



WORKING GROUP MEETING 12 January 2017

Member in attendance		
New Milton Town Council Steve Clarke Chair		Yes
New Milton Town Council Valya Schooling		Yes
New Milton Town Council Alvin Reid		Yes
New Milton Town Council Wyn Davies		Yes
New Milton Residents Association Alan Watson		Yes
Newbiz Gill Hepburn		Yes
New Milton Town Partnership Julia Stamper (or Rupert Davies)		Yes
Ballard School Tim Clark,		Yes
Guests		
Resident and advisor on future health care and well-being Dr Tim Thurston New Milton Health Centre		
Resident and advisor on transport issues: Peter Finch		
Resident and advisor on housing construction and housing associations Andrew Land		yes
Resident and advisor on mapping for sustainable communities Peter Parslow		yes
Resident and advisor on traffic management design Steven Eth		yes
NMTC Officers in support		
Project Officer Claire Lambert		Yes
Town Development Manager Suna King		Yes

1. Cllr Clarke welcomed all to the meeting including our guests.
 - a. Due to bad weather the meeting was limited to one hour and agenda items 5-8 were deferred

2. Feedback on meeting with NFDC in relation to Green Belt issues
 - a. Steve, Claire and both Jon and Neil from rCOH attended the meeting with Chris Elliott and Louise Evans on 6 Jan to discuss the direction the N Plan might take and consequences for the Local Plan Review.
 - b. Consequences for the Green Belt boundary review were the key issue. NFDC said it wasn't for them to give an opinion on the direction the N Plan may wish to take but only NFDC could amend the Green Belt boundary.
 - c. It would be difficult for NFDC to apply different Green Belt review criteria for New Milton compared to other places in the District. But it was felt that if there was a compelling case from the Neighbourhood Plan that this is what the community of New Milton wanted then this might be reason for different criteria to be given.
 - d. The Neighbourhood Plan would need to provide this evidence by the end of March.

3. Review of analysis of 400 responses to the initial Community Engagement
 - a. The full write-up is still awaited but key points were
 - i. People like New Milton because of its location between the sea and forest, easy access to nearby cities especially using the train station and because they liked the facilities and peacefulness of a small town.
 - ii. People would like to reduce traffic particularly in the centre of Town.
 - iii. People wanted a greater variety of shops, evening entertainment particularly restaurants and better public transport. Some directly mentioned encouraging young people into the town.
 - iv. Most people saw that increased housing (900) would bring benefits of improved facilities, affordable homes and opportunities for new employment but were worried primarily about the increase in traffic and that not enough health provision would be made.
 - v. To improve health people wanted shorter waiting times for GP's and would use new cycling and walking routes.
 - vi. There was considerable dissatisfaction with the Town centre traffic lights and traffic congestion and the Whitechurch Rd, Station Rd, Osbourne Rd junction. Lots of suggestions put forward for road improvements.
 - vii. Few commented on education but it was noted that nursery and special need education was required.
 - b. In view of the above it was concluded that there was broad synergy between the Community Engagement feedback and the Working Group Vision workshop and

that the emerging direction of the Neighbourhood Plan would meet the community need. It is now a priority to test this assumption with a second community engagement in March.

4. The Working Group had some discussion on the merits of using housing policy to seek to alter the predicted demographic shift from 1/3 of the population over 65 to ½ over 65 by 2036 (NFDC Local Plan Review) – and to attract more younger families to keep to 1/3 over 65. Further views would be sent by email to help to articulate clear advantages for the whole community.

NEXT MEETING – 2nd Feb to focus on agreeing membership of Task Groups.