

Whitleigh Big Local Committee Meeting

Tuesday 8th May 2018 at 6pm

At Porkie's Café, Whitleigh

Name	Organisation	Present	Apologies
Barry Meek (Chair)	WBL	x	
Josh Puleston	WBL + Resident	x	
Jean Hebson	WBL + Resident; + Mi-Space	x	
Sandy Wager	WBL +Whitleigh Arts; Older Residents Group	x	
Becky Allen	WBL + Resident	x	
Nora Wilbraham	WBL + Resident	x	
Michael Walker	WBL +Resident	x	
Brian Wilbrham	WBL + Resident	x	
Tom Buckley	WBL + Resident, Edible Whitleigh	x	
Jeanette Abbott	Barefoot	x	
Ian Ford	WBL + 35 th Plymouth Scout Group; Resident	x	
Julian Mellor	REP 2MD	x	
Deborah Penprase	Minutes – POP+	x	
Cindy Potter	WBL + Resident	x	
Pippa St. John Cooper	CDW Whitleigh Big Local	x	
Guests			
Zoe Harrison	Resident		
Joseph Orr	Resident		
Gorden Slattery	Resident		
Buck Rogers	Resident		
Lynn	Resident		
Joanna Wicket	Resident		
Phil Wicket	Resident		
Sharon Gross	Porkies Café owner		
Dave Griffith	Porkies Café Owner		
Mark Rowles	Four Greens Director		
Jon Taylor	Councilor for Budshead		
Apologies			
Lee Le Marquand	WBL + Sir John Hunt		x
Charlotte Bladen	Resident		X
Jenny Fitzgerald	WBL + Whitleigh Playcare; Resident		X
Carole Hickling	Befriending Consortium		x
Cristina (PCM)			x
D. Downie	Councilor for Budshead		x
J. Drean	Councilor for Budshead		x

	<p>Barry welcomed everyone to the meeting. Also thanked Dave and Sharon for letting the meeting happen at Porkies Café.</p> <p>It was explained that the meeting tonight would be an overview of what was happening with the Whitleigh Big Local but also to discuss the idea of a community centre.</p>
--	--

<p>1</p>	<p><u>NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM - Overview</u></p> <p>Josh spoke and gave an overview of a Neighbourhood Forum and answered questions. Explained that it was a collaborative process between the Council and the community. It would need 21 residents who might be interested to start the forum. Negotiation between developer, forum and planning department. NF could influence decisions. Whiteleigh Big Local more about developing local projects, whereas NF more a focus on planning space, but there is an overlap between the 2. Josh provided copies of information about Neighbourhood Forum. Invited people to be involved. Please see link below: Establishing a neighbourhood forum.</p> <p>https://neighbourhoodplanning.org/wp-content/uploads/Establishing-a-neighbourhood-forum-1.pdf</p>
<p>ACTION :</p>	<p>Pippa and Josh to email out to interested residents.</p>
<p>2.</p>	<p><u>WHITLEIGH BIG LOCAL – Overview</u></p> <p>Pippa St. John Cooper (PC) gave an overview of Whiteleigh Big Local: Funded through the lottery. Whiteleigh was given funding, the Plymouth City Council (PCC) had to make a proposal and Whiteleigh were awarded the lottery money. The local community was consulted about what they wanted in the plan. Lots of meetings, helped and supported by PCC. Local trust then had to agree it and did so in 2014. Community was able to start spending the money from 2015. It was felt that people lost interest because they didn't see anything happen for a while.</p> <p>Barry Meek (BM) explained that people wanted to improve the playing parks. BM reported that a Whiteleigh on Wheels bus was purchased by WBL and used for trips for the residents of Whiteleigh. There are plans to use it a lot more in Whiteleigh - BM asked for ideas on how to use it. Conscious that there is a need for community hub or community centre. Initial plan was about play and green spaces and supporting the elderly, the community centre idea was formed a little later.</p> <p>Now in phase 2, so the community is being consulted for their views on what they would like. This consultation will ensure what happens in the next 4 or 5 years is what the community wants.</p> <p>Whole range of different projects currently being carried out by WBL.</p> <p>At this point the local councillor for the area Jon Taylor introduced himself and gave his apologies before leaving the meeting.</p>
<p>ACTION :</p>	
<p>3.</p>	<p><u>WBL PROJECTS</u></p> <p>These are the current projects being carried out in Whiteleigh:</p> <p>Whiteleigh Edibles: Tom Buckley (TB) is running an offshoot of WBL called 'Whiteleigh Edibles'. Community events are held and workshops focusing on healthy living and nutrition. TB invited those present to follow this project on Facebook etc. Street parties and festivals are being planned to add a bit more fun in the area. Tom is currently organizing The big lunch, picnic event, have a chat to your local neighbours. This year had bouncy castles and events going on. Those present were invited to get involved. Resident (Buck) offered</p>

to give a talk about bi-polar. Floating the idea of a human library and ask young people to speak with older children.

