

Belford Neighbourhood Plan Meeting

Monday 15th February 2016 in Bell View Resource Centre West Street Belford 2 pm

Attendees : Chairman County Councillor J Woodman

Vice-Chairman Mrs. B Stanton

G O'Connell Press Officer

D Holness Northumberland County Council (Link Officer)

Mrs I Hunter Parish Clerk

Apologies: Mrs T Bell & S White Parish Council Representatives Ian Graham

Minutes: The meeting agreed the minutes from the meeting held on 18th January 2016.

Website: The Vice-Chairman updated the meeting that the website is now up to date which includes the information from the public meeting. She tabled a copy of a timeline for the plan, which was agreed by the members present.

Vision: Members considered the 2 options for the vision which was collated by Duncan Holness from the information supplied by the Steering Group members. The meeting agreed to accept option 2 “ *Belford will be a thriving rural hub serving the needs of local residents, businesses and fulfilling its role as a springboard to wider rural destinations*” with the addition of a commuter hub. The meeting agreed Mrs T Bell should put this on facebook: stating this is the proposed Vision for the Belford Neighbourhood Plan and ask for comments to be returned to her. The Chairman gave a vote of thanks to Duncan Holness for his work on the Vision statement.

Housing Survey: The meeting considered the draft survey prepared by G O'Connell and agreed the following changes:

- The survey should be on behalf of Belford Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group
- There needs to be a question how many people live in the house
- The age range should be amended e.g. 20-29 or 21-30
- If the answer to rent is yes is it Private or Housing Association
- If the answer to the question does the accommodation meet your needs is no then there needs to be a question why
- A map of Belford village to be added and a question where would you prefer development
- Any other comments / suggestion box to be added

The meeting agreed the following:

- Duncan Holness would provide a map and prepare the final version of the survey.
- The meeting gave delegated authority to the Chairman & Duncan Holness to agree the maps for the survey.
- It was agreed the Chairman would ask Bell View to print the surveys, and G O'Connell would be the volunteer to come into Bell View to oversee the printing.

- This survey would only be delivered to residents of Belford village; later surveys will be delivered to every household in the Parish.
- Mrs T Bell to promote the survey on facebook
- Ask the Community Group to deliver the survey with the newsletter.
- The Vice-Chairman informed the meeting that the Belford Community Group will consider the request for £100 at their next meeting on 21st March
- G O'Connell agreed to ask the Newsagent, Belford Middle School & the Farm Shop if a collection box for the surveys could be located in their premises. The Vice-Chairman agreed to ask the Medical Centre.

Business Surveys: The Clerk reported that Berwick Academy has responded with preferred days of the week and times.

- The meeting agreed the Vice Chairman & the Clerk meet with Steve Wilkes at the Berwick Academy.
- The Chairman reported he is still awaiting a response from The Alnwick Duchess School. The meeting agreed the Chairman and & Vice Chairman meet with a representative of The Alnwick Duchess School.
- The Chairman advised the meeting that he is speaking at the next Belford Business Group on 29th February.
- Duncan Holness was asked types of businesses are allowed to operate in a Conservation Area, and are there any restrictions. This could be an option for a policy in the Belford NHP.
- The meeting agreed Parish Councillor S White should lead on the Tourism element of the survey.
- The Vice-Chairman agreed to speak to the small businesses on the High Street and the Caravan Park at the south end of the village.

Response to Anne-Marie Trevelyan's request about NHP's- The meeting agreed that Belford is undertaking the preparation of a plan. However members felt:

- The process was too complicated for a small place like Belford.
- There is a high level of evidence required which is similar to that of the Core Strategy.
- A NHP will be easier in Authorities where there is already an agreed Core Strategy as the framework is already in place.
- The plan relies on a high level of volunteer work.
- It would have been easier if Planning Officers had undertaken the preparation work and the Parish Councils etc were Consultees.

Next meeting: To receive feedback from Housing survey.
To receive feedback from meetings members have attended.
To receive any updates.

Date of next meeting 11th April 2016 2pm in Bell View Belford