

Minutes of Lakenheath Neighbourhood Plan Group Friday 5th March 2021

Present:

Gerald Kelly
Alan Gyte
Peta Gyte
Paul Tams
Judy Carhill
George Plumb
Hermione Brown
Tom Callis

Apologies:

Ian Poole
Kevin Watts
David Jones

Gerald opened the meeting advising there are several volunteers to carry out some of the required actions, namely:

- Alan and Peta are looking at the information from 16 years ago; They will note action points as to what was said as bullet points to see if they occurred.
- Input of surveys; Judy and Keven will do this direct onto the website. To date 24 cases have been input. Only 3 gave names for the raffle! Agreed to ensure last page has a correct link. Paul and Hermione also offered to input.

Gerald advised the group needs a Chair and Secretary, normally the same person. Hermione nominated Gerald and Alan Seconded the proposal. Unanimously carried.

Need a note taker, not for lengthy minutes, merely bullet point actions to post to the website. Hermione offered and was accepted.

Hermione asked why Maggie was not carrying out the job as the Parish Clerk she needs to be aware of current progress. Gerald advised he keeps her informed.

Gerald advised webmasters; we have an offer from someone not a member of the group but very able. This may be subject to possible big gaps in availability.

George, web designer, confirmed the group can do most things. i.e. add pages, news articles and notes. Possibly a few technical items will be needed which he is happy to do. He will give basic training. Judy offered to be involved so long as training given.

Gerald 's vision is for the front page to show standard detail and then to include a news section. This would have to be uploaded rapidly whilst still news. There will be a facility eventually for a message board to be used by the public but it will need to be monitored and remove any possible unsuitable posts.

Email exists now to provide an info@ etc. anyone who wants a business address within the group can be given one for Neighbourhood Plan purposes.

One of the rules is that all the NP information has to be available to the public and this is where it will be available. This includes all future reports, minutes, information etc.

Gerald has taken a trial month of 'Parish on Line' to see how it works. This gives the right to use ordinance survey maps so long as a licence number is shown. A map will be uploaded to the website to confirm the Parish boundaries as it is the largest in Suffolk.

The last item on the agenda list is the consultation on the design codes. Kevin has kindly offered to cover this item and now has the link to be able to do so. We must comply with the rules but create our own wish list. With the design codes we can say this is the neighbourhood plan. These are our rules which must be adhered to rather than the District Council changing things for their convenience.

Fascinating that most respondents so far (mainly older residents) in providing information on what to them is important has been the Children's play areas. So far 50 respondents. Survey forms only distributed from Monday to Thursday to cover most of the village. The whole village has now been done.

Peta advised in 2006, 1800 surveys distributed and 897 returned.

Gerald advised in Maggie's absence on holiday next week access for the returned forms will occur for distribution and input to the website.

Gerald gave the current update:

1. £1,820 has arrived from central Government in the bank account today.
2. Aecom have started their work on the Housing Needs Assessment. The only delay may be obtaining figures from the District Council.
3. Two other bits of work, firstly around the design codes will be key when it comes to things like affordable housing. Historically, during developments developers have been known to provide viability statements showing that they cannot provide the affordable homes. The result is more homes for sale, less affordable housing provided. With design codes in place stating what the affordable housing should represent then that is what they have to commit to.

Paul asked whether affordable housing can be committed only to people with a connection to the village? Gerald replied that we have more houses already with a commitment to be built but the housing register 110 currently on the waiting list for Lakenheath of which 79 have a connection with the village. This is already covered; unfortunately it represents only those with the biggest needs rather than the actual demand. This is one of the reasons to get the design codes correct and Aecom will be starting their work with us. Their prediction, assuming rapid responses from West Suffolk, should be completed within 3 months.

4. Once we start getting results back from the survey they will be circulated for inputting. This closes on 2nd April and we can then start crunching the results. If one of the main issues is around health care, we will need to construct a working group to talk with GP's and the likes of Patients association to see if there is anything that can be done.
5. Posters will be put up on the notice board with a QR code for those who wish to go direct to the website. Hermione to upload to community face book pages

Peta asked from the 2006 survey what do you want us to look at specifically and make note of? What was wanted and whether it was done or not?

Gerald said once we start getting our responses in and we have the detail Peta and Alan can pipe up then and confirm whether or not it was an issue in 2006.

Peta mentioned traffic from 2006. The action points were to contact Highways about humps and traffic calming, it did not occur.

Gerald confirmed that we can source grant money to obtain specialist reports such as for traffic. Find retail parking space for instance in the next bid for the Matthews site for shoppers.

Hermione asked should traffic reports not be initiated now to include for the intensification of The USAF at RAF Lakenheath later this year?

Gerald confirmed that assumptions can only be used if based on evidence. Elveden did one for the roundabout at gate 2 in the recent past which could count as evidence. We have to find out where we get money to do these things as we will have to provide these issues to West Suffolk.

Paul asked whether the school is involved or the youth organisations such as facilities for the youth of the Village. Gerald replied that they will be a consultee when the issues become a project.

Gerald closed the meeting with thanks to the attendees.