

MINUTES of the joint meeting of Hungerford 2036 and HTC held on Monday 21st January 2019 at 7.00pm in the Library, Church St, Hungerford

Present: Clerk, Tony Drewer-Trump (TDT), Chris Scorey (CS), Geoff Greenland (GG)
Cllrs Simpson, Gaines, Crane, Downe, Hudson, Knight, Chicken, Cusack, Hawkins, Alford and Winser

Apologies from Cllrs Brookman and Farrell, and James McMahon

1. **Introduction** – James McMahon was not able to attend tonight but has joined the H2036 working party. He is a local youth worker.
2. **Consultation by Theme on Aims and Objectives:** - It was pointed out many of the surveys were completed by the older generation so the figures could be skewed. Are all the aims and objectives deliverable? The Town Plan has demonstrated a list of aspirations useful for determining the spending of CIL. The NDP will also include aspirations but they will be separated into a wish list. Our consultant PlanET has given us some good steers on the draft A&Os and H2036 now needs HTC comments. Post-it notes were handed around for councillors to make their comments on. The post-it notes include a postcode, age and theme category to be completed. The age category matches closely with the census.

Comments on the vision and aim of the NDP were: - Do we need to consider servicing beyond Hungerford as a rural service centre? Should the aim of the plan be to make Hungerford an 'even' better place to live?

1. **Housing** - TDT advised AECOM are carrying out a Housing Needs Assessment to consider the shortfall of housing up to 2036. The population of Hungerford is not expected to grow significantly. It is statutory that WBC provide the number of houses and we can challenge the number. AECOM provide info on the next level down, i.e. the type, tenure, mix of housing including over 55 housing needed. AECOM do not work for WBC; they are a government organisation. Our NDP will chose the site locations. The housing aim was questioned – can we ensure new housing meets the need? Yes. An NDP gives us the ability. Another comment on the aim: Should it read 'compliment the town' instead of 'does not damage the character of the town'?

It was also noted that the objectives would be easier to refer to if they were numbered. H2036 has used plain English and avoided the need for definitions in this document, for ease of reading.

2. **Employment & Economy** – Qu: How do we support growth? We can support through the planning process; a 'change of use' for example. The reference to high street was queried. This refers to the main streets of the town rather than the named High St. It was commented we have a shortage of managed office space. This comment will be added to our spreadsheet of detailed info. It was noted there is no reference to tourism or hotels, which should be included.
3. **Getting About** – Qu: Can we include A4 relief road? Traffic travelling east at the Bear hotel is particularly heavy. GG advised we need a traffic management strategy to tie in with parking. It was pointed out that traffic and transport is excluded from the remit of an NDP, hence why there is no funding, but it can be included as an aspiration. Cllr Hudson advised the traffic volumes to the north of the town are approx.12,000 and to the south 4,000 so around 8,000 is internally generated. A peak hour traffic module will include Hungerford which will tell us Hungerford is congested. Cllr Hudson recommended a short parking study. Cllr Crane invite others to join him in a meeting with Tim Smith from Thames Valley Local Enterprise Partnership on Feb 25th. Newbury received funding from them for London Road and the train station. It was thought Hungerford would benefit from 30 minutes free parking which could be an aspiration. The importance of 'safe' in the aim was highlighted. The pedestrian crossing is a concern. Cllr Hudson advised traffic lights at pedestrian crossings don't necessarily improve safety.

4. The Next Generation - Qu: Can this section include reference to students living outside the parish but schooling in Hungerford. There is no transport to out of school activities. How will the views of the young be heard? James McMahon is working at the youth club and will be focusing on this. It was commented that we need more volunteers. The Youth Club used to open twice a week. The new coffee shop coming to Hungerford is much needed by the younger generation.

5. Our Heritage – Planning will have a knock-on effect on helping deliver community aspirations. More housing increases numbers of students for the school etc. Qu: Can we include reference to economy in the first objective? It was commented that there is no mention of Town & Manor. Their traditions make Hungerford unique.

6. Leisure, Sport & Culture – It was thought that Hungerford has a good selection of sports to offer. Qu: Should the first objective include the older generation? Should the third objective include ‘cultural and community events’?

7. Well-being – Cllr Cusack has a contact for the clinical commissioning group that could provide the info/stats required on the need for a new health centre. ‘Loneliness and isolation’ was mentioned as a concern.

8. Climate Change – Additional recycling facilities has been talked about on Facebook. Should we lead on this and consider improving community transport and use of electric vehicles/buses.

3. Updated Risk Register – This document has been circulated and H2036 are willing to accept comments.

4. Latest Project Programme - This document has been circulated and H2036 are willing to accept comments.

5. Planned next Steps – Once the document has been updated to include recent comments, H2036 will be attending around 12 community groups to obtain feedback on the A&Os.

6. Other comments on process - none

Meeting closed 8.45pm