



BBEST AGM Annual Report 2018

Key events: The first part of 2018 has involved substantial work on revision of the plan in the light of previous discussions with the Local Planning Authority, and also a significant amount of work finishing the Design Guide. Our voluntary Professional Planning Adviser, Susan Crowley has been of immense help throughout the year, and we are very grateful to her.

In July we held the Countdown to the Consultation event, with the draft Plan on display at the Library, accompanied by the launch of the new Broomhill Retailers website. Many positive comments were received about the plan and it was decided to proceed to our formal community 'pre-submission' consultation in October.

In August and September the final versions of the draft Plan and Design Guide were completed, and these were the documents for our consultation, which was held from the 1st of October to the 11th of November.

Many responses were received, with unanimous support for the policies from the local community. Statutory consultees who engaged with us were also supportive. The Local Planning Authority submitted a lengthy response, with detailed and useful comments, and helpful suggestions for improvement. A planning consultancy submitted a lengthy document of objections. The University also had concerns that the Plan may affect its development. The next few months will see BBEST examining these comments policy by policy and responding as appropriate.

Three important issues have also occupied us during the year:

Banning To Let Signs – major community issue uniting all sections of the community, continuing to press the LPA to agree to act on this

Community Infrastructure Levy – a CiL fund consultation has been held. It continues to be an issue that major developments in the area are not liable for CiL despite their substantial community impact.

Community Hub – the Library continues to develop well, and the Community Action on this development in the Plan has been taken forward over the year.

Finance: We have a balance at 1 December 2018 of £1,296.58. Our expenditure has been frugal, with some room hire, a continuing need to fund the website (and we are very grateful to Rich Smith for his help with maintaining it) and printing costs for the Plan. We are also grateful for a small number of voluntary contributions over the past years to the BBEST account. We are not eligible for any further grants. It is likely we will spend all of our remaining funds by the time the Plan is adopted.

Membership: BBEST membership stands at 219. Over the year 8 people have unsubscribed and 2 new members have been added

The next 12 months: 2019 will see the production of the 'submission' version of the Plan. This goes to the Local Planning Authority, who will again consult. An Examiner will look at our Plan. It might be that we can hold the Referendum at the end of the year, but it is now looking more likely it will be in 2020.