Boscombe & Pokesdown NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

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Technical Advisor
Martha Covell
ECA Community Interest Company
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6.30PM- 8.30PM, WEDNESDAY 7TH June 2017

Salvation Army, Norwood Place BH5 2HF

MAIN FORUM MEETING: MINUTES

Attendees (as set out on the signed attendance sheet):
Martha Covell, Viola Wiebe, Pamela Ruthvan, Annette Bennett, Carole Gadsden, Pam Donnellan, Harry Seccombe, Daniel Cooper, Tom McKinney, Cllr Chris Rochester, Cllr Andy Jones, Clive Ross, Lynne McCarty, Alison Hancock, Richard Harrall, Lorraine Jones, Brody Jones, Steve Gillis, Jan Robers, Haymo Thiel, Rob Arnold, Sarah Veakins, Jason Davenport, Annette Annette Trapaud, Stefan Krause, Susan Chapman, Ric Staddon, Gerry Duggan, Kate Duggan, Denise Wootken, Cllr Mark Anderson, Cllr Stephen MacLoughlin

Apologies:
Alan Mercel-Sanca, Peter Ruscoe, Peter Holloway, Paul Smart, Kate Greenham, Chris Shepherd

1. **Introductions and previous minutes approved (Harry Seccombe)**

2. **Speaker: Sarah Veakins, GetSet for Growth, Bournemouth**

   a. GetSet assists established businesses that are ready to grow
   b. GetSet is now EU funded for another 3 years; formal launch in approx 2 weeks
   c. Proud to be part of Pokesdown and the area
   d. GetSet has the clients and wants to match up with landlords with retail space. But these all must be sustainable in order for there to be success.
   e. Footfall in the area is important but low, especially on Christchurch Road
   f. There is a lack of small artisan spaces, office spaces are not needed so much.
   g. Discussion from the audience regarding 17 hair and beauty shops. The argument is that different shops cater to different communities in the area.
   h. Pam Ruthvan stated there are 6 shops empty on Christchurch Road, 5 of which are owned by landlords either not willing to rent them or are absent. This has a negative knock on affect to other shops and the area.
   i. Sovereign Centre could be used for more Creative businesses and encourage "hub" working, such as The Factory in Haviland Road.

3. **Speaker: Martha Covell, ECA:**
   a. Notes from Martha
      i. xxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

4. **Discussion Groups**

There were four discussion groups, notes of which are set out below:
A review and discussion was held of the survey that Martha had prepared.

   a. The impression is that low rated properties are not worth opening for landlords as it becomes more trouble than they are worth.
   b. Car parking is a major issue.
   c. Possibility of keeping Pokesdown and Boscombe as 2 characteristic hubs and allow some properties in between to be changed to housing/offices/other.
   d. Royal Arcade needs vision and could be a single use facility ie food court.
   e. Discussion regarding take away food, both sit in and take out only. Should we limit these? They do service the people who live and work in the area to some extent.
   f. Washing shop fronts could improve the look of the area in the interim.
   g. Wet weather kid entertainment could be developed. (Creative Kids, etc)
   h. Park and ride scheme could bring people up to the shopping precinct in Boscombe.

5. **Discussion Groups reconvened**

Comments made during group sessions and during general discussion:
- The Royal Arcade needs a vision and a specific planning policy
- The Sovereign Centre needs a vision too
- There is a real need for better management and for shopkeepers to take pride of the area – just washing the pavements outside their shops
- Parking is a real issue. If the area had more accessible and cheap parking then it would attract more footfall from wider away. There is sufficient amount of parking and maybe even too much but it is just difficult to find (Hawkwood Road) or not enjoyable to use (Sovereign Centre)
- There was support for planning policies which required medium amount of flexible floor space in development on large redevelopment sites; also support for a planning policy on managing the high street and vacant units more effectively and The Royal Arcade.

- There was lengthy discussion on the need for a planning policy and maybe some master planning work on access and parking. To enhance the night time economy and make visitors stay there is some agreement to opening up part of the precinct to traffic and re-introducing a 2 way simple road system.
- There was discussion about the potential for a park and ride facility on Hawkwood Road car park which would drop people in Boscombe High Street where they could go out before heading home form the beach.
- Can better sign posting be used and a countdown of spaces available from the seafront.
- Martha confirmed that she is meeting Bournemouth Transport Planners to discuss highway and public realm issues and will also look at the potential for a planning policy on this too.

6. Martha update on writing of Neighbourhood Plan

STAGE 1 Prepare the brief: what are the issues and options?	(Aug '16)
STAGE 2 Review the context and understand the area	(Oct '16)
STAGE 3 Analysis of findings by professional team and steering group	(Jan '17)
STAGE 4 Prepare the Plan	(Mar '17)
STAGE 5 Pre-submission consultation on the Draft Plan (REG: 14)	Oct '17)
STAGE 6 Formal submission to the Bournemouth Council	(March '18)
STAGE 7 Examination	(Sept'18)
STAGE 8 Referendum and adoption (Jan '19)	

Polices and tasks

HERITAGE POLICIES	Drafted, informal approval by Bournemouth Council received.
HOUSING POLICIES	Drafted, final tweeks being made
WORK, SHOPS AND SERVICES	To be drafted by the end of June
SITE SELECTION	To be drafted by mid July, with final consultation with main forum in September
OTHER TASKS	Background and Introduction text Basic
	Conditions Statement
	Consultation material and laying out the plan

Pre-submission consultation: Autumn 2017

The referendum: 2018/19

FOR YOU TO DO:
1. Complete the on-line housing survey by 14th June
2. Complete the on-line survey on 'work, shops and services' by 1 July
3. Sign up to the mailing list and become a formal member
4. Tell 4 people about BAP and do items 1-3 above!
5. Come to our next meeting: Thursday 14th September 2017
6. Like, Follow, Share us via. Twitter and Facebook

7. Next main meeting: 6.30pm 14 September Venue TBC

8. AGM TBC

9. Harry Seccombe closed the meeting