

Committee Meeting – 3rd April 2012

held at 7A Adams Road at 18:20

Note: the meeting convened at 18:20 addressing item 4. When Sara Saunders arrived at 18:30, the meeting returned to item 1.

1. Welcome & Introductions

Present:

Morcom Lunt (Chair) ML, Roger Crabtree (Secretary) RCr, Clive Brown (Treasurer) CB, Edward Cearns EC, Tania Elliot TE, Ann Mullinger AM Michael Bond MB, Ron Clifton RCl, Sara Saunders SS, Jane Singleton JS.

Apologies:

Nicky Morrison, Patsy Dell.

The draft **Agenda** that had been circulated was accepted.

2. Proposed June FeCRA Meeting

2.1 Target Outputs

Meeting attenders should leave the meeting with an understanding of the process which will be used to develop the Local Plan and confident in their ability to influence its content.

2.2 Essential Inputs

The bulk of the inputs will come from Council Staff.

The scope and structure of the Issues & Options (I & O) Report will need to be described. Since the size of the Report will be very large, it will not be possible to cover all issues in any detail.

2.3 Known RA priorities and concerns

Some RAs will have very local issues that it would not be appropriate to include in the Local Plan but some will identify issues of much wider implication. E.g Old Chesterton Residents' Association is concerned with the impacts of the proposed new station at Chesterton sidings which affects a large part of Cambridge and will be mainly in South Cambridgeshire. This illustrates the need for a sense of proportion and also brings in the cross-border issue.

2.4 Breakout Groups - merits and drawbacks

After discussion, the meeting agreed that Breakout Groups would not be appropriate. This decision was based on the nature of the meeting which is primarily to inform and prepare attenders for involvement with the development of the Local Plan, and, not least, to provide a forum for Residents' questions.

2.5 Timing of meeting

The meeting should be held on a Saturday morning, starting around 10 AM and closing around 1 PM.

A suitable days in June are the 9th and 14th. The disadvantage of 9th June is that it is at the end of the bank holiday week.

Ideally, the meeting will be held at the Guildhall.

2.6 Meeting Agenda

The June meeting will be structured around the different sections of the Issues & Options report which will be issued for consultation during June.

The detailed agenda will be defined later.

2.7 Any other considerations

Running of meeting

Good timekeeping of meeting, requiring a separation of the chairing of the meeting and the facilitation of the Q & A section.

Facilitation of question and answer session.

The discussion demonstrated the need to emphasise throughout the meeting that its purpose is to enable effective participation in the consultation process, and not to provide consultation input.

Venue

The layout of meeting room should ideally promote small group discussions with the aim of encouraging inputs and questions from people who would normally not be prepared to speak publicly. This would best be achieved by groups sitting round tables (cabaret style), provided the room was big enough.

Subsequently, a list of requirements has been circulated by e-mail

Publicity

A visually striking publicity poster is needed.

2.8 List of actions, owners, and target dates

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|---|----|
| 1. Sara is to check the availability of the Halls in the Guildhall. | SS |
| 2. Clive to contact Ian Nimmo-Smith to see if he would be willing, and able, to take on the facilitation role for the Q&A section of the meeting | CB |
| 3. Edward is to produce some ideas for posters and circulate them. | EC |
| 4. A circular to be sent to all Residents Association advising them of the meeting as soon as the date is fixed. They to be requested to advise of their intention to attend, their LP priorities, and any concerns regarding the Local Plan contents and/or development process. | ML |

2.9 Further meetings?

All agreed that a further meeting would be necessary in the first half of May to refine the details for the June meeting.

Sara then left the meeting

3. Review of Item 2 discussions

No additional items were identified.

4. CPPF Liaison

Roger continues to be involved with the Cambridge Past, Present, and Future "Vision 2030" project.

5. Council progress on Residents' involvement - localism on the ground

Michael reported that he had been concerned about the way meetings of the North Area Committee, the pilot for localism in Cambridge, had been going and had produced a 'waspy' report to members following the November meeting.

In January the meeting was mainly devoted to a debate on the issues surrounding Fen Road and Chesterton Fen with members and officers of the County Council in attendance to listen to and respond to points made. This was held at the new Shirley Centre in Nuffield Road and over 100 local residents attended and contributed to what was a lively and productive discussion with issues and suggested actions being clearly identified under the guidance of the Chair Ian Nimmo-Smith. The main outcome was the establishment of a working party to look at the issues and evaluate the suggested solutions.

In March we were back at the Shirley when the debate topic was the proposed station at Chesterton sidings. Again an excellent turnout and lively discussion with many contributions from people who were not 'the usual suspects'. Dealing with real issues on which the City Council can make a real impact made a reality of localism which Michael welcomed.

6. FeCRA "outreach" to areas without RAs

Roger reported that he had received comments that several areas of Cambridge do not have Resident's Associations and do not send anyone to the various meetings and consultations of the Council and other bodies.

Whilst, in principle, it would be highly desirable for FeCRA to encourage representation, the resourcing of such a project would be very problematic.

As a first step, the meeting agreed to the purchase of a suitable map on which the location of the Residents' Associations for which we have contact details can be highlighted.

ML

7. FeCRA Administration matters

7.1 Minutes of last meeting: held on 11th November 2011

Approved as issued

7.2 Matters Arising

Joint FeCRA/CCC contact list

Morcom reported that the City Council list of RAs had been merged with the FeCRA list. The new list is now held on Gmail and the intention is that this list will be maintained in the future as the "master".

Copy of combined list to be sent to Melanie Jones.

ML

Any other business

Actions in the minutes that were not discussed at the meeting are no longer relevant.

8. Date of next meeting

Morcom to issue a Doodle once the date for the large meeting has been set.

ML

End