**Neighbourhood Plan – 05.06.2017**

Present – Ben Lord, Nick Laughton (PC Reps), Roy McFruin, John Rowe, Debra Reay, Gordon Palastanga, Sue Palastanga, Stephen Mann & John Sharpe

Also – Mandy Adlington (Parish Clerk)

Cllr Ben Lord gave a brief overview of a Neighbourhood Plan and why the Parish needs one;

* Parish Plan from 2005 is out of date
* Parish Plan does not have as much legality as a Neighbourhood Plan
* Neighbourhood Plans are adopted by the local authority
* Future developments have to conform to an adopted neighbourhood plan
* Helps safeguard what the residents want for their Parish

The Parish Council have applied to become a Neighbourhood Plan Area. A consultation by St Edmundsbury Borough Council is being carried out from Thursday 25th May until Thursday 22nd June. St Eds will then make the decision if this Parish is suitable for a Neighbourhood Plan Area. Once that is agreed then the project can move forward.

This project could potentially cost up to £25,000. There are grants available and the Parish Council have already set aside £15,000.

Cllr Lord explained that various organisations within the village will need to be brought to the table such as the GP surgery, the village hall, various groups within the village and possibly the schools.

Consultations will need to be held to ascertain what the Parish actually wants in the future.

All agreed it would be hard work engaging with residents of the Parish.

It was discussed and agreed that a need to employ a consultant or a company that were experienced in putting together a plan needed to be sought. Debra suggested putting together a comprehensive brief to give to possible companies to get exactly what is needed for the Parish.

Areas already thought to be discussed were;

* Recreation
* Schooling
* Transport
* Rights of Way
* Health
* Bridge over the By-Pass
* Future Developments – housing and industry

The following agreed to take part in the Neighbourhood Forum;

Cllrs Ben Lord, Nick Laughton, Ben Birrell and Pam Shelton (Parish Council Reps), Mr John Rowe, Mr Roy McFruin, Mr Gordon Palastanga, Debra Reay and Mr Stephen Mann (village hall rep)

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Monday 17th July at 7pm in Ixworth Village Hall.

**Actions:**

Seek names and companies and briefs for Neighbourhood Plans – Debra

Invite local groups to the next meeting – Ben Lord

Find information about grants – Parish Clerk

Find information from SALC, CAS and other organisations – Parish Clerk