

RUDDINGTON VILLAGE PLAN

STEERING GROUP MEETING



*'CONSULTING WITH THE COMMUNITY TO PRODUCE A PLAN
WHICH WILL PRESENT YOUR VIEWS FOR RUDDINGTON'S FUTURE'*

Draft Minutes for Tuesday 3rd February 2015 commencing 7.00pm at St. Peter's Rooms.

Present (alph): Annette Auckland (P C)
Linda Cooke Secretary
Helen Opie (P C) Project Manager
Ali Ritchie Chairman
Barbara Venes (P C)
Graham Wright
Gavin Walker

Also present: Jenny Kirkwood (RCAN – Rural Community Action Nottingham)
Jean Greenwood (Rushcliffe Borough Councillor with special interest in policing)
Justine Hallam (Extra Care Charitable Trust with special interest in dementia care)
John Hallatt (Resident of 50+ years and special interest in health through sport)
Dr Rai (GP from Ruddington Medical Centre)
Nick Tegerdine (Former Chief Executive of APAS with special interest in prison care, policing and social care. Also Parish Councillor)
Liz Yeatman (Practice Manager from Ruddington Medical Centre)

Apologies: Cathy Brown, Phil Brown and Barbara Breakwell (guest).

Ali Ritchie said that she would be late to the meeting. Graham Wright took the chair as agreed.

Annette confirmed that Church House Medical Centre had also been asked if they wished to send a representative to the meeting.

WELCOME

Graham welcomed the visitors to the meeting.

MINUTES & UPDATES

The minutes from the meeting of 9th December 2014 were accepted. There were no updates or feedback to report at this time.

HEALTH & WELFARE (including older people)

Helen opened the discussion by asking whether there was a need or desire for additional services in the village other than the existing dentist, chiropractor, doctor's surgeries, etc. and whether there are adequate facilities for people with disabilities.

There was a considerable discussion covering many aspects of health and welfare in Ruddington and following is a brief summary of issues raised by the guests:

Dr Rai explained that Ruddington Medical Centre was bringing physiotherapy to the surgery and was hopeful of having counselling facilities and ultra-sound scanning at some time in the future to add to the on-site services for the community. A counsellor would be able to refer patients to outside organisations as necessary but he felt that to have access to many of these organisations in Ruddington might be unrealistic. The medical team did not consider the potential increase in housing to be an issue that couldn't be addressed in the future.

Dr Rai acknowledged that waiting times for patients are often frustrating and a cause for concern but that the surgery was considering a number of options to help with this problem. Issues such as lunchtime closures, telephone responses, etc were all under constant review and would continue to be so. Many of the existing systems suited patients very well but there would always be some patients for whom this service was difficult to understand or accept.

Nick acknowledged that the NHS is under financial pressure but felt that talking therapies were under-represented in Rushcliffe. He asked that consideration is given to different types of services for patients. Nick thought it would be helpful for residents to have access to local voluntary groups rather than to have to travel to get this type of help. He also asked that consideration is given to supporting people when they recover from illness and helping them prevent illness. He suggested that the surgeries should consider finding somewhere where leaflets, brochures and details of organisations could be found for those people who are reluctant to ask for non-statutory support and advice.

Justine said that she was involved with Larkhill Retirement Village in Clifton and that dementia workshops were a massive support for people with this condition. She hoped that support groups of a similar nature for all vulnerable people could be established in the village. Justine also mentioned that in her role she uses the NHS Calendar which highlights special events for organisations such as Dementia Care, the British Heart Foundation, etc and suggested that this would also support Nick's suggestion for somewhere to keep people informed of what is available and where it can be accessed. Justine expressed concern that there was no provision for fundraising in the village other than through the Parish Council.

Liz acknowledged that the surgery does its best to put up posters, notices and distribute advice documents but that it receives dozens every month and to avoid 'wallpapering' it is necessary to continually replace existing notices on the Notice Boards.

The introduction or inclusion of outside bodies that support the medical services was a key concern for Jean who felt that Ruddington should do more to bring these services to the village. Jean was concerned that the possibility of Skype consultations or email consultations would not fulfil the needs of many members of the community and hoped that it would not be a system that was preferred over person to person consultations with the GP.

