Bridgnorth Town Plan Steering Group Minutes of Meeting – 25th February 2020

Held in the Annexe, College House, Bridgnorth at 7 pm.

Present: Henry Carver

David Cooper - Councillor BTC

Clive Dyson - Steering Group Chairman, Councillor BTC

George Edwards - Tasley Parish Council

Mike Golding Keith Hayward Val Hayward

Susan Howle - Vice Chairman, Tasley Parish Council

Nikki Squire Gary Timmins

Apologies: Darren Hodson

Simon Cawdell

Ray Gill

Catherine Lipinskis

1. Minutes of and actions from the previous meeting

The minutes from the previous meetings were approved.

All actions from previous meetings have been completed, except for the following:

Action 19/8-3: Susan Howle to arrange for Tasley Parish Council to consider approving

the Terms of Reference. Ongoing

Action 19/9-6: David Cooper to find if data on the relevant spend in each area has been

collated by anyone. Ongoing

Action 19/11-1: Clive Dyson to request that Shropshire Council officers meet with the

Steering Group, on a mutually convenient date. **Meeting arranged.**

Action 19/12-4: All members to inform Clive if there is a (future) working group they wish to

contribute to, and to propose people who may contribute. Ongoing

Action 20/1-1: Clive Dyson to produce a draft document covering [how to complete

sections of the plan for existing working groups] and suggesting a target date by when draft documents should be completed. Circulated in

advance of the meeting.

2. Consultation and preliminary survey results

The three public meetings have been held. The first was poorly attended due to problems with distributing leaflets. However, those at Low Town Community Hall and Tasley Village Hall were well attended.

We have received about 150 responses to the online survey so far. Paper submissions have still to be collected and entered.

We quickly reviewed the statistics for the online responses.

3. Completing the work of the existing working groups

It was agreed that the existing working groups should reconvene to consider what remains to be completed and draft a first version of their section of the Bridgnorth Plan, in the light of the survey results. The draft should include key issues and a (probably external) body responsible for delivery.

Action 20/2-1: Existing working groups to produce first drafts by June 2020.

4. Retail, hospitality and tourism

Further work is required to build on the work carried out by the group to date. Discussions are ongoing with the Chamber of Commerce and the town's Retail group. Consideration is being given to whether a Business Improvement District (BID) is appropriate for Bridgnorth and how proposals for this could be developed, possibly with the support of grant funding.

Action 20/2-2: Clive Dyson to progress with Steve Robbins, Sally Themans and members of the existing working group.

5. Progressing the remaining issues

The actions to progress this at the last meeting have been commenced:

- Mike Goldsmith has raised forming a working group on environmental sustainability with Sustainable Bridgnorth. This is currently being progressed.
- Clive Dyson has contacted Inspector Nikki Roberts and will be meeting her to discuss Crime, Safety and Emergency Services.
- Darren Hodson will continue leading work on Demographics, preparing for work on Housing, Medical and Health and support for the young and old.
- Clive Dyson has contacted individuals working to support the young and old (Social Sustainability) and a meeting will be arranged.

Over 50 people have offered to participate in working groups in their responses to the survey.

Action 20/2-3: Keith Hayward and Susan Howle offered to be involved with the Medical and Health working group, including checking the status of the PPG at Bridgnorth Medical Practice.

Action 20/2-4: Val Hayward offered to be involved with the working group on Education and Training.

Action 20/2-5: Clive Dyson to write a briefing document, including outline timescales, to guide the new (and existing) working groups.

6. Membership of the Steering Group

We agreed that membership of the Steering Group should be reviewed once the existing working groups have met and the new working groups are underway.

7. Date of next meetings

The next two meetings of the Steering Group will be held at:

- 7pm on Tuesday 7th April.
- 7pm on Tuesday 5th May.

All future meetings will be held by video / audio conference, probably using Skype. Please nominate a delegate to attend on your behalf for meetings that you cannot attend.