

MODBURY NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING GROUP (MNPG)

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 16th March 2016

20:15- 22:30, at the Exeter Inn

Present:

Ann Turner (AT) Chair, Barry White (BWh), Charlotte Rathbone (CR) Burda Gage (BG), Andy Rathbone (AR), Brian Weeks (BWe), Roy Sims (RS), Mark Lawrence (ML) Parish Councillor, Alison Wood (AW), Phil Smith (PS) joined meeting at item 4.

Apologies:

Jon Sullivan, Phil Jolly, Daniel Turner, Tim Bevan

1. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING (27.01.16)

AT informed that Lindsay Ward, who attended the last meeting had been in contact to say that on page 2 of the minutes there was a correction needed, it read that *“Ugborough’s plan had not been accepted”*. Lindsay said this was not correct as it was Ugborough Neighbourhood Plan Group’s own decision to review their evidence and questionnaire. With this correction in place the minutes of the last meeting were agreed.

2. MATTERS ARISING

- RS asked if farming had been included in businesses to be contacted.
- AT asked the meeting whether anyone had links/ contacts with farming community
- ML spoke of the Small Farms Association and said he would make contact with Mary Rosevear, whom he thought was the secretary, so channels of communication could be opened up with Neighbourhood Plan Process.

3. CLARIFICATION OF THE ROLE OF SUBGROUPS

- AT thanked members of the group for all the interesting information the subgroups had sent to her. She expressed it seemed a good point now to refocus and clarify the roles of sub groups, otherwise with the amount of information it would be easy to get diverted.
- AT described that part of the Neighbourhood Plan process was in creating a vision/ mission statement, and invited members of the group to put forward their ideas about what a vision for the Modbury Neighbourhood Plan Group might involve.
- There was discussion about what should be contained within a vision statement including ideas such as : *“ambition”, “consultation, reflecting views”, “land use”, “fitting in with South Hams District council (SHDC) Our Plan”, “Solving Problems and prioritising”*
- RS spoke of how Modbury Association for recreation and Sport (MARS) had developed a mission statement to encapsulate their aims, which made these clear when applying for funding.
- CR raised that the Modbury Neighbourhood Plan Group Logo already had the words *“making a balanced vibrant place to live”* and that this could be a starting place.
- There was discussion about *“resilient communities”* and what this meant e.g. being able to withstand pressures.
- ML spoke about the plan needing to be *“realistic”*

- There was discussion about the Frome Neighbourhood Plan as an example of a town which had developed a robust plan.
- BWe suggested that the aims could simply be expressed as “what have we got?” “What do we want?” and “how do we get it?”
- There was discussion about best way to communicate and engage people in the process, rather than unstructured consultation some members of the group thought people needed to led with description of alternatives and / or statements that they could argue with.

ACTION:

AT suggested that members of the group brought ideas for the vision statement to next meeting and she would also review those of other neighbourhood plan groups.

- AT recapped that the themes covered by the subgroups had come from the comments and views expressed in the initial public consultations in Modbury and Brownston. The aim of the subgroups was to look at present circumstances behind these issues and emerging themes for the future which would inform the development of the questionnaire.
- RS spoke of the planned OSSR (Open Space, Sport and Recreation) questionnaire that was being sent out by MARS to support funding and development of these facilities which would overlap with themes in Neighbourhood Plan.
- AT said she had been in communication with Nikki Mitchell (secretary of MARS).
- It was agreed that the 2 groups Neighbourhood Planning and MARS both working under the auspices of the Parish Council would work co-operatively, sharing of information and to avoid duplication of effort and saturating the community with questionnaires that would repeat themselves.

4. A BRIEF REPORT FROM EACH TASK GROUP RE PROGRESS AND EMERGING THEMES

- AT requested that each group try to summarise their progress in about 5 minutes, to ensure that all groups had time to feedback within the meeting.

Communications group:

- RS provided feedback as follows:

Current Systems Utilised.

1. Direct mail (postal)
2. Published Information
 - a. Modbury Messenger
 - b. Local newspapers
 - c. Web based sites. Town or specific groups.
3. Telephone contacts
4. Notice Boards
5. Public or private meetings
6. Local radio or television.

Query. Future Developments and Improvements.

Super Broadband? Contact BT for future predictions of service availability.

It appears that Super Broadband (Optical Fibre Connection) is now available in some parts of Modbury.

Review.

1-6 has been effectively used; however the single problem is confusion of web sites associated with the TOWN. Although this problem has been identified for some years, the Parish Council has failed to grasp the importance of a centralised web site that incorporates all the many groups and organisations (50) that exist within the Parish.

Brian Weeks has recently produced a data base of all the current organisations and groups for the MNPG.

In addition Daniel turner has created a new website specifically for this project, www.modburynpg.co.uk

Road Safety and Transport Group:

- BWh provided feed-back.

Road safety has been raised as a concern in consultations. BWh had made contact with Devon County Council (DCC) and they provide the statistics that between 2010 and 2014 there had been a dozen slight accidents.

The Parish Council had taken up concerns about the bus stop at Palm Cross Green.

Regarding HGV routing, the DCC recommended route is from the A38 to Kingsbridge was to Kitterford Cross to Flete and then through Modbury. The alternatives to be discussed are the original proposal for the by-pass to the south of the town or that from Kitterford Cross to Harraton Cross.

Surveys were required on transport needs

AT said she had received schools transport plan which she would forward to BWh.

