

South Molton Neighbourhood Plan – Draft Minutes of Steering Group Meeting held 3rd April 2017

Chair – Matthew Bushell

Vice – Chair – Marc Cornelius

Present : Maria Bailey (Advising Consultant), David Worden (District and Town Councillor), Matthew Bushell (Town Councillor), Mark Cornelius (Town Councillor), Tom Sparkes (Citizen), Peter Bishop (Citizen and Business Owner), Lyn Winter (Citizen), , Paula Hagley (Citizen), Pam Symons (Citizen), Art Symons (Citizen), Peter Bright (Business Owner), Richard Westcott (Citizen), Jane Tomlin (Citizen), E Grundy (Citizen), Alison Rix (Museum), Peter and Linda Faulkner (Citizens), Jean Foster, Douglas Urqhart.

Apologies: Amy Littlejohns (Advising Consultant)

Steven Edwards (Exeter Road Developments Limited)

Introduction

Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting especially the new faces around the table and explained the purpose of preparing a Neighbourhood Plan and where the Group were in the process.

Agree Notes of last Meeting

Notes agreed with one amendment to section on Pannier Market consultations to state that 5000 rather than 4000 Town Council Newsletters had been printed for distribution.

Newsletter and Questionnaire Data

Tom Sparkes kindly delivered the Newsletter/questionnaire to 16 outlets in South Molton on 10/3/17.

These were places that people would remain in for a while. So they may take the time to look at the newsletter and complete the questionnaire.

The locations included the 4 chiropractor type establishments in South St, the 2 cafes in South St., The Corn Dolly in East St, the Opticians in East St, the 2 Doctors Surgeries in East St, the NHS Dentist near the Anglican Church, the new Zest cafe, the Health shop/cafe in Griffins yard, the Hospital main Reception waiting area and the outpatients waiting area. The George Hotel said that they already had some newsletters.

Marc Cornelius has been concentrating on the input of data from the second questionnaire – the one that was handed out in the pannier market and which forms part of the newsletter.

Marc has input the data for all those that he had prior to the meeting-183. About two thirds of those I've input have been from the Pannier Market handouts (i.e. the grey ones) and the remainder (the blue ones) from the newsletter.

Marc hasn't yet done anything with the original batch (those from the event in the Amory centre) because they're in an entirely different format and the database design will require a fair bit of modification because a lot of the answers were designed to be written (i.e. What are the three most important things?) rather than simply ticked. So, an awful lot more onerous to enter the data.

Marc provided handouts of results thus far at the meeting and a copy of these are attached to the minutes. Strong patterns are emerging to responses where people want to ensure that the strong identity of South Molton is not lost. Respondents are also keen that they are kept informed so a discussion on a possible update newsletter was held.

Newsletters are also to be given to sports clubs in the town to get feedback from them.

Develop Ideas and Options

This is to be the topic for the next meeting MB raised concern that questionnaire analysis and distribution would be difficult if next meeting was to be held on 2nd May. It was agreed that the next meeting would be moved to 9th May to allow more time without affecting the published timetable.

Website and Online Questionnaire

Peter Bright has developed a bolt on system that complies with the Data Protection Act. Peter will send the link to the whole Group so it can be distributed. Results will be emailed to Marc and held in 2 places.

Existing website will be maintained by Emilia but she will have more contact with members who want to update the material.

Focus groups in Schools/YMCA

David Worden kindly agreed to attend the assembly at South Molton United Church of England Primary School on 2nd May at 8.40am. He will provide a summary of the story so far and get comments. Richard Westacott will support David where needed.

Amy will circulate dates provided by South Molton Community Primary School to all members and get date, time and volunteers agreed.

Matt and David will liaise with the Community College and YMCA to get a slot with a group of students.

Volunteers for South Molton Arts Destination Project

Lyn Winter, Peter Bishop, Jane Tomlin and Peter Bright kindly volunteered.

Questions

It was agreed that other interested stakeholders could also attend the South Molton Arts Destination project.

It was clarified that the South Molton Sports Network would be encouraged to feed into the Neighbourhood Plan process.

Dates of Next Meeting

Tuesday 9th May 6.45pm

Monday 5th June 6.45pm