

A Neighbourhood Plan for Egerton

Egerton Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

Minutes of 7th meeting held Wednesday May 10th 2017, Sports Pavilion, Egerton

Present: Peter Rawlinson (chair), Elaine Graham, Graham Howland, Ian Mella, Melanie Rawlinson, Richard King, Chris Burgess

Apologies: Jane Carr, Lois Tilden

1. The minutes of the 12th April meeting were approved without amendment
2. Richard King attended the meeting
3. Peter Rawlinson & Richard King gave an outline of their meeting with Ian Grundy and Carly Pettit who have responsibilities for Neighbourhood Plans within Ashford Borough Council. PR and RK met with them at a formal meeting in Egerton Village Hall on May 4th. In brief, the outcomes were:
 - (i) It may be possible, if a Plan is produced and agreed in time, for an approved Egerton Neighbourhood Plan to be slotted into Ashford Borough Council's Local Plan as ABC's plan is still in its Draft stage.
 - (ii) PR and RK took the representatives through progress to-date and the consultations/information sharing that has happened to-date via the Village Meeting, Egerton Update and the Parish Assembly which the planners felt was a strong start.
 - (iii) The representatives felt that the Parish Plan and Design Statement were a very good starting point for the process and a good evidence base to work from.
 - (iv) PR and RK were given guidelines on how to produce a Neighbourhood Plan. These have been copied to the Steering Group. This included the roles and responsibilities of the Steering Group and those of Ashford Borough Council plus guidelines for Funding
 - (v) PR explained that within the ABC plan one piece of land had been designated by ABC for housing development in Egerton – the

representatives were asked if this could be incorporated into the Neighbourhood Plan proposal and this was confirmed. One of the elements of the Neighbourhood Plan could be to use the Parish Plan and Design Statement to influence how this plot should be developed

(vi) RK stated that one of the main purposes of a Neighbourhood Plan was to make sure that the elements that are important to the village are those which are additional to National/Local Government Planning Policies and not a contradiction of those policies. For instance, the vistas that should be protected, land use within the village etc

4. The Steering Group agreed that one early action should be to identify the envelope(s) of the Village and also Egerton Forstal. Plus also to start to identify the vistas/scenic views etc that are important to the village. Also to begin to identify areas where it was felt development should not take place
5. It was suggested that the Steering group also start to put into place the criteria by which development should be judged – and that these should form part of the workshops/consultation with the village
6. The group was also keen to look at different types of land use within the village – what could be for business/industry, residential housing, what should be untouched. The group also has to be mindful of environmental impacts/issues: Kent Wildlife Trust for instance could help. Plus contact would need to be made with utility providers (sewage, water supply etc).
7. PR reminded that now the process is becoming clearer then the Steering Group does have to be mindful of the timetable to the referendum and that ABC needs to receive a proposed timetable from us plus be notified of any divergence from this. **PR to action**
8. Funding has to be a topic in an upcoming meeting: ABC has provided links plus DEFRA, local, borough and county councillors etc could have budget available
9. Charing has produced an excellent questionnaire for its NP and this is to be circulated around the group
10. The Steering Group agreed to use EPC logo on its communications

NEXT STEPS:

The Steering Group agreed to hold a mini Workshop at 7.30pm in the Sports Pavilion on Wednesday May 24th to start to build a project plan, to begin to categorise areas within the Parish boundary.

RK suggested that Jerry Crossley (former Planning Officer) is invited to the workshop (Gerry has put his name forward already as a “volunteer”).

Information needed for Workshop include – enlarged Map, Chinograph pencils, Paper, Design Statement, Parish Plan etc (MR/PR)

Topics to be discussed at upcoming meetings include: Funding, what groundwork needs to be done, division of responsibilities between Steering Group

Melanie R agreed to brief volunteer Melanie Cox on starting to capture photographic evidence for the Plan – first steps being to chart the key vistas when people enter and leave the village eg from Pluckley, Rock Hill Road, via Stonebridge Green, via Mundy Bois, via Bedlam Lane, via New Road etc. **MR to action**

MR agreed to send holding note to rest of volunteers

Meeting closed 9pm

Next Meeting Wednesday May 24th, 7.30pm Sports Pavilion