

# Benson Neighbourhood Plan Steering Committee Meeting

9 May 2018

## Minutes

Present: Dave Rushton (DR), Frank Farquharson (FF), Philip Murray (PM), Catherine Murray (CM), Martyn Spence (MS), Jon Fowler (JF), Edel McGurk (EM), Michael Winton (MW)

### 1. Previous actions

1.1 All actions expected to be completed by this stage were discharged except

- arrangements made for refreshments for the village meeting (discussed below)
- and update of Green space slides for JF's presentation.

1.2 It was noted that the message published on the website and social media contained an error - the date of the Referendum was suggested to be in Nov rather than June.

**Action PM** to ask team to amend.

### 2. Campaign

2.1 EM explained that a group of parents in the village is interested in running a campaign in support of a yes vote. The group will need to seek funds for printing of materials. The SC expressed support for the idea of a group, especially one with a fresh perspective. It considered the pros and cons of the new group being completely independent vs coming under the NP team umbrella. It was noted that there is value in any group like this expressing an identity, one that is distinct from the NP team, enabling it to galvanise support from a specific audience. That said, there is merit in such groups having access to NP team contacts, for example to sense check promotional materials for consistency with the plan where necessary, or seek answers to specific questions. PM reminded us that any group promoting a yes or no vote will need to demonstrate that they are not associated with the Parish Council.

2.2 Regarding funding, NP funds have been exhausted, and Benson Community Association is unlikely to provide funds to individuals. Crowd funding /seeking individual contributions may be the best way of gathering funding.

**ACTION EM** to provide some feedback to the group, welcoming their efforts and enabling them to consider the best way forward in terms of identity.

2.4 Ideas were canvassed from SC members for other groups that could be approached to take action to encourage people to vote. Groups will be contacted as follows:

**ACTION** - FF to ask Bensington Society members; **EM** - FOBS/parents; **CM** - Patients Panel and Parochial Church Council; **PM** - FOBL; **JF** - Dave White @ Henley Standard and **MS** - Radio Oxford.

### 3. Village Meeting

3.1 Refreshments - FF has offered to coordinate provision of wine / beer. Anne Fowler has volunteered to organise teas and coffees, and Susan Rushton will help. A grant may be available from BCA to cover the costs of the refreshments.

**Action FF** to seek advice on whether a licence is needed to serve alcohol and to organise the supplies.

**Action JF** to thank Anne Fowler for her offer and accept.

3.2 Posters and Banners - The Parish Clerk has sought prices for a banner encouraging people to vote in the Referendum. It is too late to have something produced for the village meeting, but it was agreed that two should be ordered to publicise the Referendum date. Final position to be agreed

**Action JF** to develop the wording and liaise with Dianne over the order. DR agreed to visit PrintCo to arrange collection.

3.3 Microphones - MS has agreed to arrange this. Two runners will be needed to move the roving mikes around the room. DR will seek volunteers for runners.

**Action MS** to ensure microphones area available.

**Action DR** to seek volunteers from his group to run the roving mikes.

3.4 Content of the presentation - This will be similar to that used in the last village meeting, with some refreshing of the detail. CM, DR, and FF have already provided updated material to JF. It was agreed that JF will present the full content, but workstream leads will come to the front afterwards to answer questions.

**Action EM** to provide any updates to Environment content before the weekend.

3.5 Additional material - There will be display boards at the back of the Hall for display of work stream-specific material.

**Action All workstream leads** to check what they have and put up materials as appropriate.

### 4. AOB

MW sought clarification on the implications of the recent news on the 5 Year Land supply. It was felt that this will be of benefit to the village.

DR provided a summary for interest of initial data collected during the first day of a pedestrian survey on the A4074 next to Benson Marina. The work will continue over 4 more dates between now and July.

5. Date of next meeting: Tuesday 29th May. 7pm