

**Amberley Neighbourhood Plan**  
**Community Working Group Meeting**  
**8 Sept 2015**

**Present:** Rob Pritchett, Glenys Rowe, Katy Ohno, Geoff Uren, Mike Toynbee, Maureen Chaffe (consultant)

The purpose of the meeting was to review the questionnaire results and to decide our next steps. Maureen took us through the results, stated her views on the main results, and gave us her advice on next steps.

**Maureen's main points:**

1. Clear mandates (majorities) for:
  - a. Dark skies
  - b. Green spaces – allotments, an orchard
  - c. Affordable housing (small scale developments)
  - d. A car park in Harvey's Field (between the B2139 and the school) –sensitive to the environment and location
  - e. Public toilets – eg adjoining or accessible from the car park
  - f. More litter bins – particularly for dog waste
  - g. More parking at the station
  - h. More visitor accommodation – in B&Bs, not purpose-built hostels
  - i. Tourist information points (eg in the phone box, as at North Stoke)
  - j. We could make much more use of the Old Forge (former surgery) in the Square

All these are quite appropriate for the Neighbourhood Plan

2. There are a number of clear preferences coming out of the questionnaire results which are not appropriate for the Neighbourhood Plan (which should mainly be focused on land use and development), but could quite properly be included in a Community Action Plan, to be produced alongside and at the same time as the NP. These include
  - a. Action on Roads – reduced speed limits on all roads, pedestrian crossings on the B2139, village gates (at both ends fo the Parish)
  - b. Action on footpaths – better surfacing (to provide year-round access), more frequent cutting back of overgrowing olants
  - c. Tourist info on the web site
  - d. Faster broadband and improved mobile reception (very strongly needed by most respondents). To be included in the CAP.
3. There were mixed views on the need for a community centre – 42% were in favour, 58% against. Requires further discussion (also including the school's possible future needs) and elaboration of the concept
4. Although the idea of a car park was strongly supported, there was equally strong (and vociferous) opposition to the suggestions of traffic management - signs, yellow lines, residents' parking permits etc – apart from lower speed limits
5. PADS was strongly supported. This needs to be updated – eg to include modern green technology (solar panels etc). But Maureen advised us not to start on this until we have done the NP – this will give us more than enough to do.
6. There was a high level of satisfaction with ghe general feel of the parish, but some specific concerns expressed, adna number of areas identified for community action – eg the state of the roadside gullies and drainage ditches, the state of the road surface in Hurst Cottages, the lack of facilities for young people

## **Next Steps.**

We need to crack on with framing our vision and core objectives for the Plan. This will be best started within each of the four working groups (group leaders underlined in bold text)

- Housing & Design (**Geoff Uren**, Leigh Cresswell, Rob Pritchett, Joe Thompson)
- Environment and Heritage (**Katy Ohno**, Malcolm Simmonds, Amberley Soc member)
- Facilities, Roads and Transport (**Tim Simpson**, Glenys Rowe, Geoff Conlon, Carol Henderson, Mike Wright, James Tolson, Ros Simpson, Rachel Bishop)
- Employment and Enterprise (**Hazel Allinson**, Rebecca Beveridge, Mike Wright)

So the key next step is for each group to meet and start to frame its vision and core objectives for its area. Can I request the group leaders to organise this - it needs to happen soon. If you can let me know when you are meeting, I will happily join you to assist in the process if I am available.

Maureen will be able to take our inputs of our core objectives and redraft them in the appropriate format for the plan policies. But our inputs are the starting point.

Once we have done this, she will also assist us to ensure the appropriate evidence is included in the "State of the Parish". But we don't need to do any more to this at this stage (many thanks to Mike T for his efforts on this)

Maureen suggested it would be useful to have another meeting of the whole group before end Sept, to assist us in this work. We agreed that 6pm midweek (Tues, Wed or Thursday) are the most convenient dates and times for meetings, recognising that not everyone will be able to make it. Accordingly we will look to have our next meeting on one of **22<sup>nd</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, or 24<sup>th</sup> Sept. (to be confirmed).**

Tim Simpson  
9 Sept 2015