

INAUGURAL MEETING OF QUORN VILLAGE DESIGN STATEMENT TEAM

Held at Quorn Village Hall, 7.30pm Thursday 12th January 2006.

Present:

Parish Councillors – Ivan Bexon
Joan Bloodworth
Phil Child

John Hutchinson
Terry Stirling

Clerk to the PC - Kathryn Paterson

Rob Brown
Hazel Fish
Rick Hoyland
Geoffrey Locke
Chris McEwan
Keith McEwan
Julia Martin

Sue Newcombe
Kevan Porter
Ian Rushin
Renia Rushin
Liz Shrives

Apoligies - Don Wix

1. Welcome.

Hazel Fish, the Community Development Officer of the Rural Communities Council, who chaired the initial public meeting to gauge public interest, took the Chair. She started the meeting by welcoming and thanking the many people present who had turned out to this inaugural meeting.

2. Apologies and introductions.

She gave apologies for Tony Weller after which all present introduced themselves adding what they hoped to contribute to the VDS.

3. Brief recap on Village Design Statements (VDSs).

Hazel reminded the meeting of the aim of the VDS with its strengths and limitations. She also showed the meeting what other successful villages had achieved and particularly recommended we view those produced by Wymeswold and Rearsby.

4. Issues to be covered by the VDS.

Hazel asked those present to read through the papers about VDS that she had distributed in individual folders. These set out not only the items to be addressed but an expected timescale. The final format of the VDS was briefly discussed with Kevan Porter making a cogent argument for one format being a physical paper booklet. Tim Rodgers said that he could produce a VDS web site and believed that this would have many advantages. He agreed to assist in publicising the Group's activities on the village website. He further said he would prepare a note for a dedicated area on the site, that people could visit, to keep up-to-date with the progress of the VDS.

5. Appointment of Officers.

After a very short discussion the meeting agreed that Terry Stirling should be Chair with Rick Hoyland as Vice Chair. Terry then took over the Chair. Rob Brown volunteered to be Secretary with Julia Martin as Assistant Secretary. She also agreed to deal with any Publicity and Media issues. Kevin McEwan agreed to be Treasurer. Possible sources of funding were mentioned and the members of the Parish Council present said that £500-600 had been budgeted as their contribution to the whole exercise. Hazel Fish said that while no overall figure was the expected "norm" for the VDS exercise it would be many times this. She also said that as Chris McEwan (the Treasurer's son) was under 25 he could appeal for funds from areas denied the rest of us.

6. Possible Constitution.

Hazel produced an old example from Appleby Magna. The meeting agreed that the officers produce a draft to be circulated with the paperwork for the next meeting. It would be discussed and a final version agreed then.

7. Agree how often to meet.

Details were left in abeyance and to be discussed at the next meeting. Because there was such a large number of keen people present Terry suggested that one possible way forward was for there to be a number of subject groups (the subjects identified in the paperwork inside the issued folders). These groups would then report back to the full meeting about how they were progressing. Members were asked to let Terry know which group they favoured before the next meeting so that a list could be circulated.

8. Names of individuals and organisation to be approached about VDS.

Terry said that definite contacts should be made to Peter Gamble (environment), Don Wix and Alison Cooper (both local history). It was also agreed that St.Bartholomew's Primary School should also be approached for their views. Who was going to do all this and when, was left over until the next meeting. John Hutchinson agreed that he would approach David Brindley (Principal of Rawlins College) about involving some of their pupils.

9. Agree issues for and invitations to next meeting.

Apart from the normal items and those mentioned above the meeting agreed that it would benefit from hearing a planning officer from Charnwood District speak on the matter of VDS. It was also agreed that a member of Quorn Parish Council should be present in his/her capacity as a councillor and not as a member of the VDS Team. It was further agreed that the minutes should be circulated to the Parish Council and those Councillors at District and County level representing the area.

10. Date, venue and time of future meetings.

The next meeting was agreed to be held in the Village Hall Rooms at 7.30pm on Thursday February 9th 2006.

R.J.N.BROWN
Secretary