### Monday 26th MARCH 2018

#### 5.30 – 7.00 pm

#### Hesters Way Resource Centre

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| **Present** |  |  |  |
| Charmian Sheppard,  | Resident, Chair | Wendy Flynn,  | Resident, Cllr |
| Andy Hayes, | HWP | Rachel Shingler,  | HWP |
| Pat Thornton | HWP director / volunteer | Phillip Smith,  | HWP / volunteer  |
| Georgie Austin | Volunteer | Anne Holderness,  | Volunteer |
| Frank Austin | Volunteer | Steve Moat | Resident |
| Barbara Pond | GRCC |  |  |
| Ellen Tattersall | GRCC |  |  |

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| **Agenda Item 1 – Welcome and apologies** Charmian Sheppard introduced herself, as did everyone, and welcomed everyone to the meeting, and also introduced Barbara Pond, from GRCC who had come to talk about Street Audits for an NDP.**Apologies received from:** Kevin Devaney, (Resident HWNP), Lloyd Kilford, Volunteer, Lucy Smith (volunteer)Charmian said the attendance to this meeting was disappointing as the area had been leafletted, and it was hoped that this would drum up a few new people and more interest. Andy asked how many residents present had received the leaflet, some had but not all. Wendy noted that it may be that the leaflet was lost amongst other leaflets as Wendy noted it was delivered as part of a bundle and also folded which means the message may have been lost. Philip noted the use of twitter to distribute the leaflet, as you can get feedback (likes), you can see how many people have view it, and the information and be re-tweeted.**Agenda Item 1**Minutes and actions from the previous meeting. The minutes from 26th February were approved.

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|  | Actions |  |
| 1 | Investigate joint NDP developer meeting with Springbank developers | Ongoing |
| 2 | Offer West Cheltenham Vision group invitation to come to the partnership meeting on the 19th March | Done |
| 3 | **A**ll to suggest / invite steering group members for the next meeting. | Done |
| 4 | AH to investigate GRCCs facilitation of the Street audit. | Done |
| 5 | Communicate the messages from the meeting to the community. Leafletting, Wendy shared the information via her Councillor Facebook page, which had approximately 700 views, Frank Austin suggested Radio Gloucestershire to publicise the forum, Frank said they would need about a weeks’ notice. Barbara suggested the radio conduct a mock street audit. Steve suggested a roadshow, stands, etc, as did Philip, talking to people. The leaflet can be recirculated. Frank Austin felt the leaflet was cluttered, Andy said unfortunately the colours were not as crisp as were printed in the Viewpoint Magazine. | Done |
| 6 | Design and publish website. | Done |
| 7 | Design and show flyer // print | Done |
| 8 | Design and print advert in Viewpoint | Done |
| 9 | Press release re ND Forum for Echo pre 24th meeting | Done |
| 10 | Arrange display in HWCRC foyer | Done |
| 11 | AH to send out visions document ALL to highlight in red what should come out.; sent but none yet returned | Ongoing |
| 12 | AH to prepare and send street list | Done |
| **13** | All to visit Feb 23rd consultation event at SCRC if possible | Done |

