



PL:21 Notes from January 14th 2015 Get Together

Present: Gill Glegg, Katie Reville, Tony Barber (Chair), Colin Gillespie, Ian Smith, Tess Wilmot, Graham Wilson, Lucy Blackley, Peter Reville, Ros Durston

Apologies: Charles Lloyd, Vera Dumbleton, Margot Davies

1. Community garden project

Katie, Gill and Margot are waiting for the Youth Centre Trustees to have their next meeting and will attend this to check their plans on the future use of the building. PL:21 was only entitled to work on the site until October 2014.

Tess and Ian queried whether PL21 could look to plant an apple tree behind the war memorial, near where a new electrical unit has been built. The group felt that this might be an appropriate use of some of the funds allocated to PL;21 for community gardening type projects.

The RBL are keen to support PL21 with tools or wildflower seeds and have suggested we look to improve the planting on the riverbank next to Glanvilles Mill. The group are unsure of the ownership of that land, or it's suitability for flowers. There is also some Japanese Knotweed on this bank that someone needs to be told about.

2. Family Sustainability event

Ian and Lucy have been discussing the type of event to put on. The group would like it to be a family affair mid-late afternoon, then perhaps going into a shared supper and a more adult orientated evening. The group discussed the need to have the right licenses and would like to have the first event on the 21st Feb.

3. Cycling Initiatives

The cycling subgroup now has about 6 people interested in helping and Graham is keen to get everyone together soon to firm up plans. Colin commented that Friends Cycles are keen to be involved. Graham circulated to the group

- Advice from National Institute of Health and Care Excellence: <http://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ph41/resources/no-time-for-physical-activity-the-answers-on-your-doorstep-says-nice#.VISz1U4QXPM.mailto>
- Sustrans Design Manual: Handbook for Cycle-Friendly Design (April 2014)

Photo is of Graham on a cargo bike, which is very practical for people needing to transport items e.g. shopping, kids around.



Gary Streeter MP is happy to meet with a small group from PL:21 to hear why we think the government should have 5 year spending plans for walking and cycling, as they do for roads and rail. Graham, Colin and Lucy are happy to attend one of Gary's surgeries on a Friday.

ACTION: Graham to co-ordinate a subgroup meeting to get some activities organised.

ACTION: Tony B to forward any plans from Mr Streeters office about this to Graham.

4. Ivybridge Neighbourhood Planning Group

The group discussed a list of issues, circulated by Tony B (see at end) and agreed which things are important to help create a sustainable Ivybridge into the future. The group questioned why the neighbourhood planning team seems to be focusing on the Town Centre, when the plan covers the whole Town and can set design principles for the whole area. The group is keen to stay involved in the Plan and hoped they had provided Graham and Lucy with enough ideas to speak on behalf of the group at the NP meeting the following night.

5. PL:21 Website

Jude has done an excellent job on refreshing the PL:21 website www.pl21.weebly.com and the group thanks her for her efforts. If you have a relevant event or activity that you would like to be promoted on the page please e-mail details to judebinks@hotmail.co.uk.

6. AOB

- Tess promoted some tree pruning courses taking place on the 25/26th Jan. Please contact Tess for further details. tess@tesswilmot.eclipse.co.uk
- There is an interesting event being run by Transition Town Totnes on the 7th February about local economies. <http://www.transitiontowntotnes.org/event/devon-convergence-forum-for-new-local-economies/>
- The group expressed sadness at the closure of the Fish Shop in Glanvilles Mill. We hope that they will be able to continue in a different form and we hope that the new owners of Glanvilles Mill, offer better rates for the shop units in the centre.

Next get together Weds 11th March from 7.30. Venue TBC.

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING SUSTAINABILITY & RELATED ISSUES

BUILDINGS

- Insulation & related issues concerning fuel use & heating systems
- Renewable energy sources: solar panels/heating, heat pumps, wind/water, biomass
- Accessibility
- Orientation of buildings

HOMES As above plus

- Gardens / allotments / play areas
- Access to rest of area, look of the road/estate
- Size of properties – what does Ivybridge need?
- Cost/ shared ownership/self build/bungalows/apartments
- Local people policy to help local people get on the property ladder?
- Compost bins, water butts, smart meters included as standard
- What existing buildings could can be converted?

TRANSPORT

- Public transport access, frequency, accessibility to homes & shops
- Taxi facilities
- Cycle access & cycle-parking
- Pedestrian walkways including protection on shared use areas
- Petrol station, electric-charging facility

WATER & DRAINAGE

- Rainwater harvesting e.g. for toilets
- Reduction of run-off: permeable surfaces
- Separation of flood & waste water

ENCOURAGING USE OF LOCAL FACILITIES

- Range of shops; food, greengrocery, butchers, fish, etc
- Social: cafés, restaurants, pubs, entertainment & other social
- Youth facilities
- Sport & recreation: indoor & outdoor facilities - what's going to happen with leisure centre??
- facilities for walkers & cyclists
- Health & Medical
- Disability access & child-friendly

CONSERVATION & AMENITY

- Amenity areas (including riversides), conservation of biodiversity
- Appropriate landscaping & tree-planting
- Planting for wildlife, edible planting, wildflower verges
- Conservation & interpretation of the natural & historic environment

RECYCLING

- Recycling as much as possible - facilities
- Reduction of packaging & reduction of litter

“FEEL GOOD” ENVIRONMENT – Town Square, more town wide events to encourage unity? Creation of local employment and skills to enable people to live and work in the town and to keep some youngsters local.