

Drayton 2020 Look and Feel Working Group

Notes on meeting held from 7.45 – 9.45 p.m. on 15th November 2012
at 11 Newman Lane.

Present:

Oenone Grant, Janet Manning, John Scott, Tom Shebbeare, Richard Williams

Oenone and Richard joined us from the Work and Play Group, as their numbers were so few. Meetings of these 2 groups will be together from now on.

The development of a new community building/ village centre was discussed, to be located on the proposed new village green. The idea is to create a multi purpose community building that will meet the needs of functions such as dramatic performances, parties, weddings, classes and smaller groups such as the numerous societies in the village. It could also include a dedicated children's centre, where the needs of pre school children and their carers could be met and further activities for this group be developed. A café would provide a welcoming meeting place for people of all ages in the village.

The various societies and groups in the village would be approached to find out what their needs would be.

An initial discussion took place about funding for such a project, including approaching the lottery fund. A really attractive centre would attract bookings for weddings, parties etc which would help with running costs.

The Deed of the Millenium Green has been investigated and whilst organized games are prohibited, there appears to be no problem about creating a playground and a Green gym on this site.

If a new community centre goes ahead, the existing village hall could become a sports pavilion.

The development of a small business park/light industrial area beside the A34 was discussed. This land is too noisy for residential use, but would be appropriate for offices and industry. There is apparently a need in this area for office units with the provision of a communal Boardroom for meetings. The possibility of such a development providing part time work for people with childcare responsibilities in the village was mentioned, as this group often struggle to find compatible work within a short distance. A skate park for older children could possibly be located here.

It would be advantageous for any new development in the village to be linked by footpaths and cycle tracks to the rest of the village. This would facilitate flow and ready access to all parts of the village. Upgrading of existing paths to all weather surfaces and improvement of cycle tracks would also improve accessibility and safety. The provision of a cycle track along East Way was specifically mentioned to facilitate those working on Milton Park. The provision of cycle tracks/paths

alongside bridle ways was discussed, as bridle ways become impassable in wet weather.

Social cohesion is at the heart of creating a village identity and a sense of belonging. It was felt that the a new multi purpose community centre would be an important aspect of this, but that more events such as the Jubilee picnic, a village fete etc would offer further opportunities to feel part of the village.

Date of next meeting of combined Look and Feel and Work and Play Groups is 29th Nov. 2012 at 7.45 p.m. at 11 Newman Lane.