

Rural Settlement Group – Report to Parish Council for Meeting 21.03.11

The Rural Settlement Group (RSG) last met at 8.00 pm on Wednesday 9th March 2010.

The Local Development Framework (LDF)

Cllr John Kelly informed the Group that the LDF had been delayed yet again. A decision had been taken by Maidstone Borough Council (MBC) for further work to be completed around Employment and Transport. The amended LDF would now be presented to MBC Cabinet on the 9th June 2011 and hopefully go to public consultation, later that month.

Agreed – Group to monitor developments and prepare for public consultation.

Staplehurst Development Contributions Document

The current draft is with Sue Whiteside, MBC with a view to giving feedback on the content and layout. This is very much ongoing work, eventually forming part of the 'Parish Plan'.

Agreed – Cllr John Kelly to continue working on the document.

Staplehurst Parish Plan

The Parish Council Group has asked the Group to look at the creation of a Parish Plan. The Group agreed to take on the task but it was felt that the Parish Council needed to endorse the work of the Group. See below.

Agreed – Resident Simon Green to work up initial draft. Cllr John Kelly to liaise with Action with Communities in Rural Kent and their internal experts on parish plans.

The structure and remit of the Group

Discussions took place around the title, membership and representation and the widening remit of the Group. It was felt that that title of the Group should remain as the Staplehurst Rural Settlement Group and continue to report directly to Staplehurst Parish Council.

The Parish Plan should be worked on by a representative group with a view to capturing the views of all. It was felt that at this stage the Group had a mixed BAG of residents and councillors. When the Group had something meaningful to consider then a wider/public consultation would take place. Cllr John Kelly would continue to act as Facilitator.

It was felt the remit of the Group should be to:
Monitor, consider and comment on the Local Development Framework
Prepare a Development Contributions Document
Prepare a Parish Plan
Consider planning issues of strategic significance to the parish
Facilitate ongoing public consultation

Agreed – Cllr John Kelly to seek Parish Council endorsement of Group's structure and remit.

Future Meetings – See Appendix A

Meeting concluded at 9.50 pm.

Councillor John Kelly (15.03.11)

Appendix A

Staplehurst Rural Settlement Group - 2011

Meetings are held on monthly basis between Parish Council Meetings.

Meetings start at 8pm unless otherwise informed.

Wednesday 13th April 2011

Wednesday 11th May 2011

Wednesday 15th June 2011

Wednesday 13th July 2011

Wednesday 10th August 2011

Wednesday 14th September 2011

Wednesday 12th October 2011

Wednesday 16th November 2011

Wednesday 14th December 2011

Additional meetings may need to be arranged pending level of activity surrounding:

- Local Development Framework
- Development Contributions Document
- Parish Plan and
- Public Consultation.

Existing members of SRSG as at 9TH March 2011 – in alphabetical order:

- Margaret Arger (Cllr)
- Joan Buller (Cllr)
- Simon Green (Resident)
- John Kelly (Cllr) - Facilitator
- Paul Kelly (Cllr)
- Robin Kenworthy (Resident)
- Steve Lenham (Resident)
- Colin Love (Resident)
- Robin Oakley (Resident)
- John Perry (Cllr)