

Hereford Area Plan Reference Group Meeting

Notes of Meeting

Date: 17th May 2017

Time: 16:00

Venue: Hereford City Council Offices, Town Hall, Hereford

Attendees:

Cllr P Price (Chair), Herefordshire Council – (PP)
Steve Kerry, Hereford City Council (Clerk) - (SK)
Georgia Smith, HBID – (GS)
David Shepard, NMiTE – (DS)
John Bothamley, Hereford Civic Society – (JB)
Kevin Singleton, Herefordshire Council – (KS)
Cllr P Andrews, Herefordshire Council – (PA)

Apologies:

Bill Bloxsome, Herefordshire Local Nature Partnership – (BB)
Cllr S Michael, HCC – (SM)
Victoria Eaton
Richard Gabb

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1. Welcome and apologies.
 2. Minutes of previous meeting agreed as a true record. No amendments suggested.
 3. Update on Issues and Options consultation
 - 3.1 KS gave an overview of the initial consultation results up to 15/5. Up to that point there had been some 1,223 responses received to both the HAP and HTP consultations. At this stage only a basic set of results were available which were shared with the group. The number of responses to individual questions ranged between 42 and 540.
 - 3.2 The group discussed how the consultation results would be used to help develop the policies and proposals which would be part of the plan. It was agreed that the group would consider the representations on a topic by topic basis together with any evidence required to help inform the discussion. If necessary others would be invited to the meetings where they could provide specific advice to help with policy development. Given the need to progress this work promptly meetings should be held on a monthly basis.

3.3 There was some discussion regarding how the topics would be broken down. Topic areas are anticipated to include:

- the University development;
- housing site and housing policy (including HMOs and housing for different sectors of the community);
- Transport and utilities infrastructure;
- Retail and leisure;
- Built environment
- Public realm, greenspace and open space
- Tourism and culture
- Jobs and economic development

3.4 DS provided an update in respect of the University. He explained that as a result of the forthcoming general election progress had been delayed. The consultation events would now be arranged for September. A strategic policy group had been established led by Richard Gabb. In addition there was still the intention to hold a summit for the City Centre landowners to explore the potential of using the space above shops for student accommodation. DS was also looking to arrange a visit of the reference group to Lincoln.

4. Evidence Base

4.1 KS provided an update of the ongoing evidence base development, this included:

- Strategic Flood Risk Assessment for the County is nearing completion.
- A brief for a Central Area Heritage Appraisal was being prepared.
- Consultation upon the Sustainability Appraisal of the Issues and Options Paper was going to start this week with statutory consultees.
- The Housing “call for sites” was concluding at the same time as the HAP consultation.

4.2 PP suggested that evidence would be required regarding the requirements for utilities infrastructure.

5. Next steps

5.1 PP suggested that prior to the Reference Group meetings to further develop policies and proposals it would be important to develop a vision for the plan. It was agreed that this could be done through a visioning event to be arranged for July. It was hoped that a cross section of the population would be invited and an independent facilitator engaged to run the event. Action KS to arrange.

6.0 AOB

6.1 It was agreed that the next meeting should start at 3pm.

6.2 Next Reference Group meeting to be on 28th June 2017.