

FRADLEY NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN STEERING COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 10th DECEMBER 2014 AT ST STEPHEN'S CHURCH MEETING ROOM, FRADLEY

PRESENT: Committee Members:, Sandy Carruthers, Mark Edwards, Linda Wild, Darrel Baumber, Julia Usher , Jo Spence, Simon Roberts.

Invited Guests: Mary Bennett, Will Chapman

1. **APOLOGIES:** Jane Piper, Greg Jones

2. **MINUTES OF LAST MEETING (Nov 2014)**

The Minutes were accepted as a true record and will be sent to Viv Evans, PC Clerk, to be published on the PC website.

Action: Simon Roberts

3. **MATTERS ARISING**

- Welcome to Mary Bennett who is invited to join the committee.
- Thank you to Will Chapman for attending once again to advise us from his experience with the Alrewas group.
- In respect of the planning application regarding the 70 dwellings proposed for the Brookfields site, we have not heard back from Ros Robb if our objections have been received in time and accepted.
LDC will most probably object, but then we must wait if it goes to appeal, in which case the decision is out of everyone's hands.
- The table at the Xmas Fayre did not go ahead due to circumstances beyond our control. However, Bob Carruthers paid for the table personally, so that the organisers would not be out of pocket, due to the lateness of cancelling.
- Sandy confirmed that payment had been received from Fradley PC for the £200 invoice submitted by Sam Grundy for the traffic assessment.

4. **PLANNING INFORMATION ACCESSIBILITY**

The group is still unhappy with the difficulty in accessing 'public' information about Fradley planning applications on the internet. We still feel let down by LDC, and Ms Robb.

(FNP) is a government-backed initiative and therefore has credibility and expects the respect and co-operation of the LDC.

Will Chapman referred to the National Planning and Policy framework (NPPF) document which defines the role of the Local Planning Authority in relation to neighbourhood planning.

It is recommended that we write to Sean Coblan, the head of democratic planning services (and Ms Robb's superior), in order to show our disapproval of Ms Robb's slow response to our recent emails, and resolve on-going issues to move forward with a more productive relationship between the FNP and LDC.

Action: Sandy Carruthers

5. HAY END LANE UPDATE

The latest information from the developer on the timescales for Hay End Lane is that it is due to start in the second half of 2015. Sandy has queried this with STW and Becky Clarke (Environment Agency) after she was previously told that it would be 2 – 3 years, and the sewerage infrastructure would definitely need to be in place prior to any work starting. Still waiting a reply. This will be followed up prior to the January public meeting.

Action: Sandy Carruthers

6. CONSTITUTION – Simon Roberts

- It was agreed that the Steering Group would apply for their own grants, and hold their own accounts, which will be run by the Treasurer. This will enable the Group to make their own decisions in how the funding is spent and not be under the influence of the Parish Council. We will therefore no longer be a sub-committee of the Parish Council.
- The Constitution document has been produced by Sandy using Alrewas as a reference.
- Read by Simon, discussed and amended, and all in agreement.
- Final copy to be updated and distributed by email for the group's approval.

Action: Sandy Carruthers

7. COMMITTEE

Bob Carruthers has resigned his position of Acting Chairman, and is no longer a member of the steering group.

Simon Roberts, agreed to be temporary Chairman, but feels that his position on the PC is a conflict of interest to hold the role permanently.

Sandy Carruthers, happy to (continue) as Secretary, with the support of another member to do meeting minutes.

Jane Piper, (who is currently unavailable, with other commitments) has been doing minutes, and it is hoped that she will agree to be Treasurer, due to her accountancy background.

It was agreed to do a Facebook campaign to attract much needed help from residents with development / planning / surveying experience and skills, onto the committee and invite one of them to become chairman.

Action: Sandy Carruthers

SR to contact Chris Gillie re Chairman position and other members to ask around for other candidates.

We agreed to collect data on peoples profession so we can identify possible candidates for certain roles.

If we have not secured a Chairman by the public meeting, then we would ideally be looking for someone who has a background in planning, surveying, civil engineering and similar to take on the Chairman's role.

Simon to contact Chris Gillie, who is a planning consultant in Fradley, to ask him to get involved.

Action: Simon Roberts

8. ACTION PLAN AND SPENDING

Simon asked Will Chapman for his assistance in devising a long term action plan with a proper budget.

We need to set out an accurate agenda detailing the strategy of what we aim to achieve, with milestones.

Will recommended obtaining some Gantt project planning software, which is available free to download.

<http://www.ganttproject.biz/>

Will offered to help with the budgeting, using the draft from the Alrewas plan.

Biggest costs for Alrewas were fees for Hydrology Planning and Traffic consultants.