Bench Project:

The bench project rose out of the recognition of the difficulty for elderly and disabled residents to negotiate the particular terrain of Whitleigh. Funding for 5 benches was acquired and a local counsellor has donated another...so 6 in total. First visit by artist to over 50's to design their own bench and this is happening with other groups too (children and teenagers). 3 commissioned artists. 1st bench probably going to go near Monmouth Gdns. James has been commissioned to do two other benches and is going to work with young people. He will light a camp fire and have a lot of animals while the carving is taking place. Andy and Peter (other two artists) will be working with primary school children. When benches are placed, will set up an internet google map for where the benches are. Each bench will have a little library next to it. There is somebody in the community who already leaves books on the benches for people to pick up and it is very successful. Resident at meeting said he could donate lots of books.

Litter picking and keeping Whitleigh clean:

Andy is going to promote it to the schools – a funny litter play to get the message across to children, who will hopefully pass on to their parents. There will also be litter picks. PCC and Jean Hebson (JH) from Mi-space have offered their support. Becky Allen (BA) has been involved with ideas in helping the environment. BA wants to bring independent groups together to work collaboratively.

Residents reported that people in Whitleigh don't know about WBL and that they don't even know we have funding. BM agreed that we do need to be more pro-active and explained that PC will be going around in a local community bus that they have purchased. Resident suggested t-shirts as a way to advertise WBL. BM said aside from the committee, they are happy for residents to offer ideas and run with them, as long as they are run past the committee first. PC - agreed to put out 3 community notice boards (one on the green), one at Norwich shops and one on Taunton avenue by Woodfield school. PC said we need community champions to make sure the boards are up to date and relevant, and also how to promote events etc. Promotion also via The Plymouth Chronicle, FB, website and twitter. BA invited people to chat about WBL whenever they see her out and about.

PC advised that WBL were supporting development of local parks and have asked for smaller equipment for the smaller children. Negotiating with play committee re Norwich park and better access to Bodmin park. If residents have any ideas about parks – please let us know because a good relationship with play space people has been developed and therefore WBL is in a good position to get things done.

BM reported that PC had done so much work for residents of Whitleigh, behind the scenes, since she joined the WBL team in October.

Barefoot:

John dingle (JD) of barefoot gave an overview of the work being carried out in Whitleigh.

Barefoot is a charity in Plymouth that delivers youth work. Worked in area for past 5 months. Engaged with young people (100) who live in the area to get involved in the local area so that they become an asset to their community. Youth workers have been out every Tuesday and Friday evening talking to the young people. Successful – started doing trips and plan to do projects with them. Also engaged with older young people in the area. Barefoot are using Whitleigh on Wheels to engage with young people. Give people a voice in the area about what goes on – this makes them less likely to destroy what is being built.

BM reported there were also other projects in the pipeline.

ACTION :	
4.	<p>REVIEW – Overview Susan Moores (SM) reported on the review that took place recently:</p> <p>Previous plan had lots of spreadsheets and was difficult to understand, during the review we were able to simplify it. The people that turned up for the review (facilitated by SM) achieved in getting the plan down to a few pieces of paper and 5 themes: play, environment, green spaces, older people and health and wellbeing. SM invited anyone interested in any of the themes to become involved. SM also invited people to talk to other residents so that it truly becomes a community plan.</p> <p>SM spoke as the employer of PC. The lottery is only a funder, the possibility of Whiteleigh people to influence their area is the most important thing.</p> <p>Community Centre discussion: PC - community centre is still a part of the plan for WBL. During the review a decision was made to do a community consultation, followed by public meetings and a feasibility study to see how it can move forward. WBL are in the process of undertaking a community consultation at the moment. Julian Mellor (JM) is going to give an overview as to how the lottery may see us using the money in that way. Have set up Whiteleigh Community Trust which can own buildings and employ people, which WBL cannot do.</p> <p>170 people completed the consultation questionnaire. Paper copies and survey monkey questionnaire on fb and webpage and paper copies in centres too. Will be putting out more paper copies. The bus going around will also record people’s voices – so don’t have to fill out questionnaires. Two vehicles will be covering the whole of Whiteleigh. 90 respondents through paper and 80 through survey monkey. 134 people said want a community centre; 14 didn’t; 10 people said they didn’t know.</p> <p>‘Can you explain why?’ question – somewhere for young people to go and somewhere to socially meet was a popular response. Didn’t want it to be like a pub. Somewhere to get help if wanted and also wanted somewhere to do activities.</p> <p>‘What kind of spaces most want?’ - most popular answer was a large multi-functional events hall and also workshop spaces – also a community café came up as very strong.</p> <p>‘What kinds of groups’ etc...What do you think a community centre would offer individuals? - most people ticked most boxes. Facilities – wifi, toilets, baby changing, kitchen and parking came up quite a bit.</p> <p>‘Where’? – most people said Whiteleigh green by the shops, somewhere central.</p> <p>It was explained that Whiteleigh has an adult population of about 6,500, therefore 200 people responding to the questionnaire doesn’t feel like a big enough response. A Resident suggested delivering paper questionnaires to the residents. Buck volunteered to deliver to Dorchester avenue; Josh will do Brentford; JH will do Bodmin. PC informed that we have between now and September to get a big enough response. PC invited people to leave her their contact details - she will follow this up and ask champions to deliver flyers. Resident suggested putting questionnaire out to school. School has been given link to survey monkey. PC informed that every paper copy received has to be manually inputted, so those that can, survey monkey would be best - one survey response per computer. Responses can also be given via</p>

