

## PETWORTH TOWN COUNCIL

### A MEETING OF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING COMMITTEE WAS HELD ON TUESDAY 21ST JANUARY 2014 IN THE TOWN COUNCIL OFFICE AT 7.00 PM

PRESENT: Mr D Cooper, (Chairman) Mr B Walsh,  
Dr R Pawsey, Mr N Fox, Mr D Burden,  
Mr R Jackson, Mr L Scott, Mr J Riddell,  
Mrs E Hodgkins, Mrs C Goldthorp and  
Mr C Kemp.

CLERK: Mrs J Huggett

1. Apologies were received from Mr K Lintill.

2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 5th December 2013, having been circulated, were agreed and signed.

3. MATTERS ARISING

- (a) Results of Petworth Vision Questionnaire: Mr Riddell, as part of the Vision Group, updated the group on its progress. The questionnaire results are in, they are being analysed and a first draft is being put together. Three questionnaires were circulated, one for businesses, one for residents and one for visitors, there was a good response to all. Mr Cooper said the evidence base will be useful. Mr Riddell said a draft Action Plan is being drawn up, it needs to be treated in a sensitive way so at the moment it is being kept under wraps. Mr Kemp asked when it will be available. Mr Riddell said it has to go to the next meeting but this has been delayed.
- (b) Sub-committees: Mr Cooper said he feels as the group are lacking the necessary help to put the strategy together it is too early to put names against the various committees.
- (c) Town Walks: All members showed an interest in taking part in the walks, but Mr Fox said as he now works away from Petworth, he is unable to do so. Mr Cooper said there will be two walks, one south and one north of the town, he will e-mail some dates out for February. Mr Scott said it would be useful to walk outside the town and look back on Petworth.
- (d) Maps from Lee Scott: Mr Scott said he has a map of the town centre which could be useful. The Clerk to collect from him on Friday.
- (e) Computer - progress: Mr Walsh said he had bought the computer, printer, TV screen, etc, and they will be set up within the next few days.

4. REPORT ON APPLICATION TO LOCALITY

Mr Walsh said with Mrs Tyler's help he had put in the application to locality on line. There had been a correction to one date, the bid had then been resubmitted, accepted, and he should hear within 10 days.

5. REPORT ON INFORMAL MEETING WITH THE LECONFIELD ESTATE

Mr Cooper said he and Mrs Hodgkins had met with Mr Scott, Mr Knight and Mr Granlund. Mr Fox subsequently apologised for his absence, he had been delayed, arrived a little late and the gate to the Estate yard was locked. It had been a very reassuring, extremely helpful and informative meeting, the Estate want it to be a partnership exercise, they are the biggest landowners and are respectful of the character of the town centre. Mr Scott will be part of the Steering Team. Mrs Hodgkins said there is common thinking between the Estate and the town, Petworth is regarded by the SDNPA as a '2nd tier' settlement, one tier down from such towns as Lewes and Petersfield.

6. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 11th February, 7.00 pm in the Town Council office.

Mr Cooper said he proposed to take item 7 (b) next.

7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- (b) AirS Strategy: Mr Cooper said he had met with Mrs Hodgkins, Mr Walsh and Mrs Tyler to find out what AirS is offering if they are appointed as consultants. He finds the breakdown of the work difficult to comprehend. AirS are the consultants for Arundel, he has looked at the draft submission of their plan and frankly finds it a dull, ill written document with little evidence of creativity in terms of planning. He thinks they are very good at the consultation side, but lack in the planning department, and wonders if the group should look for another consultant. Mr Fox said no consultant will have the local knowledge, that has to be provided, it is not known how well Arundel went about this and how much the Town Council did. Mr Cooper said Mr Scott is a planner. He thought a consultancy with wider experience might be the answer, perhaps it will be necessary to go nearer, or even to London to find one. Mr Walsh wondered if they would work with another consultant, if so, it might be possible to employ AirS for the consultation work, plus another. A long discussion followed, it was finally agreed that Mr Cooper should approach other consultants. He was given some names, it was also suggested Mr Triggs or someone in the SDNPA might be able to provide a name.
- (a) Publicity - Corporate Identity: Mr Cooper said this will be left until a later date.
- (c) Website: Dr Pawsey said as the original company has not responded to her e-mail's since November the agreement has been cancelled. She is now going ahead with the Isle of Wight Geek and hopes to have it up and running next month.
- (d) Planners: Mrs Hodgkins said she would like to point out that Mr Scott is not the only planner on this group, she is also one. Mr Cooper said he was sorry for the error.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.15 pm.