

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE KIG JOINT PARISHES GROUP
Held on Monday 8th November 2007 at 7.30pm.

Present: Representatives from the following Parish Councils:
Bearsted
Boxley
Broomfield & Kingswood
Detling
Downswood
Harrietsham
Hollingbourne
Langley
Leeds
Lenham
Otham
Thurnham

The meeting was chaired by Richard Jacques - TPC.

Also in attendance: Mrs Sherrie Babington and Peter Cooper from Bloomfield's Planning Consultants.

1. Apologies.

No apologies were received.

2. Minutes from the previous meeting.

The minutes from the previous meeting were agreed by all present.

3. KIG Planning Application.

The Chairman of the meeting referred to the presentation given by MBC and spoke regarding the comments circulated by Thurnham Parish Councils Planning Committee. He asked Peter Waite to go through the main points of concern for consideration by the Joint Parish Group.

Peter Waite went through all aspects considered by Thurnham Parish Councils Planning Committee and the notes which were circulated to all members of the group prior to the meeting.

Concerns were raised as to whether the fire, police and NHS personnel were sufficient within Maidstone to deal with a major incident within the development. It was agreed that these authorities should be notified of the concerns and Bloomfield's was asked to draft letters to send to each on behalf of the Group.

Action: Letters to be sent to fire, police and NHS by Bloomfield's.

A discussion took place regarding the plans and the purpose of the rail interchange.

The business plan was discussed further and Mr Dyke spoke regarding the need to focus on the business plan.

Councillor Horne informed the meeting that he had made contact with Mark Watts who had indicated that he would be willing to meet with the group to give a presentation. It was agreed that the Clerk should make contact with Mark Watts to establish his availability.

Action: Clerk to contact Mark Watts.

Peter Cooper spoke regarding the work that would be undertaken by Bloomfield's. He stated that they would focus on the planning issues and submit an initial response to the planning application by the deadline indicated by MBC, this could then be followed up with a more detailed representation. He stated that in some areas they would be reliant on information from MBC.

A discussion took place regarding the concerns and representations from each Parish Council. It was agreed that each parish should submit its comments to Bloomfield's via the Clerk by Wednesday 14th November to enable the draft letter to be worked on.

The Group spoke regarding the letters sent out to households by MBC, and they generally felt that all households in all parishes should have been sent letters informing them of the planning application.

It was agreed that a letter should be sent to Alison Broom of MBC by the Joint Parish Group asking for all households to be sent letters informing them of the application and the deadlines for comments.

Action: Clerk to write to MBC.

Other areas of concern were discussed by the group, the Customs and Excise implications, the current problems with the surrounding motorway network and operation stack were all identified as areas to look at.

Richard Jacques summed up the discussions for all present.

4. Other Matters.

Members of the group were informed that the Terms of Reference and letter headed paper was circulated to all members in draft and any comments should be forward to the Clerk as soon as possible.

5. Date of next meeting.

To be arranged.

The meeting closed at 10.40pm.