	<p>phone.</p> <p>Resident said that a previous meeting back in 2014, 200 or 300 people were in attendance and a promise of a community centre, so people don't trust that a community centre will take place because the council backtracked from a previous meeting.</p> <p>Josh said 4 greens is a different focus whereas the community centre is a new building and project. There was a further discussion regarding Four Greens.</p> <p>BA said difference with this new project is it will be community owned – by Whitleigh Community Trust - nothing to do with the council. PC said if we enlist community champions, this will hopefully build trust. PC introduced the director of 4 greens who has been a community worker for many years. Mark Rowles said he was involved and agreed Whitleigh residents were made a lots of promises by PCC and politicians – 4 Greens is now classed as a health and wellbeing hub – not a community centre and they want to know how 4 greens can support their process about what community needs. The important thing is sustainability and make sure it runs and move forward to learn from the past. Big local is now based at 4 greens and there is a recognition that we have to work collaboratively.</p> <p>Resident said he doesn't want 4 greens to be involved with the community centre. Mark replied – he can't change the history – in order to get the hub, you do need to engage the whole community which includes 'enemies' as well.</p> <p>Julian Mellor, (JM) - Gave a talk about the process likely to have to go through to develop a community centre. BM handed out roadmap WBL will be going through in coming months and years. Lottery will be looking for a rigorous process to check that WBL knows what it is doing, and the community is buying into that. A lot of other funders will want that too. Starts with strong community engagement and consultation but carries on all the way through and every step of the way, when it comes to the future too!</p> <p>Need to be clear about your vision and objectives - should not be site specific or building specific. Agree on what is your preferred option and get architects that come in and plan the building. Then think about how it's going to be run etc. and thinking of the cost and where the money is going to be coming from to build it. Big part will be writing funding applications. Once got funding and planning permission – get builders in. Will probably have to compromise along the way, maybe because of lack of funding or because planners won't allow certain things...but it should still meet all of your objectives when you have finished. It's a long haul but it does give the returns to the community if you stick with it.</p> <p>Josh stated that the bricks have been kept from the 'buy a brick' scheme and will be incorporated into the community centre. JM said learning those lessons will strengthen their lottery application – i.e. this must be completely embedded in the community. SM said Looe is the most inspiring story – suggested organising a visit to Looe to see how they did it. PC said the community bus could be used for such a visit. Looe have also used their business model to bring in revenue e.g. Weddings to help pay for activities in the centre. Josh – not only this group working on plan of what community centre can deliver – also thinking about what green spaces we have in Whitleigh - the forum and plan groups will work alongside each other.</p>
<p>ACTION :</p>	
<p>7.</p>	<p>AOB</p> <p>BM asked an open question – 'what do you want us to do re next meeting' or 'how we want to progress this' – what do you want to say? Residents said need to get more residents on board. Josh – suggested PC take community bus to every street – BM reported it is going everywhere in Whitleigh. PC said that if anyone knows of anywhere where she can park the long wheel based van – she will visit their street.</p>

	<p>Will be holding more meetings about community centre – from September onwards - can move on to what happens next.</p> <p>SM suggested other ways to advertise the survey e.g via bingo nights, using the café etc.</p>
	<p><u>Date of Next Meeting:</u> Monday 11th June 2018 The scout hut Lancaster Gardens</p>