points raised. Not all were answered on the night.

- How to keep the village informed of what was going on. Maybe there was a need to buy in some PR consultation. Could some of the grant funding be used for this?
- The Forum would need to go out to actively seek views from residents by knocking on doors, engaging residents outside of shops etc.
- The Denmead Scene could include a separate flyer that not only gave out information but also sought opinions
- Use local organizations to get the message out and across.
- There was a need to overcome apathy brought about by developments such as Little Frenchies Field where residents thought that their voice did not influence the outcome.

Whilst it was generally agreed that there was a need to engage with residents, the method, timing and approach were still open. A briefing sheet so that a consistent message was conveyed was recognized as being a good idea for those in a position to promote the plan, but what was there to engage on until the Forum had something to say? A clear picture may also bring in more volunteers to help develop the Plan.

JN advised on investigating something tangible, such as whether the NP would recommend developing a single site or multiple sites. New infrastructure may be unaffordable and undeliverable whereas an extension to a community facility might be achievable.

NLB summarized the discussion as engagement was key via whatever means; there was work needed first to be able to put something to residents; the Forum needed skills in writing and PR to do that; in terms of a tangible start to the work, Planning and Placement was a good starting point.

5. Starting the work

It was suggested that examination of the SHLAA (action step 1 of the Task List Version 2) would be a good starting point with two or three other work areas added as they related to the SHLAA. It was agreed that taking Action Steps 1, 2 and 3 would be the starting point and then the initial works could be discussed together.

Whilst the SHLAA was a starting point for available sites, it was suggested that it was not exhaustive and that other brownfield sites could be examined.

6. Identifying work groups and leaders

Each work group would be led by a member of the steering group with the following agreed.

- 1 SHLAA led by Kevin Andreoli
- 2 VDS led by Peter Ambrose and assisted by Pepe Chisenga and John Knight
- 3 Denmead Gap led by David Griffiths assisted by Nat King-Smith

Groups would complete as much research as possible in the timeframe.

JN reminded members to consider the wider neighbourhood and also to make use of headings in the Sustainability Appraisal to give a framework.
KA would set up a distribution email group to include the Forum members who were not members of the SG.

7. Dates of future meetings

The Forum would meet again on Thursday 15 March 2012 at the Old School starting at 7.00pm. This would be to review the output of the working groups which should also include a vision based on the topic being examined.

Meeting closed at 8.45pm

Copies to Steering Group and Forum
 Parish and Ward Councillors