

Stewkley Neighbourhood Plan Volunteer Group.

Stewkley Recreation Ground Pavilion, Monday March 14 2016

Apologies received from Beth Stedman. Claire Jolley, David Lett, Janette Eustace, Tim Johnson and John Sheldon. Meeting started at 20.30. Chaired by Neil Dickens.

Announcements about Steering Committee and Volunteer Group

Neil informed the group that Andy Chappell had agreed to join the Steering Committee. Andy's family have lived in the village for several generations.

Pam Dickens is joining the volunteers. Pam until recently was a Stewkley school governor.

Brian Asbee is joining the group of volunteers and has offered to be a member of the Elderly Group.

Stewkley Parish

Neil reviewed the extent of the Stewkley Parish and emphasised the NP covers the whole parish and not just the village.

Preliminary overview of results from questionnaire.

Delivered by Nick Booth. Tim Johnson was away because of work commitments.

Slides will be circulated to everyone tomorrow via e-mail. Request made to not share these findings too widely. They are preliminary, some questionnaires not yet entered into database.

Preliminary findings account for about 59% of the village. Expect total returns to exceed 70%.

Steering Committee Working Parties

There will be 9 Working Parties (WP) as decided by the Steering Committee at an earlier meeting. These are listed on a slide. Neil is asking all volunteers to let him know which WP they would like to be involved with. Most WPs will only have 2-3 people, except the WP addressing planning / housing / environment which will have about 6 people.

Neil will ask John Sheldon to chair the WP on conservation / heritage, Chris Oliver to chair the WP on Youth and George Gator to chair the WP on sports and recreational. Pam Dickens will chair nursery and primary education. All WPs need volunteers and remaining WPs need Chairs identified.

Timeline

April to July - Fact Finding

August - Write report

September - WP Chair presents to Steering Committee

30th November - SC draft initial report for Stewkley Parish Council (SPC) review

Early 2017 - SPC forward to District Council

Q&A and Comments

Have AVDC been contacted? Yes. Olivia (AVDC NP officer) has been asked to meet with Steering Committee on April 7.

How does our NP fit with the Soulbury Road development? We are unlikely to influence the Developers timeline. They could be submitting their application in May but others in room had heard different dates. We should move on our own timeline. Appeal for 66 HSN has been submitted so that is also outside of our timeline control.

Do we need a consultant? Neil suggests we talk with Olivia first. He is also following the activities of Pitstone NP and the Chairman of the Ivinghoe NP group is a personal friend of his. Budget is available for a consultant.

Would anyone be prepared to help with analyses of the data for the working parties? Margaret Burgess and Steve Nicholl volunteered.

Given that the NP is reviewed by the PC, is the Chairman of the PC happy that so many councillors are involved as volunteers? Yes.

Can other villagers be co-opted into Working Parties? Yes.

Is the classification of Large Village still under consideration? Ultimately it's all about sustainability. We need to demonstrate what the parish needs and can sustain, which may be more or less than the artificial assignments given to so-called large and small villages.

When will the final analysis be available? Date not known. Several questionnaires still to be entered into database.

Meeting closed just after 21.30.