

Minutes of the VANTAGE (Village Action Network - Toppesfield & Gainsford End) Business Meeting held on Monday 12th March 2012 - 7:30pm The Green Man

Present: Trisha Roberts (Minutes Secretary), Allan Collard, Malcolm Braithwaite (Chairman), Richard Evers, Brian Moody, Jane Moore, Jonathan Burchell, Denis Delaney

Apologies, Mary-Ann Stevenson, Nick Hasler, Clare Condie, Paul Thompson

1. **Minutes of the last VANTAGE Meeting** (9th January 2012)

The minutes were agreed.

MB to ensure these are posted on the Parish website together with a report from the January 31st meeting.

2. **Identify and Confirm Headings for the Plan**

Draft agreed

3. **Agree Person Responsible**

The research is done, the data gathered and the 10 projects/main headings are agreed. MB has written an outline of the plan which now needs to be filled in and completed by other people. Once this draft has been completed, David Oxnam will modify it as required to ensure consistent language, look and feel.

The outline structure/main headings are:

Parish Council Introduction

Peter Moore to write this by the end of May

General Introduction

Malcolm has drafted this.

History of the Village

Brian Moody has drafted this section.

Geography and Demography

Malcolm confirmed that he is awaiting the latest census results from 2011 and is working with RCCE to find a definitive map of the Parish.

Infrastructure Audit

Lynn Collard and Malcolm have put this section together and Malcolm will cross check the content with the individual groups responsible for the asset.

Overview of Questionnaire Responses

Malcolm has written this and will send the document to everyone in the central business group. Jane Moore and Jonathan Burchell volunteered to read and cross check the draft.

Transport & Communications

Jonathan (Broadband) and Richard (Transport and Traffic) will write their sections together with a section showing what will be done by whom by when and sources of funding. With regard to the Broadband project, Mark Stanbury, Brian Muir, and John Levick have volunteered to help Jonathan. It was agreed that the 20 mile speed limit for Church Lane would be incorporated in the Transport section under the title 'Traffic'.

Environment and Ecology.

This section needs a leader. Trisha does not want to take this on as she does not have sufficient time to lead this group but she is willing to help whoever takes it on. After discussion, it was agreed that Malcolm will approach David Burton re the Energy Savings project and Sue Clark, President of the WI, re the Local Food project. Trisha will check the draft report content on this section.

School Involvement

Our village school is VERY successful (the top primary school in England) but fewer than 50% of the children are from our Parish. The school is already over-subscribed with 28 applicants for 15 places next year. The staff live outside the Parish and are all VERY busy running the school. It was therefore agreed that the various projects should be pursued and then the school may participate once things are moving.

Village Hall

It was agreed that a list of existing clubs and societies will be included in the Plan. Mary-Ann has been invited to the next Village Hall Committee. It is planned that any major opportunities which may be identified by the Village Hall Committee will be included in the 5 year review of the Plan.

Youth Council

It was agreed that a group of younger people is required to lead this. Molly Stevenson is sitting her GCSEs this year and has to dip out. The Head Mistress of the Village School is very keen on this project as the School already has a School Council. It was agreed that Alan Collard will write a paragraph on this for the Plan.

Plan Summary

Malcolm has drafted this and it will include a review of status after 3 years plus reviews at the Annual Parish Meetings.

Overall it was agreed that the Plan will not include any aspirational proposals outside the 10 projects identified and agreed at the January 9th meeting.

4. Timings

5. Date of Review of semi-completed draft

6. Draft Modification

7. Consultation with Parish Council – possibly early May

8. Agree Final Plan

Malcolm will circulate the draft within the next few days. Input from everyone is needed by March 23rd latest (this includes all reviewing activity too). We will then have a semi-completed draft by Easter which can be given to David Oxnam for “smoothing”. Malcolm will co-ordinate the presentation of the “Smooth” draft to the Parish Council by end April. Malcolm will oversee issue control. Graeme Berry has offered to design the final Plan free of charge.

10. Launch

Still on track for 1st July 2012

11. Photographic Competition

Richard will design a poster and Malcolm will ensure that posters are posted around the village. There will also be an article in the Parish Newsletter.

12. AOB

Current VANTAGE funds stand at approx. £900 but more will be needed to print the Plan. Malcolm has already warned the Parish Council and is working with Jan Cole to access additional funding from RCCE. Malcolm believes something in the region of £2000 is needed.

Possible sources of funding for individual projects will need to be identified. It was agreed that this would be left to individual groups to address.

13. Date of next meeting

Steering Group meeting planned for Monday May 14th 2012 at 7:30pm in the Village Hall.