

**NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN – STEERING GROUP MEETING
THURSDAY 3RD JULY @ 7.15 PM**

Attendants

- **Amenities/communities/recreation Sub Group (Group 1)**

- Penny Barry
- Mariee Collier
- Chris Hill
- Charlotte Randell

Bill Fleming had sent his apologies

- **Economic & Employment Welfare Sub Group (Group 2)**

- Jill Houghton (newly appointed to this group)
- Lee Pound

Carol Ford had sent he apologies

Bryan Savage had advised that, due to new work commitments, he would be unable to continue participating in the project

- **Environmental Issue (Group 3)**

- Graham Collier
- Joe Harvey – Chairman of the Steering Group
- Jim Langridge
- Rob Williams
- Eli Uggerløse

- **Planning & Infrastructure (Group 4)**

- Joy Keeley
- Rob Sussens
- Neil Pearce

Julie Bidwell has advised that due to other commitments she will be unable to continue being part of the project

There were also 3 members of the public

The Chairman opened the meeting and expressed disappointment that only 1 Sub Group report had been received and circulated (Group 3). He stressed the importance that reports are sent to Eli Uggerloese for circulation 4 to 5 days BEFORE the Steering Group meeting: the idea is to try and avoid overlaps and keep on track to finish the plan by May 2015.

He then requested each group to give a short verbal report of what they had discussed at their first meeting:

Group 1

They had met on 5th June and had in the main, discussed their remit and what information would be required to proceed.

A written report was handed in at the end of the meeting and is attached hereto.

Issues raised at the meeting:

- Are there any policies or guidelines regarding the amount of amenities/public open space requirement
The response is that there are some guidelines and that SDC has carried out an district audit which should be available online.

Group 2

They had held a useful meeting and notes were taken and will be made available shortly.

After a good discussion regarding their remit, they agreed their main areas would be

- The industrial estate – the main employment generator
- Town centre retail – the main area of concern (how it is portrayed)
- Home-run business – rising numbers of these

Group 3

They met on 19th June – a report was written and has been circulated.

It was agreed that the issues of this group will overlap with the others – this is inevitable and there would have to be agreements between groups as to how these overlaps are best managed

The main remit of the group will be to define what sustainable development means to Bidford on Avon, which will then be applied to all groups

Group 4

They had been unable to meet.. However, the main concerns were:

- Number of homes
- Infrastructure, including schools (increase in the number of children attending both primary and high school)

There followed a lively discussion regarding number of developments taking place and in the pipeline. However, the Chairman stressed the importance of concentrating on the Neighbourhood Plan – what it CAN do, and not spend too much time on what it CANNOT do.

Site allocation would be a prime issue for this group – the advice was to safeguard areas which should be left undeveloped for the benefit of the local community.

Neil Pearce noted at this point that there were three key issues for us to address:

- 1. Preserve and protect assets**
- 2. Enhance those assets where possible**
- 3. Provide new assets in line with stated priorities**

It is also important to ensure the information used is 100% accurate – not based on rumours or hear says.

The Group should also include type of house and design of development – there is an increase in the elderly population and houses, such as bungalows, to accommodate them should be considered and integrated in the designs schemes.

NEXT STEPS

- Groups to meet before the next Steering Group meeting which is on 7th August @ 7.15 pm
- Strategies to be discussed and put in place and a programme of “next steps” considered
- Reports to be made available before the 7th August for circulation
- Census of age demographics to be made available (A 5 page 2011 Census information sheet is attached hereto, produced by Warwickshire Observatory and circulated by SDC last year – it will also be made available online)
- To take into account the following “tips”
 - Preserve/protect existing
 - Enhance existing
 - Provide new

Meeting closed @ approx. 8.15 pm

Chairman thanked them and requested that an item of “Next steps” be included in the next report