

NEIGHBOURHOOD

DEVELOPMENT FORUM

Action Minutes

Wednesday 19th August 2015 held at the Station Hotel, Guiseley, 7.15 pm

Present: Jennifer Kirkby, Christine Schofield, Clive Woods, Cllr Ryk Downes, Frank la Corte, Joan Roberts, Liz Kirkpatrick, Lynda Kitching, Richard Webster, Terry Gudgeon.

Apologies: Cllr Graham Latty, Nigel Wilson, Steve Howarth.

JK chaired the meeting.

Minutes of the Last meeting and matters arising.

The minutes of the last board meeting were accepted as a true record

LK corrected that under the heading Of Urban Room it was EK and RW to progress, not LK.

Secretary's Report

EK reported we had one new member, John Martin, former press officer to Harewood House,. A newsletter will shortly be emailed to the membership to inform them of the public consultation and the importance of making an informed response.

Aireborough Voice had a 3,400 post reach last week and we are just 50 short of 1000 page likes.

1. Neighbourhood Plan Research update

AECOM have sent a list of headings which will form the framework of the work, and members are invited to add comments. AECOM have been examining our evidence base and undertaking site visits. An example of their work done for Salford University can be found on our Dropbox account.

Ian McKay has sent the Forum a copy of Linton's NP inspection report to look at as an example. It has been recommended, with amendments to go to referendum.

a) Housing Needs Survey (FIC)

FIC and JK had met to discuss the Housing Needs Survey and how to get responses. FIC then ran through some ideas with regard to alternative housing sites which would alleviate pressure on our Green Belt. E.g. Nunroyd Park has around its perimeter areas of densely overgrown land, not providing any amenity value which could possibly also be considered. The site on Milner Road should also be looked at again. RD commented that the big builders will not be interested in smaller sites. Brownfield costs too much from the builder's point of view so Green Belt will disappear first. **It was concluded that we should be creative in identifying possible sites for development and let FIC know of any ideas.**

b) Green Infrastructure (CS)

CS showed us an up to date green space map she had LCC draw up with all types of green space in Aireborough and their areas in hectares along with an index naming each one. **She asked if anyone noted any mistakes to let her know.**

She briefed us that she had held a meeting regarding public rights of way, greenways and cycleways with Bob Buckenham, (bob.buckenham@leeds.gov.uk) Doug Louis, NW Country Parks, Roger Brookes (roger.brookes@leeds.gov.uk) (LCC maintenance volunteer group coordinator) Ryk Downes, and Richard Smith (Ramblers Association). The idea of the meeting was to extend the NW country Park to Aireborough. LCC have not allocated money to reopen overgrown ways and are relying on an interested and involved public to do the work. **SH was going to walk the High Royds routes with DL, and RK offered after the meeting to run it and report back. FIC has the map and will forward to CS and RD.**

CS then informed us of a new document, 'Guidelines for Local Greenspace Designation, whereby greenspace which are used for recreation can be designated and protected. **CS to forward to EK who will distribute to members. This could be included in the public consultation and put on line.**

c) Employment (TG)

TG explained that since he had been appointed to the employment role he had been away in Italy and had been celebrating his retirement. Now he was back he intended to begin work and liaise with the previous topic group leader.

d) Transport

CW told the board that until a freedom of information application in 2004 it had been kept secret that the A65 was at capacity in Aireborough. In 2011 WARD commissioned a traffic survey of the road which was given to Mr. Thicket. Surveys now differ from those done earlier in that LCC now monitor 'Pinch Points' such as Horsforth Roundabout and other busy junctions. **ANDF have mooted carrying out their own survey.**

In July 2014, the Government announced that WYCA has, uniquely, secured funding to establish a £1bn Growth Fund. As part of the fund the Rawdon Link Road had been earmarked for investment. The Road was now undergoing a Gateway one review, and JK had established with Andrew Hall, Transport Officer at Leeds City Council, that local people were to be included in the discussions. The road was not a foregone conclusion, and a railway route still had strong support from politicians, Bradford Council and local people.

2. Getting ready for SAP Public Consultation

a) Urban Room,

EK told the board that we now have purchased our own display boards and a pull up banner, designed by Briony Spandler (member). Ideas have been collected for a stylised map which Briony will design for leaflets and another pull up banner. These will form the basis of a pop up urban room. The action group coordinators are in the process of identifying venues they could hold pop up information centres. Venues were suggested by board members including, Yeadon Market and Morrison's foyers in Guiseley and Yeadon.

The public consultation re the site allocations will be an eight week period around September, October or November. We need the public to be fully engaged. It was decided to begin with a display on housing, which would also promote the forum and inform as to the public consultation. Housing Needs Surveys would be distributed.

b) Site Allocation Sustainability Reports and Green Belt Reviews

The Site allocation Coordinators are working on their sustainability reports and green belt reviews.

c) Meeting with MP's and Councillors

A meeting has been arranged with our MPs and Councillors for 2nd September. Greg Mulholland, Stuart Andrew, Graham Latty and Ryk Downes had kindly agreed to attend; the meeting would take the form of discussion and feedback. It was thought it could be opened up to members who had some knowledge of the NPPF and local planning by invitation, similarly to members of Aireborough Civic Society. **EK to email members with a background newsletter, offering a knowledgeable discussion with our representatives.**

3. Getting ready for Inspection (update on legislation and MP meetings)

A dialogue has been established with Brandon Lewis MP (Minister of State for Housing and Planning), through both Stuart Andrew MP and Greg Mulholland MP, particularly about the non consultation of LCC in the site allocation process. SA is arranging a meeting with the Minister and JK has asked GH to put more questions to the Minister, as we have not been involved in the process, and are at a loss as to who we can go to for advice as a Neighbourhood Forum.

Philip Davis MP has been kept informed, as there is a Duty to Co-Operate between Leeds and Bradford, Menston Action Group and Parish Council has been informed as have organisations involved in neighbourhood planning in Wharfedale.

LK pointed out the confusion that is being caused by Leeds City Council by using the blanket term Greenfield, in their site allocation reports, which includes both Green Belt and Greenfield land. The distinction being that Greenfield has no Green Belt status.

AOB

Christmas Lights

A working group has been set up to provide Guiseley with some Christmas lights worthy of the name. LK and JR are going to attend the first meeting, organised by Stuart Andrew.

Springhead Mills Site

Concern was expressed over the unsympathetic way the area around Guiseley Wells has been treated by the developers of the site. A sea of tarmac now encompasses the Wells which is not in keeping with its historic nature and conservation status. As the developers are still on site it was thought that they could be persuaded to do something about it. The original plans are to be sought to check if any landscaping was included.

Scout Land Asset

LK reported that she had sent off the form to apply for the scout land to be a community asset. She had also met with the Council officer who asked questions to clarify how the community use the land. The officer has written to LK c/o ANDF, to Alison Drake, who is Chair of Scout Trustees and to the Diocese explaining the process so that all are informed. The decision rests with her superior and we should hear the decision in October at the earliest.

Treasurer's Report

JR reported that the bank balance stood at £2,200As we need to be raising more money, Local Giving will be used. We also need to discuss how we fill in the forms for the Community Wellbeing fund. JR to discuss with JK.

The meeting closed at 9.55.

The date of the next meeting will be Wednesday 16th September.