There was discussion about surveys/petitions that had been done in the past e.g. 100+ people had signed petition regarding the speed of traffic in Church Lane. Discussion within the meeting seemed to reflect that it was difficult to impact change in traffic management unless there was specific evidence of incidents, accidents etc.

Community Services and Facilities Group:

AW provided feedback:

As planned a meeting had been held with representatives from local organisations and services on February 8th in the Memorial Hall.

Those invited included Modbury School, Modbury Pre-School, Modbury Health Centre, St. George's Church, Modbury Caring, Modbury Society, Modbury Association for Recreation and Sport (MARS), Rock shop, Modbury Brownies, Modbury Scouts, Neighbourhood Police Service, Local Fire Service, Modbury Memorial Hall, Modbury Lunch Club and Modbury Women's Institute.

(AW acknowledged that she had made an error in sending the e-mail to Memorial Hall so they had not received their invite, but apologies and update had been sent and they will be included in future events).

Those attending the meeting, chaired by AT, were representatives from: Modbury Lunch Club, Chair of School Governors, Modbury Society, Modbury Association for Recreation and Sport, MARS, Group Scout Leader, Modbury Scouts, Modbury Tiddlers & Beavers, Practice Manager, Modbury Health Centre, Modbury Parish Council, Modbury Women's Institute, Modbury Neighbourhood Plan Group Member).

As a starting point discussions have been framed around the following headings, which were also provided on worksheets to be taken back to each organisation:

1. **Painting a picture of community services and organisations in Modbury in 2016**
2. **What is working well and why?**
3. **Where are the gaps and challenges?**
4. **Looking to the future what will sustain community services and organisations and help their development?**

Some themes that emerged on the day included: planning for future changes in population how these were predicted and communicated, getting around safely to facilities e.g. the recreation field and pavilion, transport in general particularly for the young and elderly who did not drive, multipurpose facilities, the need for more things for young people to get involved in, how to attract volunteers.

Those attending the meeting were encouraged to take back "worksheets" and discuss with members/colleagues in their organisations and send back thoughts and ideas to MNPG, with the plan that another meeting will be convened to review feedback.

To date there had been a wonderful contribution of ideas and pictures from Modbury School. AW has scanned and begun to collate the children's ideas and will circulate these to MNPG as they cover issues in most subgroups.

Housing Planning and Development Group:

CR gave feedback:

April 9th 10.30-12.00 Focus Group to be held in Memorial Hall side room. The purpose of this meeting is to get a clearer idea of the information and ideas people have about different models of housing and ownership, and to find out what else they might want to know, or think that it would be helpful for others to know. The findings of this meeting will be used to help shape questions for a questionnaire which will be used as the basis for a major consultation exercise for the whole community. Spaces are limited for this meeting, an advert will be in the Modbury Messenger so those wanting to attend can make contact via the website or parish council office to have their place confirmed.

PS said he would be happy to attend to provide input from his experience working for housing associations.

BG had reserved a stall at May Fair for the MNPG and said there was the possibility of some space in Chene Court. BG said she had also arranged for a MNPG Banner to be printed, to be used at events such as May Fair.

CR showed the group maps that she was preparing to be used to help engage people in visiting the stall. She also showed the group posters of a "cartoon"(hypothetical field), which AR had put forward as an idea to be given to people to draw their ideas of the type of developments they would like to see in Modbury.

The housing group are also make their own assessments of sites which SHDC have under consideration.

Business and Employment Group:

AT gave feed-back:

Jon Sullivan and Daniel Turner being the other members of this group

Nikki Mitchell has previously compiled a directory of local businesses, which provided the group with a base to work from.

The plan is to complete a mini survey of businesses to determine the following:

How many businesses are in Modbury?
Type of Employment and where employees come from
Positive aspects and challenges of working in Modbury
Customer Base

ML advised that he thought there were a lot of people who worked from home and asked if these would be included in the survey.

Environment and Sustainability Group:

AR Provided feedback

He reported that it was disappointing that there has been no response yet, to the request for photographs of aspects of Modbury, which people would wish to be preserved.

Members of the group had attended local events about sustainability including:

Regen conference

Wood fuelling projects (Lynne Barnes)

AR said he would be attending the Sustainability Fair in Ivybridge on March 19th

5. ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

- AT informed the meeting that she had met up with Tim Bevan and Phil Jolly to compile a draft budget. Tim Bevan was completing grant applications. In the meantime expenses for things such as paper, printing and other incidentals could be submitted to Phil Jolly (Treasurer).
- RS asked if there was any way that Bloor homes monitored statistics about who took up homes in other areas that they had recently developed e.g. Loddiswell. He enquired whether Lindsay Ward (district Councillor) would have this type of information. PS clarified that whilst housing associations had an obligation to be accountable for the remit/planning of developments under their auspices, this would not apply to houses on the open market.
- BWe confirmed that Parish Council had an Ordnance Survey Licence for the use of maps, which would cover those used by Neighbourhood Plan Group.
- BWe asked the group if they would be happy to endorse the proposal being put forward for a Community Woodland project for Modbury to be included in the South Hams Green Infrastructure Framework. BWe informed the group that he had already received the support of the Parish Council and Modbury Society, Modbury P3 (Parish Paths Partnership), Modbury Association of Recreation and Sports. All attending the meeting supported this proposal.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

APRIL 6th 20:15 to 22:00

EXETER INN

Phil Baker (South Hams District Council Neighbourhood Plan Link) will be attending.