

NOTES OF MEETING

<i>Meeting of / between:</i>	LEWES NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN STEERING GROUP (<i>LNPSG</i>)												
<i>Venue:</i>	Council Chamber, Town Hall												
<i>Date:</i>	7:00pm Monday 7 th April 2014												
<i>Attending:</i>	<p>Cllr I Eiloart Lewes Town Council (LTC) lead for Communications Cllr Merlin Milner Lewes Town Council lead for Environment & Tourism Cllr Roger Murray Lewes Town Council lead for Youth & Community matters Cllr Susan Murray Chairman, Lewes Town Council Planning Committee Cllr M Turner Lewes Town Council lead for Policy and Finance matters Steve Brigden Town Clerk Emma Martin Admin Support Chris Paterson S. Downs Nat. Park (SDNPA) Strategy Lead Officer (Communities)</p> <p><i>Community organization representatives:</i></p> <table> <tr> <td>Cliffe Residents Association</td> <td>Andi Mindel</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Diversity Lewes</td> <td>Anthony Kalume</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lewes Seniors Forum</td> <td>Richard Partridge</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Nevill Residents Association</td> <td>Lucy Ruddy</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Transition Town Lewes</td> <td>Kirsten Firth</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Making Lewes</td> <td>Chelsea Renton</td> </tr> </table>	Cliffe Residents Association	Andi Mindel	Diversity Lewes	Anthony Kalume	Lewes Seniors Forum	Richard Partridge	Nevill Residents Association	Lucy Ruddy	Transition Town Lewes	Kirsten Firth	Making Lewes	Chelsea Renton
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<i>Apologies:</i>	Ashley Price Lewes Chamber of Commerce												

NOTES:

1	<p>Cllr Susan Murray welcomed everyone to the meeting, and introduced Emma Martin who was supporting the group with general administration. Her role would include taking notes, preparing agendas, room bookings and general research. This role would be for 3 hours per week and her salary would be paid from the grant of £6,000 provided by the SDNPA. Records of time and any expenditure would be kept.</p> <p>It was reported that the application for designation of the parish area as a Neighbourhood was to be taken to the SDNPA's Planning Committee in early May. One response to the public notice had been received, and this was from representatives of the Santon Group; expressing encouragement for the proposal and expressing the hope that due attention would be paid to Spatial Policy 3 within the core joint strategy of the local plan. The officer's recommendation to the committee would be to accept the designation of the entire parish area.</p>
2	<p>Cllr Murray was acting as chairman for the second meeting since it had been agreed that she would act in that role for the following three. This raised the question of the Chairmanship for future meetings and it was agreed that Cllr Murray continue that role for the time being. Further discussion followed regarding the need for a suitably-experienced consultant to lead the process, which was the model followed by most of the larger areas who were preparing Neighbourhood Plans, but to retain a defined local Chairman.</p>
3	<p>There was then a discussion on LNPSG members' skills. It was suggested to have another look at the original list of Residents Associations and Community Groups and individuals who might contribute into the area of Housing/Architecture of the Town. There was still a need to "sell" the idea of a Neighbourhood plan with importance of finding out what the public want and to define sub-groups so that work in 'overlapping' areas is not duplicated. Another open day was suggested to try and raise more awareness of the plan and for people to have their say. Perhaps using a different approach towards Community Groups i.e. sitting in on their individual meetings, looking at their websites could be used and then the information fed back to the NP Steering Group.</p>

	<p>The Meeting then moved on to what individual groups had looked at since the last meeting:</p> <p>Housing – need, design, location, sustainability</p> <p>Sustainability – flood defence proposals, climate change adaptation, sustainable food production, renewable energy</p> <p>Community Group – there was a need to bring community groups together. It was noted that the Lewes Town Partnership already existed to fulfil that role; to promote community aspirations and voice any concerns.</p> <p>Transport Connectivity – The Town Council’s dedicated working-party had met with major transport providers, and had a fruitful discussion. This was not specifically community input, but was acknowledged as a sound base for further work in the area. Cllr Milner offered to ensure that this strand of the Council’s work was integrated into the NP process.</p> <p>Business – the need to have more input from Businesses in the town.</p> <p>The meeting then identified several other groups and sub groups.</p> <p>It was recognized that any sub groups would need leaders and it was suggested that an open event be held where groups could bounce ideas with each other.</p> <p>Sustainable projects looking at sustainable buildings and how they work would assist with the Neighbourhood plan.</p> <p>Tourism - It was suggested that an active work group was needed on this over-arching principle as this embraced aspects of transport; business; accommodation; built and natural environment <i>etc.</i></p>
4	<p>Chris Patterson then explained the progress of the SDNPA Local Plan and the Joint Core Strategy. The Park Authority’s plan was expected in 2017, and the programme already allowed-for the existence of a Lewes Neighbourhood Plan by that time. He explained that: where local neighbourhood plans were known to be in-development, the Authority would simply leave a blank ‘placeholder’ in its own Plan.</p>
5	<p>The group then had a general discussion on local economy development and local food production in the town. Local food production was limited as there was not enough open space land. It was recognised that Lewes needs other types of businesses/industries other than supermarkets who provide 60% of food in the town.</p>
6	<p>Items to be considered at the next meeting which would be held on Thursday 8th May at 7.00pm were suggested:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Define key items that the community would be interested to see included. • Hold another open day/workshop to get individuals/community groups interested in the plan • Create a skeleton timetable with time frames/ budget etc. for the Neighbourhood Plan and hold a sustainability workshop. <p>The Chairman then than thanked everyone for their attendance and contribution and closed the meeting.</p>

Meeting ended 9:10pm