

## **Laxfield Neighbourhood Plan Engagement Group Meeting**

**Monday, 16<sup>th</sup> July, 7:30pm at the Royal Oak**

Present: Ian Pettitt, David Alchin, Sue Innes, Candida Wingate, Jo Lofthouse, John Worthington

Apologies: Barry Cable, Lisa Auchterlonie

This meeting was called expressly to discuss the outcomes of the Public Event, held Saturday, 7<sup>th</sup> July and as such was initially intended to be for members of the Engagement Group only.

However, given that so many of the main group had taken part in the event, we opened up the meeting for those who wished to attend.

1. Public event: approximately 60 people attended, with many staying in excess of an hour.

The 'before' and 'after' boards helped to inform visitors about the different issues, and encourage them to think beyond immediate concerns.

Visitors enjoyed looking at the old photos and drawing connections between what the village was like – and how it is now.

Post-it notes from each table had been collated and the document of comments was circulated to group members and posted onto Google docs -

[https://drive.google.com/drive/u/0/folders/15K8cY2OgT\\_ksEZvfZzAypv\\_zd3qgHhV2?ogsrc=32](https://drive.google.com/drive/u/0/folders/15K8cY2OgT_ksEZvfZzAypv_zd3qgHhV2?ogsrc=32)

**NEXT STEP: JW to pick out themes emerging from Post-it notes, for presentation at next meeting to full group**

2. Mobb's Meadow: The Parish Clerk had informed the group of a proposed development on Mobb's Meadow. There was a general conversation regarding relevant and appropriate grounds for objections, including the point that it's not a necessary development, in light of the MSDC 6.5 housing land supply, & subsequent suspension of Clause 47).

IP informed the group that a residents' meeting was being held later that same week. It was also stressed that the application should go to the Planning Committee at MSDC.

DA suggested approaching a local ecologist, for help in making the case that the land is a valuable county wildlife site, and IP wondered if the consultant Ian Poole might also be able to advise. It was agreed by the group that, as we did not wish to waste Ian's time or our money, it was important to keep lines of communication with him as clear, unambiguous and direct as possible.

**NEXT STEPS: IP to be point of contact with Ian Poole and to contact him regarding how best to work with him.**

**CW to find out details of CAS software package and pass on to IP, for him to discuss with Ian Poole.**

**Sue and Ian to write a draft letter of objection, for circulation by JL & CW (Note: this became unnecessary, following the residents' meeting, and the list of objections they produced).**

**3.** Any other business: JW would like to arrange two village walks, to coincide with distributing the questionnaire. This to be discussed at a later meeting.

CW agreed to pick out some of the comments from the public event and publish them via the newsletter and website, so that people would be aware of them and could start acting on them now.

**Next meeting: Wednesday, 25<sup>th</sup> July 2018, 7:30pm, Low House, Laxfield**