



TDRA MINUTES

On 24th November 2016, 7.30pm at Tenterden Day Centre

1. Present

A Bates (Chairman), C. Parkin, K. Grant, H. Burnside, S. Nepp, W. Chantler, I Marsden, N. Webb, and Mike Carter who attended for the first part of the meeting as the TTC representative.

2. Apologies

M. Lyons, M. Winniberg

3. The following matters were raised with Mike Carter

1. The Tenterden Regeneration Programme. The Committee felt the need for consultations to be more widely circulated. Mike Carter reported that the basic briefing they had received was much in line with what the Council was thinking. A. Bates said there had been adverse comments about the questions, the presentations and how the results were analysed. It would have been useful to have had a report on the first stage before the second. There was also concern about conflict of interest concerning a skate board park, as Liptons are skate board park builders. The Committee stressed the need for communication, transparency and an understanding of their scoring matrix.
2. Neighbourhood Plan. The Committee raised the need again for a Neighbourhood Plan, but Mike Carter said that the Council favoured a Strategic Planning Document. The Committee felt that this was not strong enough as it was not a statutory document, and was reliant on Ashford Borough Council looking favourably. There was concern that builders can get away with pretty much anything in Planning at the moment, especially since there is 18 months until the Ashford Borough Plan. Further there was concern that the Tilden Gill decision had set a precedent, especially when looking at the Inspectors arguments. Mike Carter did not think that a Neighbourhood Plan would make any difference, and did not want to waste the money. S. Nepp reminded him that the Council had missed the opportunity for £30,000 of grant a couple of years ago. Mike Carter said that the Council had received professional advice on this and would ask the woman he spoke to to meet with Interest Groups such as ourselves.
3. Mike Carter complained that far from not engaging with us, TTC has not received correspondence from us. This was strongly rebutted and it seems that maybe our correspondence was not being processed properly by the Clerk. He said we should write and then attend meetings, which would allow us to have more than the statutory three minutes, as the Council would then go into open session and receive our presentation.
4. Cranbrook Road. A Bates raised concern about the refurbishment of a house at Watermill, on which permission had been granted to demolish. It was now being refurbished. M. Carter confirmed that the Council have alerted ABC. He also said that it was likely that the Hales Place proposal would be reduced to three houses.
5. Cinema. He felt that this was being looked at seriously, with good sites coming forward. S. Nepp complained that there had been no feasibility study as to which sites would be best, and stressed the need to evaluate them. Mike Carter agreed that this would happen once the need was established and the sites were shortlisted. He also invited comments on the new arrangements for the Christmas Market once this has taken place, and our views on the development surrounding the Ivy Court Surgery area.

At this point Mike Carter left the meeting.

4. Minutes of the Last Meeting

Minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

5. Matters Arising

None

6. Correspondence

A letter was received from Jean Sugden, who was critical of the Committee in general, Mrs. Nepp and Alan Bates in particular. The Secretary to draft a reply and pass it to M. Lyons who had received the letter. **NW/AB1**

7. Committee Reports

Planning

Covered Market – S Nepp reported that we had supported this, but had felt that the supports should be black and not galvanised, which would look better.

Badsha Indian Restaurant was having a face lift.

Westwell Proposed Development. It was being suggested that a residential home could be given permission in return for land being given to the Council. It was agreed that in principle this might be a way forward.

Treasurer's Report

See report.

8. Any Other Business

Lipton Group Meeting – Several members agreed to go to the consultations.

Trees – W. Chantler reported that KCC had confirmed that they owned the land at London Beech, and that the trees had been ordered with a view to planting them between November and March.

Steering Group – agreed that there was a need for an Overview of TENT1 and therefore we should attend, but as yet there was no date. A Bates to enquire. **AB2**

9. Date of Next Meeting

26th January, 2017, 7.30pm at Tenterden Day Centre. Apologies N. Webb.