

MINUTES

Meeting of the Bengeo Neighbourhood Area Plan Community Steering Group Thursday 1st November 2018 at 8:00pm at the Bengeo Club.

Present :

Members

Mark Lynch (Chair)
Cllr Andrew Stevenson
Cllr Mari Stevenson
John Howson (Natural Env't WG)
Veronica Fraser (Culture & Community WG)
Hilary Durbin (LoBRA, Transport and Travel WG)
Adam Taylor (WERA)
Brendan Clifford (Folly Island Assn)
Cllr Peter Ruffles

HTC Consultant and Officers

- Jacqueline Veater (BNAP consultant)
- Maria Iancu (HTC Projects Officer)

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Steve Cousins, Sue Cousins, John Cooper, Aska Pickering

2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None

3. **MINUTES OF LAST MEETING**

The minutes of the last meeting were approved.

4. **FEEDBACK FROM THE TOWN COUNCIL WORKING PARTY**

The agenda and minutes from the Hertford Town Council BNAP Working Party meeting on October 11th were noted.

5. **REVIEW OF WORKING GROUP MEMBERSHIP**

It was agreed that the current information on Working Group membership should be circulated to the Working Group leaders for their information and for them to amend as necessary if volunteers have been missed or no longer wish to be involved. Any such feedback should be sent to the chair by November 9th.

6. **ELECTION OF THE CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN**

The current chairman, Mark Lynch, has previously announced his intention to step down. John Howson was unanimously elected as the new chairman and took over chairing the meeting. No firm candidate for vice-chairman (currently vacant) has been found, but the new chairman hopes to make progress quickly.

7. WORKING GROUP STATUS

Culture and Community

Veronica Fraser has taken over as Working Group leader and has produced an initial outline of the group's progress. Jacqueline Veater commented that the outline is very useful and that the group should meet with her to discuss preparation for the next Exhibition (on draft policies).

It was noted that a common format for input to the plan would be very useful and Jacqueline noted that the Environment group's draft chapter could, with a few changes, be a good template for the other groups.

Some comments were reported regarding whether the plan would relate to the rest of Hertford and the meeting was reminded that the plan must be inclusive and that it is important to consult and co-operate with adjoining areas. Any members of the public with concerns are encouraged to get involved.

Environment and Green Spaces

Further work has been done on the existing draft chapter from this group.

Transport and Travel

The group leader recently stood down. The chairman knows of someone prepared to take on the role, but the current status of the group's work is unclear. The issues it is dealing with are historically very intractable, but there is consultation input to work with and the designation of Hertford as a Sustainable Travel Town may present opportunities.

Housing and Development

This group has some outline policy information to work with and at least one new member.

Business

Mark Lynch agreed to work with the group to produce draft policy output for the next Exhibition.

8. THE EXHIBITION

The chairman felt that the leadership changes in the working groups make it unlikely that a successful exhibition could be mounted in November. It was proposed and agreed, therefore, to change the timeframe to February/March 2019. Actual date to be decided at the next meeting.

9. UPDATED PROJECT PLANNER

Jacqueline has updated the planner using the new timeframe for the next exhibition and the new plan now has a target date for submission to the District Council of September 2019.

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

It was noted that some recent tree and lighting maintenance issues on Folly Island have been addressed by the relevant local authorities.

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS – all 7.30pm

At the chairman's suggestion, it was agreed that the Steering Group meetings should switch to a bi-monthly schedule. The next meeting will therefore be on January 9th.