

DRAFT

**WINCHELSEA TOWN PLAN
STEERING COMMITTEE METING, 23 NOVEMBER 2009**

PRESENT: R Comotto (Chairman), B Chishick, D Morris, A Pope, M Redmond, M Terry, S Turner.

1 **Apologies for absence.** P Dawes.

2 **Minutes of last meeting.** The draft minutes of 24 July 2007 had been distributed to members and published on the Winchelsea website. The minutes were adopted without comment.

3 **Matters arising.** None.

4 **Finance.** There have been two transactions this year: £100 on 31 January 2009 on the special consultation and £67.50 on the Leisure Facilities Consultation on 29 August 2009. The outstanding balance is £1,493.37.

5 **Draft Traffic Chapter.** This had been circulated to members on 9 November. It had been decided not to wait any longer for comments from the Conservation Officer, who had failed to reply for more than a year. The proposal was for the committee to adopt the chapter and the attached section of the Action Plan, and to circulate both to residents. A public meeting would be held to answer questions, probably early in the New Year, and then a vote taken on the Action Plan. The Committee approved the proposal to copy the document to each household, given the importance of the traffic issue. The Chairman thanked all those involved in the preparation of the Chapter, including Ben Chishick, John Haddock, Chris Mears, David Morris, Shane Redmond and Mike Terry. The aim of the Chapter was to meet the evidential requirements of a LAP and to “clear the undergrowth”, by eliminating traffic-calming schemes which did not command majority support in the community or were not feasible because of likely conservation or technical objections, in order to allow a productive discussion of practicable solutions. Funding would be a challenge, but it was felt important to get the wishes of the community “on the table”, so that proposals might be factored into forward planning and be ready to go if funding became available unexpectedly. The draft was adopted with minor corrections. There was some discussion of whether to keep junction tables in the Plan despite their expense, in case funding became available in the future. However, there were other objections. The Committee supported the proposal to invite expert, Ben Hamilton-Baillie, to talk about Shared Spaces. Steve Turner complained that he had not had time to look at the document. The Chairman asked him why he had not replied to a letter sent when an e-mail sent on 9 November had been bounced back or sought to get a copy from another member. However, the document would remain open for another week, although any material changes would have to be referred back to the committee. The format of the Action Plan will be converted into a matrix, which is the conventional form for LAPs.

6 **Programme of future work.** The next projects would be to produce the Transport Chapter.

7 **Any other business.** None.