



Biggleswade Town Plan Steering Group Minutes of meeting: 15 January 2013

Attendees:

Andy Buckley, Alan Dansey, Sheila Grayston, Rob Green, Doug Hammond, Paul Jenkins, Gerry Lawrence, Hazel Ramsay, Anne Skinner, Eric Stuart

Apologies:

Charlotte Buckley, Mike Fayers, Helen Horner, Dee Royston, Madeline Russell

Agenda item 3: Minutes from previous meeting accepted

Agenda items 5.1 and 5.2: The group agreed to continue the group monitoring the action plan

Agenda items 5.3 and 5.4: Paul Jenkins was voted in as Chair by those present. This leaves the position of Secretary currently vacant

Additional item: A presentation was given by Cliff Andrews from Bedfordshire Rural Communities Charity detailing the progress of the Green Wheel. Among updates were that the timing of the planting of the proposed "Jubilee" wood may mean it's renamed. Also an application has been submitted for £60k funding for elements of delivering the inner route of the Green Wheel

Agenda item 6: Update from champions

Alan Dansey reported increased use of social media, especially "I love Biggleswade" Facebook page.

Looking at ways to increase awareness of local media

Sheila Grayston reported an update from LXB that progress should be made on London Road retail park shortly

Andy Buckley reported that the Good Neighbour Scheme is doing well and Justine from BRCC is available to speak to local groups

Anne Skinner reported that First Capital Connect have secured more funding for the East Coast line, but that the 12 coach services haven't helped access issues. Also the pedestrian crossing is in a state of disrepair. It was noted that longer trains don't increase number of passengers due to time table revisions. Parking on Dells Lane has worsened as fewer trains stop at Sandy and Arlesey as passengers move to Biggleswade

Agenda item 7: It was suggested that action groups would be more advantageous than individual champions. Gerry and Sheila reported this was the original intention.

A progress report will be developed to include status and actions

Alan suggested champions/team leaders deliver formal reports at quarterly meetings

It was also suggested using the library, The Lawns and a market stall to increase awareness of the group and encourage new members

Action point: PJ to develop and share progress document

Agenda items 8: Paul thanked Alan for taking over as webmaster

It was noted the website needed updating, particularly the homepage. It was agreed the website should highlight key achievements, publicise the group and encourage new members, include up to date pictures and information

Action points: Paul and Alan to undergo a web audit
Paul to write new copy for the homepage

Agenda items 9: Anne Skinner suggested having a market stall where the group hands out flyers

Action points: Someone to develop artwork for flyers
Someone to look into booking a market stall
Someone to look into printing options for flyers
Volunteers needed for market stall

Next meeting: Tuesday 16 April 2013 at 19:15