He pointed out the benefits of working with the co-operation of the PC treasurer in order to claim back VAT for any expenditure.

WC advised that the most important thing at the start of the plan is to our publicity and trying to involve the whole community. WC informed us that Alrewas had about 12 public meetings over the course of 2 years and involved the school, village groups, local events and as many people as possible to publicise these.

WC said that although Alrewas did carry out some mini questionnaires, the main questionnaire was a large document and needed the most attention in this respect. Because of the size of the questionnaire, it means that the whole community has to understand the relevance and importance of the document, otherwise they won't fill it in

9. FURTHER PLANNING DEVELOPMENTS

As a way to keep further housing developments away from the existing village, there is a benefit in researching and declaring potential new sites for developers, and doing some work to investigate the viability of those sites.

10. TASK GROUPS

This item will be carried over to the next meeting.

11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Mark Edwards questioned Will Chapman about the viability of working together with the Alrewas group and possibly Streethay, regarding re-addressing the traffic issues on and off the A38 Fradley Village turn and the A38 in general in this vicinity, particularly taking into account the proposed Twin Rivers development.

We have not had satisfactory answers to how the Fradley Lane junction will be improved, it seems to have been assessed as OK by Stafford Highways Department. Mark Edwards was particularly involved in working on this issue.

Will Chapman explained the latest plans about the Twin Rivers project which has now increased from 5 villages to 8 villages and the plans to open up and electrify the old railways to create a rail link right through to Nottingham.

Will Chapman reported that Alrewas NP had held approximately 12 public meetings in two years.

- The first meeting was attended by two LDC planners who contributed to the meeting; this drew in approximately 80 – 100 residents.
- The second meeting was held to inform people what the Steering Group were trying to achieve. From the audience they were able to recruit members to the Steering Group and appoint officers.

- The third meeting was arranged to find people to join the five task groups. This attracted fewer people (approximately 60) but they managed to recruit sufficient members to join the groups.
- The next meeting was held when the planning application was issued for Dark Lane. They ran it over two days and it appeared to attract most of Alrewas village.
- Subsequent meetings were held when there was information to pass onto residents.

The Fradley Steering Group was advised to encourage as much participation as possible from village groups, i.e. scouts, choir, drama group, school etc. to come up with ideas. This would get more people involved in participation.

It was suggested by WC that we could try and involve the Friary School sixth form and see if they could take on any of the Task Groups work as projects? It was agreed that this was a good idea and SR agreed to contact the Head to discuss.

Action: Simon Roberts

24th January 2015 - Public meeting + marketing materials needed

It was agreed to carry on with our plans to hold the January Public meeting.

The PC has agreed to fund the marketing items we require and SC has typed up a document to encourage people to sign up to the various Task Groups.

Aims of the January public meeting are to firstly encourage as many residents to attend as possible. Secondly, to collect as much data as possible and to encourage residents to sign up their support for the Task Groups.

We can display a large map of the Parish Boundary, have maps and info on the Brookfields Planning Application and questionnaires/forms for people to fill in.

It was discussed that we could prepare a basic form asking residents to fill in details about age range, no of people per house, how long they have been in the village, how long they intend to stay, whether they have children, do they attend St. Stephens/Friary, what attracted them to Fradley, one complaint about Fradley etc.

The artwork provided by LW was excellent and after a few minor changes could be produced asap.

- Simon Roberts would contact Linda Wild regarding the posters and banners to be printed.

– **Action: Simon Roberts/Linda Wild**

Posters can be displayed in the 3x parish notice boards, in the Post Office, the shops at the Stirling Centre, the school, Church, Village Hall and Community Hall.

The banners would have to be attached to private property, at the agreement of the owner, as LDC would not allow Council property to be touched. One property in Church Lane would be approached regarding this.

banners could be hung on the school railings, somewhere around the Fradley Community Hall or possibly at the Stirling Centre, on Worthington Road/Common Lane island and possibly on one of the residents fences near the fingerpost

Action: Sandy Carruthers

A leaflet drop route in the old village would be devised for leaflet deliveries. Leaflets will be delivered by members of the group and extended friends sometime soon after Christmas. Fradley South would be dealt with as a separate exercise.

Action: Sandy Carruthers

MUGA Questionnaires - It was agreed to leave the questionnaires distribution until the January meeting as Jo Spence reported that it was unclear what St Stephens's school's plans were at the present time.

Resignations: - It should be further noted that Bev and Terry Hobbs have now resigned and will no longer have any involvement with the NP.

12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 14th January 2015 – 7.00 p.m. - venue to be confirmed.

Action: Sandy Carruthers to book