



SOULTON ROAD WEM COMMUNITY-LED HOUSING PROJECT STEERING GROUP

Minutes of the Meeting of the Steering Group held on Monday 15 April 2013, at the Council Chamber, Edinburgh House, Wem starting at 6.15pm

Present:

Members: Cllr Len Staines (Chair), Mr Delwyn Davies, Mrs Maria Howell,
Cllr Jon Murgatroyd, Mrs Helen Pugh and Mr Pieter van der Westhuizen

Clerk: Carole Warner

Members of the Public: Two

SG22/13 Public Participation Time

Survey and letter were handed in by Mr N Robinson.

SG23/13 Apologies for absence

Cllr Tim Wilton-Morgan and Cllr Chris Mellings

SG24/13 Minutes of the meeting held on 4 April 2013 to be approved and signed.

The Minutes of the meeting were approved and signed following one amendment to SG19/13 date changed from 2007 to 2009.

SG25/13 To review feedback from the Drop-in Event at Wem Cricket Club on 9 April 2013.

General discussion took place and the following key points were made:

- The Clerk advised that to date the 37 survey forms had been returned. The scale scores were as follows:
 - 3 forms rated 9
 - 1 form rated 8
 - 1 form rated 5
 - 3 forms rated 1
 - 26 forms rated 0
 - 3 forms rated 0 with attached letters.

The Clerk advised that following a review of the comments no new issues appeared to have been raised. The deadline for responses was 19 April.

- Mr van der Westhuizen questioned the forms rating 8 and 9 as his perception was that no supporters of the scheme had attended the event.
- Mrs Pugh considered that any proposed tenants could have found the event intimidating and may not have made their views known.
- The Clerk reminded members that the purpose of the survey was to judge people's opinion after they had attended the event and heard first hand about the project. It was clear that some attendees were taking multiple forms away and then returning them completed by people not attending the event. The results of the survey against its original purpose were therefore questionable.
- It was clarified that the purpose of the event was to inform and not prove housing demand.
- Comments made from attendees were noted.

Cllr Murgatroyd wished to record that the comments made by Mr S Forrester were totally inappropriate. Cllr Staines stated he was disappointed with these views and he was sure they were not representing the views of the majority of residents in Church Lane, Ash Grove and Soulton Road.

SG26/13 To review any updates with the project progress including community concerns

The Group reviewed progress using the document prepared by the Clerk which had been updated with the latest responses. Outstanding/additional responses were:

Housing Need

- Mrs Howell agreed to provide a breakdown of the Wem Rural waiting list and the 90 re-lets in Wem Rural and Wem Urban since 2009.

Community Concerns

- Further clarification was required regarding traffic along the Soulton Road/Level Crossing.
- Site visit with Highways Officers
- Causes of flooding behind Ash Grove.
- Confirmation of the capacity of the attenuation tank and that it can cope with a level of rain water similar to last 12 months/winter.
- Action is Shropshire Council taking regarding the over capacity of St Peter's School
- Copy of a Tenancy Agreement
- Empty Homes review of the Parish

Site Design

- Mrs Pugh advised the Play Area would be sited at plot E13.

Planning Application Update

- Mrs Pugh advised that Severnside Housing was close to submitting an application

Details of the Cascade within the S106 Agreement

- A recommendation of cascade process/stewardship of local lettings.

Play Area

- Play area costs for equipped area.

SG21/13 To agree date of next meeting and to consider future agenda items

The next meeting was agreed to be held on Thursday 9 May at 6.15pm – venue to be confirmed.

Signed Date.....