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| **Agenda Item 2****GRCC - Street Audits for an NDP**Barbara introduced herself and explained that GRCC was now undergoing a name change and rebranding, the GRCC bit would remain but it will now stand for Gloucestershire Rural and Communities Champion.**Training for a Street Audit.**Street audits are broadly a consultation exercise, gathering views, finding out what people would like to improve, refurbish, and redevelop in their area.Pat asked if we can knock on doors, Barbara said yes this can be part of it. Barbara said that prior to this meeting she had done a mini video of Marsden Road in the HW area, and what was interesting to note was the amount of interest generated by filming and walking up and down the road. Many people of all ages were keen to know what she was doing, and this is likely a good way to get people’s views and generate interest in the street audit and the Neighbourhood Development Forum. Carrying flyers to distribute to interested parties and wearing NDP badges whilst carrying out the street audit would be useful. Frank also suggested Hi Vis vests, which both he and GRCC could make available to the group. **Action** – Andy to make NDP badges.A street audit is very much a visual exercise, questioning what could be developed and why. It is important to ensure that new and old developments dovetail and that new people are incorporated into the whole area.Finding out what could or should be improved means a plan can be in place to make use of section 106 money or Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) that may be available. In time the CIL will largely replace Section106. The CIL is a tax or levy on each house build, except for social housing. Street audits provide good evidential cases for how Section 106 money could be spent.When a plan is submitted, section 106 or CIL is the amount of money a developer agrees in conjunction with planners to mitigate the impact of a development. For example, the Hesters Way CRC is part funded by Section 106 money. The amount of money available via Section 106 can vary widely even for very similar developments, and although they are public documents, they are rarely publicly available. Each planning authority draw up a value for that infrastructure levy, and varies. The forum can expect to be in control of 25% of the CIL on houses in an area that has a Neighbourhood Development Plan in place, but only 15% of the levy is available without a neighbourhood plan in place. Barbara queries the role of the Hesters Way Forum as essentially fulfilling the role of a parish council which Andy confirmed.Neighbourhood Plans are not compulsory and do not need to use the whole of a parished area for a plan. GRCC can help provide and draw up forum maps, photos, and surveys for us.**Video of Marsland Road**Barbara noted there were several things to consider prior to conducting a street audit, and asked everyone to consider the following whilst watching the short video;Start by looking at the street as a whole, look at its layout;Houses – are they all the same style?Materials used, bricks or stone?What condition are the roads in?Pavement – are they there? Are they all the same? **Hesters Way discussion** Barbara asked for a general discussion about Hesters Way. What did the group think was good about Hesters Way, and stressed when asking people what they think about their area, always to start with the positives, as this likely to lead to a longer and more production discussion than starting with the negatives, which can quickly turn people off and away. Positivity is key to gathering local knowledge that leads to positive change. Any solutions you may have can be part of the street audit.Green areas – the introduction of the green areas into planning was a very good move, Marsland Road has grass verges and treesA lot of space, surprising amount of space Very good that the college has a large campus here.Philip noted it was important that Hesters Way be described as ‘home’, and to consider the question of how do you want Hesters Way to it to look for you and for your children as they grown up.Frank noted the hinterland areas, boundary areas, and communities.Pat noted the sense of community, places to gather, and that the area currently has no pub.Philip noted an initiative such as the Sherborne Cinema in Gloucester as an example of something that he anticipated would work quite well in Hesters Way.Barbara noted the following during the course of making the video; * quite a bit of litter,
* quality of pavements, different levels, scrappy, inconsistent
* drop curbs, one faces into the main road rather into the minor road,
* road signage ‘keep clear’ in need of re doing;
* parked cars – are they a problem? Or not?

Parking cars sometimes meant that access was blocked for wheelchairs leaving the residential home, as cars are parked half on half off the pavement. It was thought that GCC had been advised that a high ramp that was level with the pavement was needed.However Georgie noted that on street parking was a good thing as it acts as natural traffic calming. Marsland Road is a through route, and Ann asked whether residents considered it a rat run, and how did the busyness affect residents? What about the air quality – is that an issue for residents?Frank asked if all streets would be audited? Andy, said yes, even though this will create a lot of paperwork, it will be a very worthwhile exercise.Charmain said the film was fascinating to look at a street in this way.Pat noted that invariably road repairs looked poor and patchy and this did not happen with the overall look of a street. GCC Highways are responsible for repairs.Barbara continued with her presentation;**Street Audits*** Community involvement important
* You know where you live
* Taking photographs
* Recording what you see
* Telling residents what you are doing
* Follow a survey template which will GRCC will help us put together

