Minutes of the 36th meeting on 12/02/2018 of the WNDP Forum CG– West Room 7.30p.m.

Present: Gill Bindoff (Facilitator) Tony Powell, Pauline Harvey, Keith Jackson, Peter Richardson, Pepita Bianchi, David Cotterell.

1. Apologies for absence: Norman Perry
2. Declarations of Interest: None
3. Minutes of the meeting on 15/01/2018.
These had been approved via email and have been published on the website
4. Matters arising from the minutes
(i) The FAQ sheet provided to helpers in advance of the traffic drop-in event on Friday 3rd
is awaiting comments from the WPC NDP SC before being posted on the website.
(ii) There was a meeting hosted by Chris Thompson of Beechcroft (representing site PYR1 developers) between the various developers and landowners of the sites containing the safeguarded land for the B4009 realignment on 8/12/2017 to discuss delivery of the road infrastructure associated with the realigned B4009 route.
PR is still awaiting a report on the outcome of the meeting
(iii) The minutes from the meeting of the technical representatives of the various stakeholders involved in delivering the realigned B4009 which took place on 19/1/2018 are on the website and indicate a positive outcome.
5. Report of the Drop-In event on 3rd February 2018
PR presented the results from completion of the brief questionnaire attendees were asked to complete prioritising the options for traffic management presented in the WTMP and on the display boards at the event.
The bar chart analysing number of responses by proposal indicated the most popular measure was the introduction of a 20mph speed limit, the least favoured was speed humps.
It was decided that the bar chart should be published on the website.
 It was thought that the drop-in had been a successful and worthwhile event with 161 people attending. Most people took plenty of time to absorb information from the display boards and complete the questionnaires.
It was felt that the connection between some of the proposed measures and reducing the air pollution in the town centre wasn’t always clear. Many of the measures were disliked from the point of view of residents encountering them themselves even though it was accepted that such measures could reduce through traffic.
It was proposed that a traffic information pack should be produced in advance of a referendum on the WNDP in order to prevent negative voter response on the basis of the WTMP .
6. Report of the key issues raised in responses to the SODC consultation on the WNDP
The consultation ended on 28th January
A collation of all the responses and comments is available on the SODC website.
Approximately 35% of responses indicated support, 10% objected , 46% made comments only and 9% had no response or comment.
Some of the responses in particular with reference to the edge street raise issues which the WNDP forum may need to address. The WNDP forum should wait until the examiner has provided a Clarification Note with his observations on the WNDP before fully considering how to deal with the responses.
It was thought that two groups should be established in the run-up to the referendum, which may be only 10 weeks away. One group would focus on a strategy for communicating positive reasons to support the WNDP in the referendum and campaigning for the support of residents. This group could draw on the ‘What Watlington Wants ‘ objectives to reinforce a positive message.
The other group would need to keep on top of developments related to the delivery of the re-aligned B4009.
7. Update on the examination of the plan.
The examiner is expected to produce a Clarification Note this week detailing his questions on the draft WNDP and the SODC consultation responses. He has already indicated that he wishes to hold a public examination to take place on March 5th 2018.
The CG should therefore have another meeting shortly to discuss the note.
8. Proposals for management structures for the delivery of the WNDP following a referendum
This group should not just have a monitoring role but may need to be proactive .
Ian Hill has produced some proposals/draft terms of reference for the make up of the group.
GB also produced proposals for revised TOR for the forum and SC including post referendum activities. [action:KJ and TP to locate].
It was decided to discuss this further at the next CG meeting.
9. AOB
Some residents of Christmas Common feel that the WPC is not sufficiently mindful of their issues . There will be an outreach meeting (20th March ) which WNDP forum members could attend to help address their concerns. GB and PR will attend .
10. Next meeting
Monday 19th February 2018 West Room 7.30 pm This will not be a formal meeting but a workshop to draft responses to the Examination documents.