



Parish Plan Open Day Success

Over two hundred residents took part in the Open Day held in the Village Hall on Saturday, 12th January. The overwhelming feedback was that the event had been very successful and that residents also felt it to have been useful to them. The purpose of the Open Day was to launch the consultation process, which is the foundation stone of a successful Parish Plan. If the actions and requests made in the final Plan are based on the wishes of the community as a whole, they will

carry very much more weight with the authorities and other partners on whom we shall need to rely to turn the goals of the Plan into reality.

The Village Hall was a hive of activity throughout the day. Over forty village organisations had been invited to mount a display and sixteen of them actually took part with colourful, and in one case sonorous, displays of their activities. The Parish Plan Steering Group had set up a number of posters explaining what the Plan aimed to achieve and how villagers could become involved in the process of preparing it; but, most importantly, the group was asking North Ferriby residents to tell us what they felt to be key points (good and bad) about living in the village at present and what they saw as important issues for the future. Most residents came because they had points they wished the Plan to address and because they recognised the usefulness of the exercise.

Our displays grouped the various topics under headings such as "Environment and Development", "Transport and Accessibility", "Social and Community Services and Activities", "Health" and "Business and Commerce", and visitors were invited to write brief comments on Post-It notes, which they then stuck to the relevant display. We now have the task of analysing these comments and using the results as the basis of a questionnaire, which will be distributed to every house in the village.

The Steering Group wishes to thank the Co-op for very kindly donating refreshments, which were most welcome on a cold winter's day. We also wish to thank the organisations which supported us with displays, and added to the interest of the Open Day for visitors. We understand that several of them were able to recruit new members. Lastly, our thanks go to everyone who came and contributed their comments.

Margaret Swindin
Secretary
North Ferriby Parish Plan Steering Group