

*Pownal Comprehensive Plan Committee Meeting*

FINAL

December 11, 2018  
6:30 – 8:00pm @ Mallett Hall  
DeWitt Room

Present: Kathy Hogue, Marcia Bowen, Joan Mueller, Susan Peters, Russ Schmidt, Christine Watson, Coren Wheeler, Jon Morris, Heidi Curry. Excused: Adam Haynes

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm.

1. **Minutes:** The minutes of November 13, 2018 were approved as written.
2. **Finances:** Susan had nothing new to report.
3. **Survey:** The review process for the survey was continued. Coren thought that a question in the government section about the level of participation and how it could be improved should be added. It was decided that every section will have a place for comments, which would be compiled and reviewed for common threads. The committee felt it was important that the introduction specify how the comments will be incorporated into the plan, so that commenters feel their comments have been read and taken into account. It would be nice to get better than the 29% return rate of the previous survey. Our goal will be to make it as easy as possible to respond (including survey monkey), understanding that some residents aren't interested in what happens in Town. Would an incentive (prize?) be worthwhile to encourage participation?

Jon clarified the level of public safety we have. We have no police department nor do we have a contract with the County. There are complaints to the Selectmen about the level of service but also personal experience is that response is rapid. Discussion of how to frame public safety questions i.e. do you feel safe? Discussion of whether to include cost implications in the questions, as in the previous survey. The previous survey had categories "support with moderate increase in taxes, support with little increase in taxes...". Jon indicated that the tax implications were not important to the selectmen as that tax implications would be decided at Town Meeting. Russ felt strongly that the additional information about tax implications was important. The rest of the committee felt otherwise. This decision was tabled until survey is completed. Jon emphasized the importance of including wished for items in the Plan (his example: bike paths on Route 9, which were mentioned in the past plan and are now being considered by DOT) that could allow consideration in the future.

Animal control questions were discussed and finalized. Pownal does have a swine control ordinance.

4. **School survey:** The survey results were discussed. There were questions about the number of respondents (60 according to previous minutes) and whether it included both middle and high school students and parents.
5. The meeting was adjourned at 8:01 pm.

Respectively submitted,

*Marcia Bowen*

*Committee Members:*

*Marcia Bowen, Heidi Curry, Adam Haynes, Kathy Hogue (Chair), Jon Morris (Selectman),  
Joan Mueller, Susan Peters, Russ Schmidt, Christine Watson, Coren Wheeler*