

BBEST Annual General Meeting, 21 October 2017

Minutes

Attendance

19 BBEST supporters attended the Annual General Meeting.

Introduction by the Chair

The Chair noted that 2017 was a 'backroom' year with activity centred on collating the results of consultation into a draft plan, and then 'translating' the resulting document into 'planning speak'. There were also two rounds of initial consultation with SCC Planning Officers who gave advice on the draft and on the situation in relation to the Council's own plan.

2018 will be a very significant year for the plan, heralding the first round of public consultation. This prospect throws into relief the deficit in resources for BBEST, centring on 2 areas: finance and volunteer effort. A document about volunteering at a time when BBEST needs to raise its public profile is available on the website and an email will be sent out shortly. Following discussion of funding issues it was agreed that the Chair would write to all members asking for a contribution to BBEST expenses.

The programme for 2018 includes:

January: Discussion of biodiversity work with ECUS

May: Full draft of the Plan available for circulation

July: Forum meeting to discuss full text

September: full area consultation

These steps will be followed by external evaluation, a further SCC consultation and finally the referendum vote of all residents.

Election of officers

The current officers have indicated their willingness to continue, and in the absence of other nominations will continue in their current roles. The Treasurer has recently moved out of the area. He is happy to continue in his current role, but would welcome a replacement.

Chair: Pete Marsh

Vice-Chair: Anne Daw

Secretary: Kath O'Donovan

Treasurer: Chris Topliss

Election of Steering Group Members

The Chair thanked a number of retiring members for their work with Steering Group over a number of years.

Nominations did not exceed the number of places on Steering Group and so the following were elected. Note that Officers also attend Steering Group meetings:

Ruth Gunay

Cllr Kieran Harpham

Anne Kerslake

Cllr Magid Mah

Emily Pieters

Reena Staves (University of Sheffield Union of Students representative)

At the end of the meeting the organisers were thanked for their work.