



STEERING GROUP MEETING/OPEN FORUM

Minutes of the 26th meeting – 25th July 2018

Held in The George Inn, Upstairs Meeting Room, Maulden 20:00

Present:

Simon Barnes Chairman
Russell Aston Vice-Chairman
Sarah Michael Treasurer
David Illingworth Housing WGp
Bill Edwards
Paul Lee
Barbara McCourt
Mike McCourt
Cllr Philip Jackson Chairman, Maulden Parish Council
Cllr John Coyle Maulden Parish Council
Cllr Phil Allen Maulden Parish Council
Alan Plom Leader Infrastructure Gp
Cath Benneyworth
Leslee Reynolds
Matthew Gutteridge

Apologies:

Lesley Illingworth Minutes Sec

1. WELCOME

SB opened the meeting and stated that the prime focus was to progress the creation of questions for the community consultation.

2. DISCUSSION

A discussion was held that included matters pertinent to the the collation of questions

BE addressed the meeting stating that residents of Duck End Lane are concerned by the threat of urbanisation and he passed over 3 questions he had put to MPC for the Chairman to consider. He expressed concern that urbanisation would result in Maulden becoming a small town.

BE stated that there was no possibility of a doctors surgery / health centre in the village. PJ commented that the questions need to allow for people expressing a preference / aspiration even if the outcome was thought unlikely.

PJ had received Caddington's NHP 'pack' and handed this to the Chairman. He pointed out that they had questions that did consider the implications of a preference such as a financial cost.

SB read out a 'straw man' introduction he had prepared. RA noted this was focused on development and asked whether green space could also be mentioned as there were 3 designations available. This led to comments about whether development was inevitable. BE mentioned that if money was required there were other ways of raising money.

SB advised he had 30 questions prepared.

AP also had some questions already drafted relating to transport and infrastructure which he talked through and circulated examples.

BE asked about getting people to attend the 10th September meeting. PA observed that people often only participated when they could see it impacting them directly.

SB suggested both a paper questionnaire and an online survey monkey be used. PA suggested that the questionnaire be sent to all homes and this would help ensure all villagers were given the opportunity to comment. BRCC could help with the distribution as there was budget.

SB suggested questions should be a mix of blue sky 'dreamy' open questions and the more factual type.

SM had also prepared questions.

PA asked that the questions include 'if the S106 monies were not available from development would people support the precept being increased?'

The number of questions was discussed. The general consensus was between 5 and 8 per section and approx 30 to 35 overall.

PJ outlined options to be put to villagers:

- That there should be no development outside of that required to meet the Local Plan. The rationale being that the Local Plan allocated 86 homes over a 10/15 year period and this could be met via existing developments and in fill.
- MPC land be used for development
- CBC land be used for development
- Working alongside local developers

The benefit of the development options would be the possibility of obtaining S106 money from developers or money from the sale of land directly which could then be used for improvements to village facilities or infrastructure. Once voted upon in the referendum it would be for the MPC to implement.

Matthew Gutteridge addressed the meeting in respect of his dissertation and asked for volunteers.

SB closed the meeting by asking for questions to be sent through to him so that they could be collated ready to be refined at the next meeting

NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 29th August at 8pm, Upstairs in The George, as usual. Anyone with an interest in development and planning in Maulden are welcome to attend.