

OBSERVATION AS MONITOR MEETING 22.8.2017

Looking back over the steering group meetings I have attended I think more information and participation by members of the Steering Group took place on 21st than at any other meeting.

Because the role of Chairman was different the meeting developed into an informal and relaxed discussion and it was possible for all members to put forward their thoughts and suggestions without any of the restrictions of a formal meeting. This resulted in a more open meeting which was very productive.

I look forward to all the meetings in future being conducted in this manner.

I was disappointed and concerned to hear that my observations as a monitor had not been communicated to the members of the Steering Group and that one set of observations which I had requested should be read out at the Parish Council Meeting in July had not been done.

When I agreed to be a monitor I understood my observations would be sent to all members of the Steering Group.

Some of the points I had made were identified by the Steering Group at the meeting last Tuesday. e.g. Seating of the audience to prevent "Them and Us" problem. Earlier public participation before any decision to publish suggested sites. Handout with important bullet points on Neighbourhood Plan.

I am very concerned about the amount of work, not connected with the production of the Neighbourhood Plan, is producing.

I have therefore verbally suggested that all emails and requests from the public for further information and Freedom of information requests should be acknowledged with a very simple stock reply along the lines "Your message received but due to the very large amount of correspondence received and the limited administration resources of the volunteers it is impossible to give a date for a reply."

A member of the public has made several requests to be given the number of meetings I have attended. This person has attempted to bully me at public meetings to answer his questions. I have notified the Chairman of the Group and the Parish Council and secretary that I refuse to give my authority for the Parish Council to disclose any information about my attendance at meetings. I am a volunteer and member of the public.

I look forward to all the meetings to follow and completion of the Neighbourhood Plan.



23.8.2017