

Minutes of 5th Meeting of Crosthwaite & Lyth Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group 17th Dec 2018 at 9.30am

Present: Simon Johnson (Chair), Robert Sykes, Henk Mueller, Alan Gerrard, Dorothy Grace

1. **Apologies** for absence were received from Steve Rowlinson.

2. **Minutes of the last meeting 22nd November**

The minutes are approved, and there were no matters arising.

3. **Feedback from Parish Council Meeting (RS)**

Some dissatisfaction was expressed with the Parish Council's response; it raises the issues of governance and exactly what is the brief from the Parish Council (PC) to the Steering Group (SG). It seemed as though members of the Council had misunderstood the purpose of the document. However, it did highlight the possibility of residents not understanding the purpose of the vision document, so more explanation is required.

The Parish Council will ultimately own the Neighbourhood Plan, so it has to be in agreement, overall, with what the steering group is doing.

4. **Discussion of PC feedback by Group**

It was agreed that the visions were housing-focused, and there was discussion about how it could be widened. The legal scope of a neighbourhood plan will be the principal boundary, but there is sense in widening in some aspects that are important to the community. The risk is that it ends up too wide, diffuse and unworkable.

'Mood boards' were suggested as how to gather information in stage two, i.e. the planned open meetings in the new year.

There needs to be something to stimulate thought and discussion before the open events to generate useful and meaningful responses. Open questions do not generate hard evidence for specific preferences or views. Therefore, it was agreed that there needs to be this two-stage process: to gather ideas and individuals' priorities for the neighbourhood; and to quantify those ideas in terms of the level of support for each idea and to produce a clearer definition of each idea. In essence, what do the residents want and why?

5. **Communication with / Reporting to PC**

It was proposed that the SG and the PC meet together to clarify what the SG is trying to do, and how it is responding to the PC's and Paula Allen's responses to the Visions discussion document.

Action: Robert will call a special meeting of the PC for mid-January; suggestions 15th or 22nd.

Action: Alan to book the Village Hall committee room for the chosen date.

It was agreed that the task of producing a Neighbourhood Plan has been delegated to the Steering Group. There needs to be greater clarity in the relationship between the SG and the PC, so that the SG is able to fulfil the brief given to the SG by the PC.

6. **Where do we go from here?**

Paula Allen's response was very encouraging and positive. In her experience the proposed processes were different but good, and her comments will be noted, and recommendations adopted.

7. Agree next steps and revised time line

Meeting with PC (5 above).

Revise Visions document, in the light of Paula's comments and the meeting with the PC.

8. Date of next meeting

Monday 14th Jan at 9.30am at Hardriggs.