

## **Parish Plan Steering Group**

*Minutes – 11<sup>th</sup> August 2015 – 8:15pm at the Red Lion Pub, Upper Basildon*

**Present:** Keith Sutton (Chair), Ian Parsons, Phil Kingsland, Charles Hughes, Steve Longworth, Robert Greasley

**Apologies:** Lorraine Parsons, Abi Williamson, Rupert Kruger.

### **Notes and Comments**

The Chairman opened the meeting and confirmed that a number of graded responses to the launch event had been received from steering group members. The object of the meeting was to re-visit this feedback and begin to build a questionnaire based on the responses of both the public and the steering group. The Chairman proposed to take each section of collected data in turn and build questions to cover off the received data - this was agreed.

Questions were to be built around the following topics (in italics) – the questionnaire once produced will be attached as an Appendix to these minutes.

*Volunteering* – the meeting considered how best to phrase questions around volunteering. It agreed that it would like to concentrate on whether people be prepared to volunteer for small pockets of time on a regular basis.

*Traffic* – it was agreed that this needed to either concentrate on specific areas or take a more unconventional approach. Following discussion it was felt that a question around contributing to a traffic monitoring project would be more appropriate. Data could then be discussed with West Berkshire Council.

*Children* – it was confirmed that the feedback from Basildon CE Primary School had been reviewed and the comments noted. There was a general feeling that the age group 11-15 was not included in any of the conversations to date. It was agreed that they would therefore have a specific question around what they feel is missing from the parish along with what they liked to do.

*Railway* – Charles Hughes suggested that the railway was considered in any survey of the parish due to its impact both on the Parish (Lower Basildon) and on the number of commuters from our area that use it. It was agreed that questions would focus on the use of the railway and explore possibilities for improving links between station and Parish to help with the regular parking issues encountered in Pangbourne.

*Housing* – The previous Parish Plan was consulted to see how the question around housing had been phrased within the last document. It was decided to keep the 2015 question simple and ask people if they were in favour of new housing or not, then if they were in favour of private / housing association new builds. Ian Parson confirmed that the Parish Council would use the feedback from any survey as part of its decision making process for new home applications in the future.

Culture – there was a sense that this would be difficult to include in the questionnaire and it was felt that the projects section (later in these minutes) could include this aspect. Robert Greasley confirmed that a number of Parish Council projects were nearing completion to highlight a tree trail around the Parish plus a number of circular walks which included historical, geographical and architectural points of interest coupled with nature notes too.

Community – a general question was suggested and agreed for this area around the value of the community to residents.

Projects- it was suggested that a list was provided to residents who were then asked to pick their top three projects. The list would include the following with additions likely to be added pre questionnaire release:

*Village Green*

*Shop*

*Kids Clubs*

*Village Events*

*Mailing lists*

*Pop up café*

*Enhanced village hall*

Internet – the meeting agreed to include questions on the internet usage of the village. It was agreed that residents would be asked if they had internet access, could this be used as a means of contacting them and do they have home working. Robert Greasley confirmed that the Parish Council continue to monitor the Superfast broadband project and will ensure Basildon is signed up if this is financially viable.

**Actions:**

Keith Sutton will build the survey with the help of Phil Kingsland

Robert Greasley will minute the meeting, circulate it and arrange for its upload to the village website

**Date of next Meeting:**

The 20<sup>th</sup> August was suggested for a quick questionnaire review meeting. As per previous meetings, this will be from 8:15pm at the Red Lion.

The meeting closed at 10pm.