**Resources needed:*** Volunteers
* Id for volunteers
* Street maps
* Pens, pencils
* Time to do this
* Co – coordinator

**Practical arrangements:**Street map of Hesters WayDivide up in areas = number of volunteers neededVolunteers for spreading the word – howFew thoughts about how people communicateWhat about hard to reach groups – how will you access themStreet survey template – will be provided by GRCC, and GRCC will attend the next meeting to accompany the NDP on their first street audit.Philip suggested that making street videos was an ideal media project for the college / All Saints Academy, and could the college do it as a project for us if we supplied them with the example video**. Action** Philip, Andy to discuss, with Kofi?How many streets are there? -- Andy distributed the list, Andy estimated 70 – 80. Georgie was surprised at how far the area Hesters Way area reaches.Barbara asked what people thought at this stage, was it feeling easier or harder than anticipated. The feeling was harder and not quite as originally thought.Barbara stressed the need to talk about what was good in the area;the bus services;many parks, although it was noted that not everyone knows where the parks are; Key questions could be ‘Have you lived here a long time? How has it changed? What would you like changed?’Barbara asked when would the group like the street audit to be completed by? It was thought that as soon as possible, as it can feed into the Neighbourhood Plan, and in turn become a viable tool for securing Section 106/CIL funding.Barbara suggested that perhaps everyone pick a road and do a video, and bring the videos back to the next meeting, to watch and discuss. It would be good to carry flyers to hand out to anyone who stops and is interested, as the flyers have the email and contact information on them. Members of the public could be encouraged to also send their videos in, and get involved.**Additional Notes**Accessibility, how does this affect you, also benches/street furniture can they be used, are they accessible?Parking – does it restrict access onto drives?Noise. Are there any brown field areas in Hesters Way, could they be redeveloped? Services that are on the street – e.g. shops, facilities, toilets.Surface water, are drains being blocked, people only notice this when it rains (grids pulled up)Crossing points on roads. Where are they, do we need more?Link points between the old and the new areas are important. Currently proposed links are limited to Telstar Way / Fiddlers Green lane roundabout and via Hayden Lane. Access is provided in other locations via walking and cycling, which is desirable, but unrealistic (apparently GCC has recommended this without offering a cycle network to link to the new development ), Permeability is what is needed to ensure the Springbank and Coronation Square can benefit from the new development, Two access points will lead to congestion problems at the two site access points described earlier.It was noted that residents surrounding GCHQ Benhall, would not consider themselves to be Hesters Way residents but they are actually in the area. The problem is GCHQ has been historically referred to as GCHQ Benhall. It is important that the surrounding areas associate with Hesters Way and realise that this Forum and associated leaflet and applies to them.Barbara also noted macro surveillance, the impact of houses built back to back, and how this impacts on whether streets are overlooked, helping to create a safe environment. Can the areas be seen into, e.g. example the entrance to Fishy Park from Princess Elizabeth Way is small, and the large hedge hides the park, but would act as a screen and sound barrier from the busy road once you are inside the park. It would be good to make the entrance to the park more significant which would draw attention to the fact it’s there.The group discussed meeting here for the next meeting, to do a group street audit, and agreed to do it en mass, as a trial. This would take place at the next meeting on Monday 24th April, weather permitting! The plan is to meet at 5.30, conduct the mock audit 6.00 til 7.00, and return to review the process. The group also discussed meeting downstairs in the foyer, to talk to everyone who comes in. **Action** Philip, Charmian, Andy and anyone else who would like to take part. AH to arrangeGeorgie asked if the current ND Plan Vision document produced when the West Cheltenham area was being considered was going to be amended, or staying as it is? Andy said that anything that wasn’t relevant to this ward could be removed but that is the only changes. **Action All****Cheltenham Plan**Andy referred to a map of the Cheltenham plan pre- submission proposals map – February 2018.The two most significant land developments are for housing as follows;.Monkscroft School is GCC land, and has been recently surveyed in preparation for being built on. It was proposed as land that was little used, but as it was land designated educational use, it has been kept locked and therefore no one has been able to use it.Former Christ College Playing fields (AKA Sandpits) again this is proposed as a housing development Fiddlers Green Lane – how is this going to be affected, the roads are going to be busier, what measures are going to be taken to make sure it has good access points; what will they look like , how will they affect existing tenants? . For example, could green space be made available around the proposed roundabout, curving the road, ensuring safe crossing points.Andy noted that our influence as a forum is wider, and more positive than as individuals of residents’ groupsOffer of technical support, conduct an audit in Fiddlers Green Lane so that comments can feed into what happens with the road.Andy passed around a comment forms comments can also be made online via the Cheltenham Plan consultation link:<http://consult.cheltenham.gov.uk/consult.ti/CheltPlan/consultationHome> **AOB****The meeting closed at 7.30 pm** Next meeting:Monday 23rd April 20185.30 – 7.00 pmHesters Way Resource CentreDate and time of future meetings; **5.30pm on Monday 21st May.** **Hesters Way Community Centre****5.30pm on Monday 25th June.** **Hesters Way Community Centre****5.30pm on Monday 23rd July.** **Hesters Way Community Centre**Signed…………………………………………………..Name……………………………………………………. Dated…………………………………………………….**Actions**

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|  | **Actions list** |  |
| 1 | Andy to make NDP badges | AH |
| 2 | All to get involved in street audit and share with friends neighbours colleagues | All |
| 3 | Street videos idea to be discussed with All Saints Academy,  | AH |
| 4 | Consultation in HWCRC foyer | PS CS AH |
| 5 | ND Plan Vision document edited to refer to HW ward | All |
| 6 | Agree the details and the advertise next meeting as street audit trial | AH |

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Signed…………………………………………………..

 Name……………………………………………………. Dated…………………………………………………….