

# Neighbourhood Plan Progress Report 5<sup>th</sup> July 2013

## Overview

The Neighbourhood Planning process is now underway. After a slow start due to the election period, the pace of the plan is now increasing.

Volunteers have engaged positively and taken on roles such as chairing meetings, writing minutes, research, communication with outside advisors such as Cornwall Council.

The groups are at the stage of developing their proposals for September consultation events.

## Key Achievements to date

1. The Steering group have now formed. The first meeting was on 25<sup>th</sup> June followed by a further meeting on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> July.
2. The project plan has been agreed, copies of which are available. The group have also agreed their Terms of Reference.
3. A draft budget drawn up for consideration by Town Council. Estimating the budget has been difficult due to the range of costs reported by the fore runners.
4. A consultation event took place on Porthminster beach on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> June.
5. At least 40 volunteers have engaged in the project.
6. Topic groups have each met approximately two to three times each.
7. An application for locality funding has been made for £6000

## **Areas for Further Monitoring**

**Staffing** The potential loss of project assistance from Lucy could;

- a) Slow down the pace of the plan
- b) Put undue pressure on volunteers
- c) Put pressure on existing town council staff

**Managing volunteers.** The project is greatly relying on the volunteers and their willingness to take on tasks. We must ensure they feel supported and are provided training commensurate with their tasks.

We should also expect some volunteer drop off and animosity to creep in (Forming, Storming, Norming, Adjourning). We must adequately mediate differing opinions.

**Geographical area forums** have not been formed except in Lelant. At present we are unsure of whether any further area forums are required but are conscious that Halsetown are poorly represented.

Lelant have also shown willingness to take the lead in consultation in their village and are represented on the Steering Group. Their early lead is providing opportunities to pilot activities. This approach does seem effective in enabling cross topic communication at neighbourhood level.

**Representation on Topic groups;** Involvement of a greater cross section of our community needs occur. Work has been planned to communicate with community groups and local schools.