



## **BOX PARISH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN STEERING GROUP**

### **MINUTES of 7<sup>th</sup> MEETING 7PM MONDAY 6 JANUARY 2020**

At the Pavilion, Box Recreation Ground, Box

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#### **1. Present**

Nick Botterill (chairman), Tim Barton, Vicki Dorey, Andrew Lucas, Jonathan Parkhouse, Tim Walton, Dave Wright

Apologies – Jackie Cox

#### **2. Minutes of the 6th meeting on 23 September 2019**

Agreed

#### **3. Matters arising from meeting on 23 September 2019 not covered below:**

None.

#### **4. Survey results**

The results of the parish survey carried out in the autumn of 2019 had been circulated to the committee for comment. The summary had been produced by LemonGazelle. This should be considered along with the results from the 'School Postcard' (supplied by DW), the Business Forum (NB) and the Box Revels stand (VD is tabulating results).

General points discussed:

- The vast majority of the responses received seemed to be about matters other than specific development/planning related. Many of the themes raised could constitute 'Community Priority Actions' i.e. a part of the roadmap to sustaining a viable community.
- It was up to the committee to draw the responses received together into the bases for an Overarching Vision and Objectives for the Neighbourhood Plan.
- The top seven issues raised by the public in the main survey were:

- i. Public Transport
- ii. Wildlife/nature conservation
- iii. Road safety
- iv. Healthcare/surgeries
- v. Landscape/views
- vi. Public rights of way
- vii. Traffic

Other issues raised frequently but less often were: Accessibility, Shops, Schools, Play areas, Open spaces, Rural businesses, Climate change, Built & historic environment and Renewable energy.

- The main issues raised in the School Postcard were:

- i. Trees, wooded areas, and play slides
- ii. Grass, parkland and playing fields
- iii. Leisure centre
- iv. Police station

Taking all the survey responses in the round, NB had drafted the following loose headings which were circulated for consideration and discussion:

### **Summary of Vision and Objectives**

Vision:

1. Viable Community – maintenance of Box as place/village with existing character and sense of community and history. Aim to enhance local employment and provide better leisure facilities and services. Aim for enhanced local shopping
2. Preserve Green Environment, wildlife and nature conservation
3. Wellbeing and Leisure – adequate green space and recreational facilities for all ages. Improve Community facilities that contribute to healthy living e.g health surgeries
4. Calm traffic on throughways and local roads
5. Attractive Parish – preserve views and vistas and footpaths

Objectives:

A: Housing??? Not much demand from residents??? Some for younger people and some for older people downsizing. Requirement for Affordable is apparently low c/f Housing Needs survey.

Maybe need to enquire more about this (although we have had a separate Housing Survey)?

B: Community well-being – seek to protect existing services and facilities considered important. New ones which will benefit local people

C: Economy - supporting new businesses (fibre – monitor speeds???), suitable locations? Consider visitors/visitor policy bearing in mind 2 major roads???? Support for farming community via light development??

D: Traffic management – promote reduction in HGVs (inc. discouraging businesses associated with HGVs), consider enhanced crossing facilities, coherent review of all parish speed limits and consequent reductions. Review road infrastructure with aim to soften i.e. a parish through which a couple of main roads pass rather than a parish strung along 2 main roads. Enhance walking facilities in settled areas? Cycling policy??? Cycle routes along main roads?0.....

E: Open Spaces, landscape & Wildlife – maintain and improve biodiversity, identify rural buffers?? Protection of footpaths, sympathetic management of country and natural environment, enhance quality of landscapes, wildlife and habitats.

F: Sustainability & Climate Change - ???[should have something to say]. Promote Flood mitigation, tree planting,

**ACTIONS:** Some discussion of above draft Summary of Visions and Objectives took place but it was agreed that:

- **NB** would circulate committee with the above draft (emailed 8/1/20)
- **ALL committee** should consider and respond to NB with their amendments and suggestions to the above draft
- **JP** would put together a section of policy and guidance covering inter alia Landscape, Historic environment, Natural environment, Light pollution, Climate change.

It was noted that the responses to the survey did not in the main raise specific themes covering development policy areas, however the following topics have been raised both in responses to the survey and in other fora:

- The range of types of properties on the market, and in particular the lack of properties for the young and the old (downsizing)
- Single storey properties
- Conversion policy

In order to make progress, it was felt that the Committee needed a much clearer understanding of the Parish down to a site by site basis as well as an up to date and precise knowledge of the emerging Wiltshire Local Plan expectations (there had been some muddle on the part of Wiltshire Council officers at the last public consultation meeting).

**ACTIONS:**

- Wiltshire Council to be asked to be clear as to emerging aspirations in the Local Plan covering Box. The **Parish Council** has requested this but is still awaiting response.
- **NB** to commence a parish survey, **JP** volunteered to assist, **TW** also if available
- To inform the Parish Survey, up to date large scale maps to be procured from Wiltshire Council by **NB** (may have to wait for a period of better weather and more light!)
- **NB** to liaise with Totz Henning at Wiltshire Council and also seek clarification as to how long back 'Brown Field' designation could apply. Also existing infill policies to be researched.
- **DW** would compile a database/spreadsheet of all the Rudloe development sites indicating stage of development, acreage, number of units planned/anticipated and any other useful detail.

## **5. Whereto Next?**

The expectation has always been that a range of more specialized/targeted interrogations of residents would be necessary as a next stage. In light of the survey response, this was felt particularly to be the case in areas which require more input/detail in order to be able to be worked up into tangible outputs on the

development control/planning front. A first draft booklet, which was intended to be used for this purpose, has already been produced.

**ACTIONS:**

- **DW** to circulate 1<sup>st</sup> draft of booklet in accessible form (done 7/1/20)
- **ALL committee** to consider 1<sup>st</sup> draft of booklet and supply marked up suggestions to **NB**

**6. Date of next meeting**

**Tuesday 11 February 2020 7pm at Box Pavilion (lower entrance)**

Meeting closed 8.50pm