

Exeter Community Forum

Meeting notes 27th January 2016

Apologies: Laura Robinson, community Organiser, Mike - St James Community Trust, Maggie Bonfield, St Thomas community Association, Sue Taylor St Thomas Community Association Helen Moore, Wonford COGS Cllr Paul Bull.

Christine Fraser welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were made. Diana Moore (DM) gave an update on the progress of the work.

Andrew Shadrake gave an introduction to the strategy content, the following were noted:

- Vision is draft and needs a bit of work- any thoughts welcome,
- The priorities relate to the people and place themes,
- That we don't want to lose the individual comments made at community meetings. Mindmaps had been developed to bring themes together and these will be linked to the plan,
- Comments on the draft strategy are invited once members have had time to look at it.

The action plan was discussed in detail and these are key issues on which feedback is required.

The difference between 'community plans' and 'neighbourhood plans' was discussed and **NOTED**. It was **AGREED** that supporting community plans is a good idea, especially as communities can define their own ward areas for example crossing adjoining wards. The idea of a facilitator to support communities in an enabling role was thought to be a good one and help produce consistent plans and also provide training and skills for groups engaging in community planning. The role of community organisers is supported to engage and listen to people in communities. There could be a role for themed groups focused on issues to meet to work on them. Fuller notes were written up by Andrew Shadrake and incorporated into the revised version of the plan.

Members are asked to go back to their groups and discuss the draft strategy.

A simple guide to the community strategy with pictures etc would be useful to present the community strategy.

A contribution of £150,000 of New homes bonus funding in 2016-17 towards the implementation of the community strategy was **noted**. The Investment plan would be presented at a future meeting.

The next meeting will be **Feb 24th at 5:30 at Wonford Community Learning Centre.**