

MINUTES
OF THE MEETING OF THE
BLEADON PARISH PLAN STEERING
COMMITTEE
FRIDAY 7TH APRIL 2006

HELD AT THE CORONATION HALL, BLEADON, SOMERSET.

Meeting Commenced: 7.30 p.m. Meeting Concluded: 8.20 p.m.

PRESENT:

Bruce Poole (Chairman of the Steering Group)
Mary Sheppard (Parish Councillor)
Keith Pyke (Parish Councillor)
Joanna Pyke

Val Smart (substitute from Health and safety action group)
Sonja Briffitt (substitute from Health and safety action group)

APOLOGIES:

Penny Skelley (Chairman of the Parish Council)
Katie Isgrove (Chairman of Leisure and learning action group)
Malcolm Herival (Chairman of Health and safety action group)
Kim Herival (Vice Chairman of Health and safety action group)
Andy Hickson (Vice Chairman of the Environment action group)

32 Notes of the meeting held on 29th October 2005

The Steering group noted that the above meeting was inquorate and as such the notes were received.

30 Bleadon Parish Plan Questionnaire – Next Steps

The Chairman reported that since the last meeting the questionnaire had been analysed and had been made available on-line to the four action groups.

The Steering group acknowledged that the next steps would not be an easy task and would take a lot of time and effort by each the action groups.

Preparing the draft plan

Keith Pyke explained that the next steps for each of the action groups were to analyse the questions from the questionnaire that related to each of the groups remits. From the analysis there would need to be discussions, judgements and decisions made. This had already happened with two

groups. Groups may find that they are surprised with some of the results of the questionnaires.

The Health and safety group reported that 42 questions from the questionnaire related to their group. They had analysed 22 of the questions that related to the group and anticipated that the further 20 questions would be analysed by the end of April. They had so far identified:

Traffic and Highways:

The majority of responses (87%) indicated that there are danger spots within the village.

Locations of concern: Shiplate Road, the junction of Celtic Way/Shiplate Road/Coronation Road (adjacent to the Queens Arms) and the junctions with the A370 at Bridge Road and Bleadon Road.

Speeding traffic is also a major problem. It is generally considered that speed restrictions/traffic calming should be imposed throughout the village, in particular Bleadon Road and Shiplate Road.

80% of the responses indicate the roads and pavements within the Parish are generally in acceptable condition. Of the 20% that indicated poor condition they included Bleadon Road, Chesnut Lane and Bleadon Hill due to potholes/uneven surfaces and Purn Way for flooding/drainage.

29% of the responses indicated that more pavements are required – especially along Bridge Road.

Housing and Development:

50% of the responses indicated that there is no need for new housing in the Parish. However, if this was inevitable, it should be housing to buy for couples/small families within the settlement boundary achieved by in-fill. There is a strong feeling of importance to maintain the character of the village.

90% (more than 500 responses) disagree with the provision of a small site for travellers.

Our Environment:

98% of the responses indicated that it is important to ensure the countryside is maintained between Bleadon Village and Weston-super-Mare town. Tranquility and openness within the village is very highly valued.

Street Lighting:

75% of the responses indicate that street lighting within their neighbourhood is adequate. 70% indicate that more brighter lighting is generally NOT required. Of the 30% that raised issues, these mainly concerned the lighting along Shiplate Road, Bleadon Road and Bridge Road.

The Leisure and learning action group Chairman had sent a copy of minutes of their meeting held on 3rd April which gave details on what the group had so far identified from the questionnaire:

Results for Young People Questions at back of questionnaire don't seem to be summarised.

78% of respondents thought that the Coronation Hall was adequate for the needs of Bleadon.

38% of respondents supported the development of a village community space leisure and sports facility (like Lympsham) in the field alongside Bridge Road, in conjunction with a housing development in the adjoining field.

26% of respondents thought Bleadon needed a village school (if numbers permit)

20% of respondents thought Bleadon needed adult education classes – the most common request was for IT education – flower arranging was also fairly popular.

Respondents thought that the local social facilities for over 60 year olds were fairly good. For under 60s the results were much poorer, with 17-25 yr olds the worst.

A number of people (not loads but a few) volunteered to help with young people activities in the village.

Of the new sports clubs/activities that people would attend in Bleadon, Cricket, Pilates, Keep fit and Tennis were most popular

Items that the group thought should be included in the village plan included:

Schooling for children of the village, development of leisure facilities, and development of the youth club and funding.

In respect of the issues concerning schooling and a letter in the village news from Mr Hemingway Arnold the Chairman explained that a second letter had subsequently been withdrawn. The Chairman pointed out that Mr Hemingway-Arnold had never written to him or the parish council to formally ask that the Parish Council to discuss schooling issues. The Parish Council would wish to attempt in the future to agree a strategy with North Somerset Council and Somerset County regarding school places for the village. Also it was agreed that the Learning and Leisure and learning action group be asked to contact Mr Hemingway Arnold to identify what action Mr Hemingway Arnold is seeking.

The Chairman reported that he had recently attended a Village Plan Seminar and the problems which we are experiencing in trying to keep the groups enthused were a common problem. He would write to each of the groups chairman to explain without their commitment we could not progress the

Parish Plan. He would also report on how each of the groups were progressing and how to go forward.

32 **Annual Parish Meeting – Monday 10th April 2006**

Keith Pyke advised the meeting that the Annual Parish Meeting was on 10th April 2006 at which he would give an update on the progress of the groups so far and the anticipated timetable.

32 **Next meeting**

The next meeting would be held on Friday 19th May 2006 at 7.30 p.m.

The Chairman said he would telephone the Environment Group chairman to seek clarification of what was happening with the group.