



Notes of a meeting held on 25th February 2015

Present

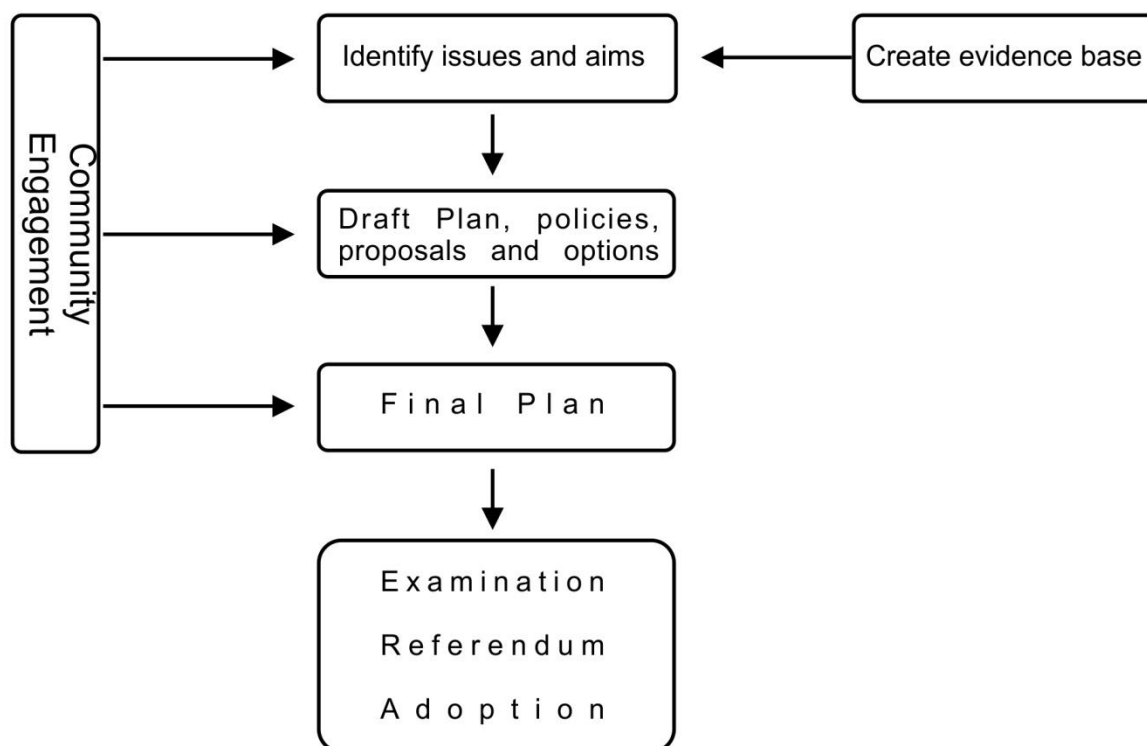
Howard Asbridge [Chair]
Chris Beighton
David Gynn
Warin Kelly
Magnus Pahlsson

Geoff Rickard
Jamie Rutherford
Jon Snowden
Jonathan Watson

Current position

We briefly reviewed progress to date which, after input from a planning consultant, had provided us with a draft project plan and a draft consultation and engagement plan.

Before starting to implement those plans, we looked at the key stages in the plan process, which could be summarised as follows:



Initial consultation process

It was clear that we had to find a way of involving residents at all stages of the preparation of the plan, whilst avoiding 'consultation fatigue'. At an early stage in the process, we needed to work out how to get a good enough idea of the range of issues that were of interest or concern to people living and working in the plan area, so that the questionnaire eventually produced was as relevant as possible.

We also had to ensure that any specific requirements for consultation were adhered to throughout the process, as they would be subject to external review.

After discussion, we were firmly of the view that there could only be one residents' survey/questionnaire during the whole process. We then looked at ways of getting sufficient engagement with residents to enable us to produce the range of issues that could form the basis of a survey relevant to them.

We decided to use several different resources, as follows:

- We would create a draft statement of the typical range of issues a neighbourhood development plan [NDP] might cover in an area such as ours. To avoid raising expectations too high, we would also explain that the NDP process was likely to identify important issues that were outside its scope, but which could be carried forward in different ways. We would publish this on the website and encourage on-line discussion.
- We would begin the initial phase of the consultation and engagement plan by contacting all those organisations that were required to be consulted and any others in and outside the plan area that might contribute to defining the issues and aims to be dealt with in the survey/questionnaire.
- We would seek opportunities to talk directly to local organisations, recognising that this was a good route to individual opinions as well as collective views.
- We would publicise the MACKPlan website and other village e-networks with the aim of using them and associated e-newsletters as a key tool to keep residents informed and obtain their input to all stages of a transparent plan process.

Action

Howard will produce a draft statement and an initial list of organisations to be contacted and place them on the MACKPlan forum. Team members would have two weeks to comment and after that the consultation process would begin.

Chris and Howard to look at opportunities to increase the number of subscribers to relevant e-newsletters in Chillaton.

Magnus to review and take any necessary action regarding the email network he provides for the Bradstone/Dunterton area.

Howard to publicise the need for those Milton Abbot residents who have already subscribed to MACKPlan newsletters, to advise others in the village of the need to do so.

Grant aid

A further round of grant aid had recently been announced and it was decided that we should make another application, to meet the costs of the survey, postage, publicity and ancillary expenses during the preparation of the plan.

Action

Howard to progress.

Date of next meeting

Wednesday 25th March and monthly thereafter. All meetings to be at Milton Abbot village hall at 7.30pm.

Action

Howard to book