

BIG LOCAL SOMPTING OPEN AFTERNOON PLANNING MEETING 29TH JANUARY 2013

Present: Nick Piggott, Sompting Parish Council (SPC); Tina Favier, Adur District Council (ADC); Mel Shaw, ADC; Lee Billingham, ADC; Chris Servante (SPC); Alun Jones, Resident; Darren Lewis, Youth Pastor, Sompting Community Church (SCC); Sue Holland, Nelson Close Residents Association; Colin Frampton, SCC and Chair of School Governors; Brian Morgan, Principal Communities Officer, West Sussex County Council; Jim Boot, Big Local Rep; Dick Somers, Neighbourhood Watch, Sue Somers, Resident.

Apologies: Tracey Light, Resident

Ground rules

The group agreed to ground rules for this and future meetings suggested by Jim Boot.

- One person speaks at a time
- Finish on time
- Everyone has a right to be heard
- Refreshments at meetings

Aim of event on 9th February

The group felt it important to agree the aims before planning the event.

- Capture Big Local's vision
- Raise awareness
- Opportunity for people to put their names forward/How to get people involved
- Helping people to come forward
- Setting up a new group
- How to access the £1million
- Start of a process
- Create a buzz
- It's all about people (key message)
- Tell us what you're good at
- All age groups – different media

Contents of the event/programme

The location is in the Maths Courtyard at the Sir Robert Woodard Academy. The group discussed how they wanted the event to work and its contents.

- Informal
- Open day/drop in (rather than formal meeting)
- Perception that its resident led and owned (needs to be given)
- Explanation of Big Local process
- Information about the Neighbourhood Plan
- How its different/complementary to the Neighbourhood Plan
- There is money on offer
- Star people awards

Promoting the event

Next the group discussed how to promote the event to residents

- Splash FM
- Herald
- Cascade out through groups
- Social media – people to use their own if appropriate/willing

- Posters – local shops ie Alldays and takeaways
- Newsletter distributed through doors (later)
- Word of mouth – how to use this/use connections ie parents at school gates, key people ie youth workers and important parents
- Door drop (not well supported)
- Simple messages – Big Local, Help us spend £1m
- Monopoly money, paint a field
- Using pictures (for those who have difficulty reading)

How to create a buzz

The group felt apathy would be a challenge and it would be important to create a buzz to get residents to attend and put their names forward to be involved.

- Father Christmas (might be confusing)
- Speak to all local shops
- (Giant) balloon in shape/with wording £1m
- Hang stuff off bridge
- Chris Tarrant (or other celebrity)
- Who wants to be a millionaire (hook)
- Paint the field/crop circles
- Create an atmosphere – outside the village primary school, sweeties, balloons
- Giant cheque or cheque flyer to every household
- Through 6th Formers – Dragons’ Den
- Loyalty card for collectors (of people) – get a reward
- Contact Lions and Rotary

Timeline

A timeline was laid out on the table and participants were asked to commit to undertaking the key actions and activities required to make the event a success.

Any time	Dick to organise e-mail to Neighbourhood Watch (400 households)
Any time	Tracey to contact GP Surgeries, Co-op, Dentist and Chemist
Any time	Brian to set up Twitter account (to be taken over in due course by residents’ group)
Any time	Colin to contact Community Centre and Village Hall/provide posters
Any time	Chris to circulate poster/flyer through social media ie Sompting Residents’ Face Book also to local shops, library and schools
Any time	Darren to contact Rev James and Kerry of SRWA.
Any time	Lee to promote at Sainsburys/Lancing and contact Adur Voluntary Action re mail-out.
Tues 29 th	Tina to circulate press release to local media and through Adur DC social media
Wed 30 th	Brian to design a flyer/ Jim to supply copy and send to Nick Piggot for printing (subject to an agreed quotation).
Sat 2 nd	Jim attending open day for Devonshire West in Eastbourne (anyone else welcome to observe – expenses can be claimed from Jim).
Tues 5 th	Lee to co-ordinate leaflet drop to households 4-6pm with Adur Homes, Sue, Dick and Sue Somers, Alun and Chris .

Wed 6 th	Darren and Colin to undertake promotion at parent's evening inside and outside Sompting Village Primary School.
Thus 7 th	Jim, Sue and Lee to undertake promotion at parent's evening inside and outside Sompting Village Primary School. Sue to promote to Nelson Close Residents Association at their AGM.
Sat 9 th	Rota to help set up, provide refreshments and staff information stalls (Jim to co-ordinate).
Thus 14 th	All to attend wash up/inaugural residents' group meeting in community room at Sompting Village Primary School 6.30-8pm (suggestion).

Other issues raised

- Need to let people know about beneficial area
- A lot of this information is in the Neighbourhood Plan work
- Communication is challenging
- How to tap into the community
- Is 9th February too soon
- Area has lost its identity
- A27 is a barrier

The meeting finished at 2pm (on time) with Jim Boot agreeing to write up the notes and circulate.

Notes from meetings with residents held at Boundstone Children's Centre on Tuesday 22nd Jan (re-scheduled because of snow from 18th Jan)

- Village church and old village outside the beneficial area
- Being adjacent to Lancing – one of the largest 'villages' in England has led to the loss of some facilities such as Post Office – and activities for village children and young people going east.
- Limited number of play areas
- No train station, but there are bus services and Dial A Ride
- Community events can be difficult ie Bring a Cake Sale
- There is an In Touch Newsletter (provided by local Ward Councillors) that goes to every household
- Suggestion to contact: vicar of parish church, PCSO and Sompting Abbot School and other Ward Councillors for Cokeham and Peverill.