John agreed wholeheartedly with Jean on the matter of Skype and email, and wondered whether patients would be as honest as they would be if they were face to face with their GP. John expressed his desire to see the village pursue youth sport and the provision of sports facilities to encourage residents to maintain better health. He felt that Ruddington Village FC, Ruddington Colts, Ruddington Cricket Club and Ruddington Bowls Club had set excellent examples of residents making the most of the existing facilities but that this should and could be developed and expanded. He hoped that the Parish Council, who has provided these facilities, would look at providing even more facilities in the future particularly investing in youth sport.

The group continued to discuss and identify questions that would be relevant and appropriate for the questionnaire.

All the guests were thanked for their contributions and they left at this point.

BUSINESS & COMMERCE

The draft questions for Business and Commerce were accepted, taking in to account that they would need to be reviewed at a later date.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Graham again reported another increase in interest on both the Facebook and Twitter sites with Facebook 'likes' up by 32, to 321 and Twitter 'followers' increased by 27, to 245.

Questions posted continue to trigger varying degrees of interest but the most responses were to a recent question on whether residents would consider sacrificing Green Belt for future housing needs. There were a few people who supported encroaching in to the Green Belt to accommodate new houses but the majority were strongly against. These responses would be forwarded to the Parish Council for future reference.

Graham and Gavin both reported that they were aware of village groups being established in response to the Asher Lane planning application and the possibility of another large application for Wilford Road on the edge of the village.

Members agreed that a new question for Facebook and Twitter should be 'Would you consider having a medical consultation with your GP by Skype or email?'. Graham would report back at the next meeting in two weeks time.

STEERING GROUP MEMBERSHIP

Members agreed that Cathy & Phil Brown would continue to be members of the group for as long as they wished to be involved and that the group was happy to wait until they were able to return.

Taking this in to account, it was agreed that some of the volunteers who have contributed over the last few months should be invited to join the group permanently. It was acknowledged that the workload would change considerably as the consultation period approaches and that the need for additional advice and assistance would be beneficial for the project and better represent the community. It would be stressed that members should particularly try to attend meetings where they have special interest or knowledge.

PROJECT TIMESCALE

The group agreed to a timescale as follows:

Questions relating to Housing & Planning, Transport & Highways and Parish Council should be completed with assistance from volunteers by the end of May 2015.

A complete review of all questions should be completed during June/July 2015.

Consultation Events will be held in the village during August 2015.

Circulation of the questionnaire should take place at the beginning of September including the potential to complete online.

Senior schools will be encouraged to allow students to complete their section of the questionnaire in IT lessons as previously discussed.

Collection of completed written questionnaires will be towards the end of September 2015.

The following dates for meetings have also been booked but whilst it is possible to cancel any of these, alternative dates may not be available at St Peter's Rooms on Tuesdays.

17th February (to replace the January meeting), 3rd & 31st March, 7th April (the only availability in April), 5th & 26th May, 23rd June and 21st July 2015.

RCAN FUNDING

Jenny explained that there had been some doubt over RCAN's funding from DEFRA as the 3 year agreement had ended. This would have had an impact of around £55,000 on the organisation. However, she was pleased to report that DEFRA had confirmed its support for another year and funding from Rushcliffe Borough Council had also been confirmed for another year.

NEXT STEPS & VOLUNTEER INVOLVEMENT

The meeting on 17th February will be a closed meeting to discuss questions related to Health & Welfare. It is hoped that the invited new members will be able to attend this meeting.

OTHER MATTERS

There were no other matters raised.

ACTIONS

1. Linda to type up and circulate a list of issues related to Health & Welfare (including older people)
2. Helen to start to compile draft questions for this section in readiness for the next meeting
3. Linda to thank all volunteers for attending the meeting
4. An email / letter to go to (non Parish Council) volunteers who have previously contributed to the consultation to ask if they would consider joining the Steering Group as community members
5. Graham to post the question to Facebook and Twitter
6. Agenda items for the next meeting:
 - a. To progress the social media sites and review the feedback from the online question
 - b. To decide on questions related to Health & Welfare (including older people)
 - c. To decide on questions related to the Parish Council, Borough Council and County Council and their roles in the community
 - d. Next steps
 - e. Any other items which may arise

CLOSE

9.15pm