

Staplehurst Parish Council

Committee, Group or Sub Group

Rural Settlement Group (RSG) - Minutes

Meeting Date & Venue

14th August 2013 – 8 pm at Village Centre

Report Author - **John Kelly**

1. Introductions

Attending were Margaret Ashby (MA2), Joan Buller (JB), John Kelly (JK), Robin Kenworthy (RK), Colin Love (CL), Robin Oakley (RO), John Perry (JP), Adele Sharp (AS), David Staunton Lambert (DSL) and Mike Pounds-Longhurst (MP-L).

2. Apologies - received from Margaret Arger (MA) and Steve Lenham (SL).

3. Minutes of the last meeting

Actions arising:-

List of Listed Buildings – See below re List of Assets – *ongoing*.

Engagement with Parade Owners – *ongoing*.

List of Industrial Outlets at Lodge Road – DSL would continue to work up the list – *ongoing*.

JK to recommend to SPC that all future public meetings are meaningful rather than fishing expeditions and that a proper PA system together with projector and screen is utilised – *ongoing*.

JK to place explanatory note on the RSG website page to cover the nature of the RSG and its working structure – *ongoing*.

Date of Chris Garlands visit to be broadly advertised – *see below at point 5*.

4. Membership of Group - As per last meeting.

5. MBC Core Strategy/Local Plan – update re land call sites meeting

JK reminded the RSG that the Local Plan timeline for completion was still shown as post-election 2015. This still had implications for any RSC wishing to have a Referendum prior to that date. Harrietsham would be a path finder on this process as they were further ahead.

The latest MBC schedule re land call sites consultation was:-

- MBC Report of preferred sites and housing numbers published - 6th September 2013
- MBC Report to Scrutiny - 17th September 2013
- MBC report to Cabinet – 22nd October 2013.

Chris Garland, MBC was due to visit Staplehurst and present to the Parish Council about the future re Local Plan etc...on Monday 19th August 2013

6. Staplehurst Neighbourhood Plan (NP)

Neighbourhood Plan Project Team – JK reminded the RSG that the Project Team had no overall authority to make major decisions regarding the Neighbourhood Plan. All matters would be reported back to Full Council for final decision.

Feria Urbanism Tender - Feria Urbanism had asked for an additional member of staff to assist with the facilitation of the Three Day Design Forum. This had been agreed by the Parish Council.

Inception Meeting – The meeting between the Project Team and Feria Urbanism took place on Thursday 18th July 2013. A very good meeting had taken place and some initial issues had arisen especially around the time period for the plan and road infrastructure in and around Staplehurst.

This led to a detailed discussion within the RSG on the issues/pressures re the A229 and whether

new roads were the answer. The RSG were divided on the way ahead but these questions were the type that hopefully would be answered following the 3 day design Forum. The RSG agreed there was a need to plan for the future but the question was as to how far ahead?

Evening Roundtable now known as the Visionary Event – Confirmed that event would take place in the North Hall on the 12th September 2013. The Parish Council were currently working up the stakeholder invitation list and a draft letter was in circulation within the Project Team.

JK hoped that all parish councillors and RSG members would attend this event but this was subject to the number of stakeholders positively responding. It was felt that the North Hall would be able to manage the numbers.

3 day Design Forum (workshop) - Confirmed that event would take place in the North Hall on the 8th, 9th and 10th October 2013. The resulting Neighbourhood Plan Part 1 would be the formal response of the Parish Council to the MBC Consultation re the Local Plan.

A general discussion took place around the details of advertising this event for maximum turnout. This resulted in suggestions on the:-

- Village Update – front page type etc...
- Hand outs – to be handed out at the Parade and Railway Station
- Banners – to go on railings outside Village Centre
- Display Boards – RK suggested that he could possibly print these
- School Newsletter
- Downs Mail – re large circulation
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Action – JK to advise Parish Clerk who was overseeing publicity.

Action – JK to liaise with Feria Urbanism re commuters/residents attending the event in the evening could give feedback.

List of Community Assets – JK still sought to clarify whether this was part of neighbourhood planning. Feria Urbanism to provide clarity.

On Line Mapping - DSL and JB would continue to liaise on this matter. Feria Urbanism did not have a particular view on which Maps to use.

7. Supermarket Update

Sainsbury – it appeared that the first intention was to build the petrol station and then move onto the Supermarket site.

Tesco – no further news.

8. Any other business

DSL gave an update on the future of the Railway Tavern Public House stating that a new 5 year lease would be in place at the end of September 2013, hopefully securing the pubs future.

RO gave an update on the Health Centre and stated there was good news all round. 2 General Practitioners had been signed. The next PPG meeting was planned for the 25th September 2013.

The meeting ended at 10.15 pm.

Staplehurst Rural Settlement Group

Meeting – 8pm on Wednesday 14th August 2013

Committee Room, Village Centre, Staplehurst

Agenda

1. Introductions
2. Apologies
3. Minutes of the last meeting
4. Membership of Group
5. MBC Local Plan – update re MBC timeline and land call sites.
6. Staplehurst Neighbourhood Plan:-
 - Neighbourhood Plan Project Team
 - Fera Urbanism Tender – update on revised tender
 - Inception Meeting
 - Evening Roundtable
 - Design Forum – 3 day workshop
 - List of Community Assets – update from members.
 - On Line Mapping – update
7. Supermarket Update:-
 - DK Holdings/Sainsbury's Planning Applications
 - Tesco Planning Application
8. Any other business

Appendix A

Staplehurst Rural Settlement Group - 2013

Meetings are normally held on a monthly basis, between Parish Council Meetings

Meetings start at 8pm at the Village Centre, unless otherwise informed.

Additional meetings may be arranged pending activity re Neighbourhood Plan.

Existing members of RSG as at 15TH May 2013 – in alphabetical order on surname:

- Margaret Arger – Resident
- Margaret Ashby - Councillor
- Tom Burnham - Councillor
- Joan Buller - Councillor
- John Kelly – Resident (Chair)
- Robin Kenworthy – Resident
- Roy Laming – Resident
- Steve Lenham - Resident
- Colin Love - Resident
- Robin Oakley – Resident
- Glen Pearce - Retailer
- John Perry – Councillor
- Mike Pounds-Loughton - Resident
- Bill Piper – Resident
- Adele Sharp - Councillor
- David Staunton Lambert – Resident

Circulations would continue to be forwarded to Councillor Simon Green.

Dates for 2013

Wednesday 16th January 2013

Wednesday 13th February 2113

Wednesday 13th March 2013 – cancelled.

Wednesday 10th April 2013

Wednesday 15TH May 2013

Wednesday 12TH June 2013

Wednesday 10TH July 2013

Wednesday 14th August 2013

Wednesday 11TH September 2013

Wednesday 16TH October 2013

Wednesday 13TH November 2013

Wednesday 11TH December 2013