

Forward Planning Group (FPG)
Report for Executive Committee Meeting on 11 May 2015

We have had 2 informal meetings since the last meeting of the Committee. At the first, on 21st April, we were pleased to be joined by new members - Ian Seifert and Martyn Williams. Consequently, most of the meeting was concerned with bringing the enlarged FPG up to speed with 'Transform Leatherhead'. As a consequence, a copy of the Invitation to Tender from MVDC to the potential consultants, called Masterplanners, was forwarded to our new members. We have not had a copy of the Contract so do not know if there were any variations from the original invitation.

On 13th April, at the request of the Masterplanners, MVDC organised a day's walkabout around Leatherhead and its surrounding villages. The LRA representative, Hubert and John, attended the Leatherhead walkabout together with Caroline and Fran. The Masterplanners expressed the view that these walkabouts were extremely useful and our representatives were satisfied that the Masterplanners took note of the points they made.

At the meeting on 21st April it was agreed that, in order to prove that the LRA was representative of our residents, we should compile a questionnaire covering the key issues to be addressed in Leatherhead. This would be distributed to our members. Martyn offered to produce the first draft list, which was augmented by suggestions from other FPG members.

At our second meeting on 5th May, we reviewed the list. The questions were based on the many aspects of the town experienced by its residents - transport, parking, town centre road system, housing, entertainment, shopping etc. It is intended to send them out by email where possible but by leaflet where not. Because the results are to be considered an LRA submission, non-members are not being invited to reply.

The next meeting of the Community Reference Group is on Thursday, 14 May. We understand that the Masterplanners will be attending the meeting to report on their initial overall assessment of the Town, its limitations and opportunities. We look forward to this as the timetable promises completion of the general scheme by the end of June.

A report of the coming meeting of the CRG will be circulated to the full committee after Thursday's meeting.

Hubert Carr