

Notes of West St Leonards Forum

Public Meeting

23rd March 2022

The Meeting was attended by around 40 residents and business owners.

Virginia opened the Meeting and thanked everyone for attending. The first speaker was Anthony Whitaker from AECOM who explained how the Forum was progressing towards designation of its boundary and recognition as the body representing the area with Hastings Borough Council. Anthony also provided an insight into the next steps, including gaining sufficient members, adopting a constitution and completing a Neighbourhood Plan.

Bryan Fisher was the second speaker who informed the meeting of the progress of the draft Neighbourhood Plan and the main areas the plan will cover. Anna Sabin also spoke about the results of the surveys and the main concerns of the local residents which included Transport, infrastructure, future housing plans and general look of the area.

The Constitution has been sent to the participants of the meeting in advance and William Ackroyd went through the salient points and the meeting was asked to adopt it. The Constitution was unanimously accepted.

Unfortunately representatives from HBC and the University of Brighton were unable to attend. Virginia Vilela informed the meeting of the HBC's role and contributions to the Plan from information sent by the Council.

Bryan also informed the Meeting of the role that will be taken by the Students at Brighton University working with the Forum members in three subjects to provide the necessary evidential data to support the Neighbourhood Plan

Membership forms were handed out at the Meeting and 34 people returned them which means we already have more than the 21 members required.

The Forum wishes to expand its committee to include area-representatives as a conduit between neighbours and businesses. Volunteers as area rep for the Marina were gratefully accepted so further volunteers are needed for Bultherhythe and Edinburgh Road areas.