

## Southbourne NDP - Housing

---

Hello Hendrik, Jim, Keith, Kierstie, Oona, Robin and Roy,

### **Steering Group (SG)**

I am on the NDP SG and at the first meeting on 18th March I agreed to co-ordinate the Housing Focus Group, at least for our first meeting. We need to agree a Chair when we meet.

It was agreed at the SG that Robert Hayes be chair. What we come up with needs to be regularly fed back to the SG to make sure that the 6 Focus Groups (FGs) know what each group is doing, take full account of each others findings and co-ordinate all our work (Community Facilities, Economy and Business, Transport, Environment, Heritage, Housing). Co-ordination is key. Although our remit is housing any ideas on other aspects will be welcomed by the other FGs. The SG meeting dates have been set for evenings 8 April, 13 May, 10 June, 8 July, 12 August, 9 September, 14 October, 11 November, 9 December. (Keith - I know you are on the SG too and, as you requested, we have avoided the 3rd monday of each month so you can attend). The SG would like to circulate notes of anything we want to report no later than the thursday before each meeting so that there is time for SG members to take it all in.

Neil Homer e mailed a briefing note and work programme which anticipates our NDP being finished and ready for submission to the District Council by the end of November 2013. A community survey is programmed for April/ May.

### **Housing Focus Group**

In a nutshell we need to consider where broadly 300 homes should be located in Southbourne with a further 50 homes elsewhere in the parish. We also need to consider what type/mix of housing is needed locally. Westbourne Parish (area outside the national park) and Thorney might be included. The District Council has published a Draft Plan setting out draft general planning policies which provide a starting point to the work we all need to do to fill in the important local detail, including specific sites. The Council's Plan is out on consultation and the DC has arranged "drop -in" sessions for the public to get a better understanding of what it is all about and provide an opportunity to ask questions of individual council officers. The most local sessions are at the Westgate Centre Chichester on 22 March 9 to 12 am, at the Assembly Rooms Chichester on 27 March 6 to 8.30pm, and at the Bourne on 28 March 9 to 12 am. There are other locations/times and other inf. on the District Council website. Hard copies of the Draft Plan not available yet but we are asking for some.

There is quite a lot of reading that can be done to get the background to all this. I have attached a list to help you find anything you have not already come across. No doubt there will be more!!

**First meeting of Housing Focus Group (HFG)**

Please let me know asap what dates/times you can manage out of the following by tomorrow night (22 March) and I will sort out date/time/location as best I can. I suggest we aim for max an hour and a half meeting and I'll bring the biscuits. We need to meet in time to agree and send any note for the SG no later than 4 April so suggest we meet before Easter :- I am available anytime from Sat March 23rd to Wed 27th (day and evenings) except for Mon 25th noon to 6.00pm.

Some Focus Groups have met already but no-one was clear who was supposed to be organising the HFG which is why we are a bit slow off the blocks, but we can make up for that.

Hopefully at our first meeting we will be able to sort out what we have gleaned from our reading, what information we still need and some basic questions for the Community Questionnaire. I am sure we will need to split forthcoming work between us. Suggestions for an agenda gratefully received and I will put one together and circulate. I will up-date on other SG matters.

My initial thoughts are that we must be objective and systematic in what we do. No knee-jerk reactions. Our approach needs to be logical and fully documented so that later on we can explain clearly what we have done and why. This will be necessary in order to have constructive debate locally, to be successful in the local referendum despite some proposals probably being a bit controversial, to convince the Plan Examiner that we have done a proper job and, not least, to ensure that if necessary we can present quality evidence at any planning appeals that come up in the interim.

Hope to hear from you very soon.

Regards                      Sue