

**Minutes of Steering Group 18th January 2018**

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|  | ACTION |
| **Present:** Alistair, Anu, Christine, Dan N, Diane, Hellen, Jane C, Jane H, Julia, Kim, Kirsty, Lorraine, Nicholas, Norman, Peter, Richard, Sarah, Sue D, Sue Z, Robin, Sue M (Town Clerk), Liz (Plan-et), Becky (Plan-et) |  |
| **Apologies:** Brian, Heather |  |
| **Minutes:** The last meeting had been largely playing with Post-It notes so there were no proper minutes to approve. Norman welcomed new members, also Sue Moffat (Town Clerk) and Liz and Becky from Plan-et and recapped on how we had got to this point. |  |
| **Website**: The website gxplan.co.uk now has a timeline, thanks to Hellen, showing activity so far. There were several ideas for what should go on the website but as we wanted to focus on the objectives at this meeting, Norman would email the suggestions to everyone to give feedback and get a general consensus. | Norman |
| **Results from Public Consultation Event:**   * Liz and Becky had analysed the results from the public consultation, compared them with our original objectives and come up with 17 objectives from which it would be possible to draft a skeleton plan. They needed to confirm that they understood what we had meant. * They explained that many of the comments from the public related to community aspirations. It would be possible to have an appendix which listed these. * The test was, ‘does it need planning permission?’ If yes, it can go in the plan. Also, ‘could a developer contribute if it goes in?’ If yes, it can be a planning objective and would then need to be supported by evidence.   The 17 objectives were:  **1. TOWN CENTRE**  Objective 1: Resist the re-use of retail premises for residential development  Objective 2: Re-use or redevelop empty premises where possible;  Objective 3: Encourage designs of shop fronts in keeping with the Gerrards Cross Shop Front Design Guide  Objective 4: Encourage and support new businesses and retail opportunities in order to maintain the vibrant feel of a thriving town centre that is the hub of the local community.  **2. HOUSING**  Objective 5: Preserve the heritage and historic character of Gerrards Cross  Objective 6: Ensure future housing is developed sympathetically and in character to the existing built environment of Gerrards Cross  Objective 7: Provide a housing mix that meets the needs of the community including the provision of smaller one and two bed properties  Objective 8: Where appropriate and possible, retain and redevelop existing buildings  Objective 9: Encourage greater local participation in community initiatives by discouraging gated developments  **3. TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT**  Objective 10: Manage the growing volume of traffic  Objective 11: Provide parking for commuters, shoppers and residents.  Objective 12: Provide more cycle paths in order to cut the volume of traffic and promote a healthy lifestyle  **Community Aspiration**: provide a better bus service that extends late into the evening, in order to cut the volume of traffic and promote a healthy lifestyle.  **4. ENVIRONMENT**  Objective 13: Preserve the existing Green Belt around the town  Objective 14: Preserve and protect woodlands, commons and green open spaces that are important to the community of Gerrards Cross  Objective 15: Ensure landscaping and planting schemes where possible are proposed and implemented within all new developments  Objective 16: To maintain a strategic gap between Gerrards Cross and Beaconsfield  **Community Aspiration**: maintain and improve planting schemes in communal areas and encourage new plantings in the town centre.  **5. LEISURE, COMMUNITY & HEALTH**  Objective 17: Provide appropriate space for the provision of a new GP surgery within Gerrards Cross  **Community Aspiration**: Ensure adequate parks and playing fields are provided to mitigate any development  **Community Aspiration**: Support and improve sports and community facilities.  The meeting agreed that these fairly represented what the group wanted and a skeleton plan could be based on them. It was emphasised that these will change as we work on them and consult further.   * Feedback/comments that do not make it into the plan should still be acknowledged and used by passing them on to the relevant council or body and by reporting this in the village magazine. * There could be a page on the website to record community aspirations. Interest groups could then take these up. |  |
| **Next actions/next meeting:**   * It will take Plan-et at least a month to complete the work. They will let us know when it would be appropriate to hold the next meeting. In the meantime they suggested we had a rest as there would be a lot of work coming up. New sub-groups would be formed to carry out the work of finding evidence. * Sub-groups should make use of research already completed by other bodies such as the Town Council which is already working on projects eg the need for a GP surgery, parking, and cycle paths. Norman will circulate a list of council groups working on relevant topics so those interested can get involved and there can be co –operation and synergy. There is also detailed research available on the SBDC website – see evidence base for the Chiltern & South Bucks Emerging Local Plan 2014-2036 | Diane  Norman |
| Meeting ended 8.40pm |  |