

MINUTES OF THE BNAP COMMUNITY STEERING GROUP MEETING HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 4th JULY 2018 AT THE BENGEO CLUB, HERTFORD

Attendance:

Mark Lynch (Chairman), Paul Keyworth, Angela Dove, Cllr Andrew Stevenson, Cllr Mari Stevenson, Cllr Peter Ruffles, Aska Pickering, Hilary Durbin, Cllr Steve Cousins, Sue Cousins, Brendan Clifford, Maria Iancu (HTC), Jacqueline Veater.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from John Howson, John Cooper and Douglas McNab.

2. Declarations of Interest

None.

3. Minutes of Last Meeting

Minutes of the previous Community Steering Group meeting (5th June) were approved as a correct record.

4. Feedback from the Town Council Working Party

The agenda and minutes from the Working Party meeting on 21st June were noted.

5. BNAP Survey status

An analysis of the infant school survey results from Millmead and Bengeo Primary schools has been done and will be available for the July 7th exhibition.

Engagement with secondary schools has been less successful - principally because the schools are reluctant to take on the administrative burden of identifying pupils living in the Hertford Bengeo ward.

The decision was taken to abandon the direct approach to secondary schools, but to engage with any secondary school age children if they came to the July 7th exhibition by encouraging them to take the online survey.

6. The BNAP Vision Statement

There was a discussion of final comments made on the vision statement proposed by the chairman, Mari Stevenson and Peter Ruffles. Many were incorporated, but it was agreed that some, while making good points, conflicted with the overall requirement that the VS should be succinct and non-specific. The general feeling was that more detailed points could be covered by the wording of the Objectives.

The following statement was unanimously agreed:

The Neighbourhood Plan aims to enhance the quality of life of everyone in the ward, consistent with the area's existing character.

The vision is to develop a balanced, healthy community with accessible and sustainable green spaces, high quality cultural activities and a built environment that enhances historic features and meets contemporary requirements.

7. Cerdia Planning

Cerdia Planning will be holding a public exhibition about development proposals for the Sacombe Road Nursery site on July 25th (at the parish hall on Duncombe Road). Also, masterplanning for HERT4 will be considered at a meeting on 30th July. It is therefore urgent that the Development WG make progress on Objectives and, if possible, draft policies. Unfortunately, the group has not yet converged on a consensus view and the leader has announced that personal considerations mean she must step down. All agreed this is an area of concern.

After much discussion it was agreed that more information is required about what the developer is proposing - this should be available at the July 25th exhibition. Steve Cousins also agreed to contact Cerdia Planning in the interim in order to establish dialogue and to invite them to present at the next Steering Group meeting (August 2nd).

There was much debate about what community benefit the BNAP can realistically expect from the developers of the Nursery site. There has been discussion of, for instance, the provision of a GP surgery, but the BNAP must manage expectations conservatively.

8. The BNAP Exhibition

Display materials have now been produced by all working groups other than Development. Jacqueline Veater and Steve Cousins were confident that the requirements for the Development display were understood and that it could be prepared in time.

The precise wording of some of the Culture and Community WG slides was discussed at length and some revisions agreed.

A display on Heritage in Bengeo has been created based on material supplied by Marilyn Taylor. It was proposed that these slides should sit alongside the Environment WG display.

Jacqueline and Maria Iancu had provided some slides on Neighbourhood Planning in general and on the output of the primary school survey.

It was agreed that once final versions had been agreed by Jacqueline, Maria would print and laminate the display materials on July 6th, ready for set-up at Bengeo primary that evening.

The provision of display boards had been of some concern, but the chairman was confident that the significant amount of display space available at the

school, together with some boards that Maria had arranged to borrow from BEAMS, would be sufficient.

There was some concern that fewer volunteers would be available to help at the exhibition than had originally been hoped. WG leaders were asked to recruit more from their groups if at all possible.

9. AOB

None.

10. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting has been scheduled for Thursday 2nd August.

Subsequent meetings will be held on:

Tuesday 4th September

Wednesday 3rd October

Thursday 1st November

Tuesday 4th December

The meeting finished at 9.25 pm.