

Flore Neighbourhood Plan Minutes of Steering Group Meeting

Held on 11th March 2014 @8pm Rock Springs, Flore

Attendees

Tom Higginson (TH) Chair
Sue Kerrison (SK) – Chair Flore PC
Nigel Strang (NS)
Andy Anderson (AA)
Heather Anderson (HA)
John Miller (JM)
Chris Littlewood (CL) Flore PC

Apologies - Geoff Fellows Brian Thomas

Guest speakers - Angie Jones (AJ) and Francis Claridge (FC) from Duston Neighbourhood Plan.

1 Introductions and matters arising

TH reminded the meeting that the Terms of Reference must go to the Parish Council before the meeting next week.

The Parish AGM will take place on 7th April in the Village Hall. TH will present an update on the Flore Plan. It was suggested later that we could put up a display with opportunities for villager comment.

2 Presentation by guest speakers

Angie Jones was the main speaker and started by stressing the importance of communication and involvement of the whole community. This included the use of Facebook, Twitter and Flickr as communication tools.

She mentioned how helpful Catherine Middleton (Planning Aid England) at the Forum for Neighbourhood Planning was with answering questions.

Emphasised that everyone affected had to be aware of the NP before the referendum. Priority - prepare and inform all groups about referendum. Visit schools and encourage gossip, face to face and online. All steering group and Parish Council members to have contact cards to be handed out to enable people to get in touch with the steering group. Knock on all doors, issue card.

Keep a copy of absolutely everything.

She handed out a sheet summarising the history of the development of Duston's plan and how they involved the community and created a vision.

Duston had 6 'options and issues' topic groups - see handout sheet.

Development of strong working relationship with borough council officers very useful.

Earliest possible contact with community groups was essential.

The Issues and Options report - ideally to go to each household (perhaps possible in Flore if not in Duston) for comment and feedback.

Duston have PC tent to use at open air events which they took to their "Celebrate Duston Day". Display included pictures of councillors and steering group members. Took the opportunity to give people the chance to express their likes and dislikes (used pants and hearts stickers) about Duston as it is now. It was agreed that Flore could do something similar. Out of that day came the Community Engagement report. Engagement strategy is essential to the success of the plan.

Duston used a consultant suggested to them by local authority. They interviewed him before appointing.

They had designed a logo and used the motto 'Duston - a place to work, live and play'. 'Planning for YOUR future'.

When parishioners raised problems they asked them what their solution would be in order to make it clear that it was everyones problem, not one for somebody else to solve.

Asked experts to talk through issues.

'Placecheck Pack' made available to residents - focus on people working together - discussing and assessing qualities of places, using it to develop successful strategies for change. See www.placecheck.info

3 Discussion - action and possible outcomes

After the visitors left, the group discussed producing a logo for the NP. NS suggested a competition for Flore school children to design one .

If a traffic and transport survey is required it will need to be undertaken by Highways.

SK to contact Shirley Green on the High St to see if we could use her window as notice and display board.

Possible use of Scout hut during Flower Festival for a display and offer questionnaires etc.

The group should do a village walk together (as with Design Statement).

Consider the VDS as a starting point. Obtain maps from DDC

Discussed possibility of advertising Flore Plan at Flore Boards through newspaper headline (JM), fliers and notice board.

Date of Next Meeting

9th April 2014