

Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group meeting 10/8/26 Draft Minutes

Present: Paul Debenham, Mike Taylor, John Dain, Nicholas Steedman, Erik Schooneveld, Kathy Sadler

1. Change of dates for community engagement event at Ecchinswell Village Hall. It was agreed that, as requested by the EVH Committee to see if we could change our booking from the 19/20th September, we would move the event to the following weekend in September. The group voted for the combination option of:
 - a. Friday 25th September 5 – 7.30pm, plus
 - b. Saturday 26th September 10 – 1pm

(post-meeting note; these dates are now confirmed by the EVH Committee)

Additionally, this now means that the public consultation event is available over two weekend, such that hopefully it gives the community more of a spread of date/time to attend.

So please put in your diaries (and tell your friends);

- **Friday 18th September 5 – 7.30pm at Bishops Green village hall**
- **Saturday 19th September 10 – 1pm at Bishops Green village hall**
- **Friday 25th September 5 – 7.30pm at Ecchinswell village hall**
- **Saturday 26th September 10 – 1pm at Ecchinswell village hall**

It was suggested that for the Friday late afternoon venues that a glass of wine would be offered, along with tea/coffee/cordial.

2. The text for the flyer advertising the community engagement event can now be finalised by Nicholas including trying to increase the emphasis on the 'come and have your say' aspect. Nicholas will contact Amy to get the print run paid for. Our intention would be to organise a leafletting of households in the Parish around/during the first week of September.
3. With respect to the organisation of the community engagement, it was agreed that on entering the hall we would provide everyone with a simple form asking for their name, and contact (e.g. email) and to jot down any comments they wish to make on any particular policies. John said he would draft up a simple form to this end. The intention would be to capture any community thoughts, as well as register the level of attendance. Both of these are key outcomes for the community engagement events.
4. We reviewed the state of progress of drafting the policy posters and related datasheets, although it was agreed to focus on trying to achieve a complete first draft of all the policy posters in advance of our next meeting (aim to be 24 August by Teams call in). See attached progress sheet. John Dain resent his draft wording ideas out to everyone again during the meeting to help those needing a starting point.
5. Discussion about latest insights into local wildlife from studies by Mike, Kathy, Nicholas. Opportunity to present some dramatic images taken, to be positioned close to Policy 12 position in events? Apparently, Kit Malthouse is involved with Gov committee on protecting trout and chalk streams, so maybe chance to lobby his support for stronger wording in the Policy 12 related to the Ecchinswell brook?
6. No progress made by ET Planning as their Letter of Instruction not completed. PD to follow up with Clerk. It was felt we need engagement with Robyn Milliner asap, especially over the 'Call for Sites', involvement in Teams calls, and projecting timetable of milestone events.
7. Next meeting will be a Teams call on 24/8/26. Key focus to be a review of all the policy posters.