

Note of Eye Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

7th February 2018

Present:

Peter Gould (chair), Andrew Evitt, Michael Burke, Richard Berry, Simon Hooton and Guy McGregor

For Paddock House item – Anne Bennett

In support – Andy Robinson ETC Project Co-ordinator

Main points:

1. Paddock House – proposed screen for fencing is underway and welcomed. A1 boards being prepared for the drop in event on the 27th February including examples of complete schemes and a high level timeline. Peter asked if it was a ‘tell’ or an ‘ask’ exercise? Anne thought both. In discussion it was emphasised that it was important to acknowledge and deal with up-front the history of the site – the length of vacancy and the decision of MSDC to buy for housing without early consultation and an explanation of other options considered. Also important to give people the ability to make comments/help shape the scheme.
2. Way forward paper – noted that the work needed to engage MSDC in discussion about the content of the draft joint local plan (key diagram, site assessment, housing needs survey/assessment and infrastructure/investment plan) was in train and should be completed by early May. The opportunity to start background work on other aspects of the plan was agreed. The group agreed to consider further the lead roles for the following topics:

Topic	Could be combined with	Agreed/possible leads
Eye Airfield Industrial		Michael Burke
Historic and Built Environ		Andrew Evitt
Renewable energy	NB Simon meeting Peter Gaddy to do an options appraisal.	Simon Hooton
Landscape and countryside	Informal recreation	Merlin/walkers group?
Transport, parking, cycling and walking		Guy McGregor
Town centre, retail and services		Bruce or somebody from the business forum?
Community facilities	Formal recreation	Sue Mortimer?
Health		Peter Gould

3. Technical support: Key diagram – generally welcomed as an accurate reflection of the discussion at the previous meeting. The statements were found to be particularly helpful and should form a framework for community engagement by testing them with open questions. ‘An evolving town’ was preferred to ‘a renewing town’ and Hartismere could be better used for health as well as for alternatives such as housing. It was agreed this should remain a background document until this testing/engagement can take place in early March. There are some details to be worked on – landscape designation to the east, possible by-pass to the north west of the town, existing allotments could be relocated need to check the

route of existing rights of way, new housing options also to the north west and west of the town to be added (and sites assessed in the site assessment work). Noted that site assessment and housing needs assessment support have both been agreed by DCLG.

4. Housing needs survey – the tight timetable was noted. The questionnaire to be circulated for comment ASAP. Ian Haines would oversee the distribution. Volunteers to distribute sought – please let AR know what streets you can do.
5. Consultancy work:
 - a. Comments on the draft evidence base to AR please.
 - b. Community facilities survey agreed – it was confirmed that the purpose of the survey would be explained in a telephone call to recipients before the survey was sent out.
6. Comms Plan – agreed – need to build in opportunities such as the Eye Town show – using the market on Fridays and Saturdays. Any other suggestions to AR.
7. Safeguarding Policy – agreed.
8. Victoria Mill – Peter and AR to meet the land owner shortly.

AR 12/2/18