

Notes of the Open Village Plan Meeting 10th January 2011

The meeting was held at 7pm in the Village Hall, Toppesfield.

Malcolm Braithwaite, the facilitator, welcomed everyone to the meeting, emphasising the need for the involvement of all.

1. Apologies had been received from several people including Peter Moore, John Levick and Brian Moody.
2. The minutes of the last meeting (29.11.2010) had been posted on the parish website together with the presentation given by Jan Cole from RCCE. There were no amendments requested to the minutes.
3. Matters arising
 - 3a. All actions completed
 - 3b. The new name for the group was decided as "Vantage" (Village Action Network Toppesfield And Gainsford End).
 - 3c. A draft timescale was presented for discussion and was accepted. It was reiterated that the Vantage group disbands in June 2012 when the Village Plan is launched. The Parish Council then has responsibility for the implementation of the Plan. The timescale is attached.
4. As part of envisioning the village we want in the future, a brainstorming session was done. In answer to "What do we want?" the following words being contributed:

Prosperous	Sustainable	Facilities
Thriving	Resourceful	Transport
United	Community Spirit	Communications
Tidy	Green	Progressive with clear vision
Visible	Caring	Accepting
Safe	Open	Vibrant
Peaceful	Fun	Low carbon footprint

In answer to "What don't we want?" the following words were used:

Twee	Exclusive
No young people	Neglected
Unsafe	Like Stambourne
School-less	Pub-less
Shop-less	Bus-less
Church-less	

5. The meeting divided into five groups – one each for the major topics:

Economy & Employment
Transport & Communication
Social & Community
Recreation & Leisure
Ecology & Environment

Each group brainstormed/discussed the following questions, and the outputs will be used to start to frame questions for the questionnaire.

- a) What is included in our area of interest?
- b) What are the key issues?
- c) Where can we make a difference?
- d) What is our vision for 2027?

During the groups' discussions, a representative of the under-18s asked each group to explain what they planned for the young people in the village, so that this view and group of stakeholders were not excluded or forgotten.

- 8 The leader of each group is to summarise the outputs and send to the facilitator. All group outputs will be circulated so that comments can be added, and dates of individual group meetings will be publicised.
- 9 Next Vantage group meeting to be held February 8th at 7pm at The Green Man.