

Minutes of the Meeting of St Ives Neighbourhood Plan : Built Environment Group

Date: 29.5.13

Venue: The Guildhall

PRESENT

Tamsyn Williams, Stuart Abell, Annette Abell, Beth Grossman, Phil Cole, William Thomas, Tony Beavan, Geoff Williamson, Christine Marenah

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Paul Viney

CHAIRMAN'S UPDATE

The Chairman was absent and had not notified the Topic Group nor prepared an agenda for the meeting which left the meeting in some disarray.

DECLARATIONS OF MEMBER INTERESTS

Declaration of any interest in a matter to be discussed at the meeting.

The Vice Chair and Secretary Annette Abell declared that occupying both positions was not realistic, particularly since she was going to be away in July and August. Christine Marenah offered to be Vice Chair and this was agreed by the Group. At this point she took over as Chair of the meeting.

MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 1st May 2013 were not approved due to the Chairman's absence.

ISSUE 1 The Steering Group

A member raised the fact that the St Ives Town Council had not reached a decision on the composition of the Group at their recent meeting, thus necessarily delaying the Neighbourhood Plan process as the next scheduled Council meeting was July 4.. Much discussion ensued and Cllr Williams agreed to approach the Mayor with a view to holding a Council EGM to resolve this matter as quickly as possible. The Group reiterated the request that each topic group should have an allocated Town Councillor to sit on the Steering Group with the Chair, to ensure equal representation of each Group at Town Council level and that the whole Town Council is intimately involved in the Neighbourhood Plan process, as they ultimately will be answerable to Cornwall County Council when the Plan is submitted.

ACTION POINTS:

Cllr Williams to request an EGM to decide the composition of the Steering Group.

ISSUE 2 Built Environment Topic Group Vision Statement

After much discussion the following vision statement was proposed:-

Our aim is to ensure that the Built Environment of St. Ives Parish is conserved, maintained, improved and preserved where appropriate, and that any development is managed sensitively within the natural environment. We will protect historical elements, enhance visual aesthetics and respect and safeguard the unique character of the highly visible urban skyline.

ACTION POINTS:

To be discussed further and finalised at the next meeting.

ISSUE 3 RIBA Love Architecture Event

The Built Environment and Housing Groups have been invited to participate in this RIBA-organised event on Saturday 29th June 2013, in St Ives. This will be a day of events and activities focused around Porthminster Beach and the town itself to inspire, inform and celebrate the buildings and places of St Ives and to raise awareness of the architecture and context of the buildings as a background to the town's history. In the marquee, RIBA are going to supply large parish maps, where we can ask people to attach post-it notes with their thoughts on how St Ives has developed and should develop in the future. This event is an excellent opportunity to start to gather the public's views and to raise awareness of the Neighbourhood Plan..

The Group has been asked to come up with some questions for this event. The following questions were proposed:-

1. What do you think is special about St Ives?
2. Have you got a favourite building?
3. What changes or improvements would you like to see in the built environment in the Parish of St Ives?

ACTION POINTS:

Annette to inform Lucy of the questions

Volunteers are needed to man the stand in the marquee. Please contact Lucy Hackett if you are able to help between 11am and 5pm.

ISSUE 4 Terms of Reference for the Built Environment Group

The meeting discussed possible TORs and decided to adopt the following from the suggested TOR for Topic Groups document prepared by Lucy Hackett, as a basis from which to work:

1. Identify key themes and comprehensively research their area of interest.

During a discussion of a possible review of the existing Conservation and Article 4 Areas, the main debate revolved around the important distinction between conservation, which involves the management of change and preservation which is the protection and restoration of historical buildings.

It was decided to explore the establishment of a design framework for future development with due reference to the Cornwall Design Guide.

ACTION POINTS:

The remaining suggested TORs will be discussed at the next meeting:-

2. Review existing evidence, identify gaps and consider whether any further research needs to be undertaken or commissioned.
3. Review existing plans and identify gaps.
4. Identify key players and sources of expertise to assist with policy development.

In addition members were asked to give consideration to any other TOR they thought would be appropriate for the Group and notify Annette of them so that they could be circulated with the agenda for discussion at the next meeting.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

See RIBA event above

BUDGET

Was not discussed

ACTION POINTS:

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Monday 24th June 2013 at 7.00pm at The Guildhall

Meeting closed at: 9pm

Chairman's signature: