

NEIGHBOURHOOD

DEVELOPMENT FORUM

**Minutes of the Management meeting held on Wednesday 20th May
At the Station Hotel**

Present

Frank la Corte, Richard Webster, Steve Howarth, Liz Kirkpatrick, Joan Roberts Graham Latty and Briony Sloan and Emma Sutherland representing the action group coordinators.

Apologies

Jennifer Kirkby, Lynda Kitching and Clive Woods
JR chaired the meeting

Minutes of the Last Meeting and Matters arising

JK, GL, LK and EK attended a meeting with David Feeney on 16th April to discuss what help Leeds could give us towards the construction of our masterplan.

At the meeting concerns were voiced about the fact that with the proposed site allocations, the towns in Aireborough would become dormitories for Leeds with no employment provision for local people.

Also we were concerned that the sustainability reports for the sites in our area were not precisely accurate and had missing factors which were relevant.

DF gave us the opportunity to submit notes on these sustainability reports, which he would put forward for consideration at the meeting on 16th June.

JK stressed that the purpose of our meeting was to try to work with Leeds so that time and money would not be wasted when it came to public consultation and possible judicial reviews.

DF said that Leeds were promoting all the sites in Aireborough, regardless.

We asked if Leeds had consulted with Bradford in relation to their allocations which are proximate to Aireborough with 6000 houses being planned in Menston, Burley and Otley, all of which would feed on to the A65.

DF said that they hadn't as yet, but were planning to do so.

He added that there was no point in residents writing in to Leeds with their views until the public consultation, as their communications would be held over until then.

GL informed us that at this morning's panel meeting, collaboration with Bradford was discussed. It is possible that they may decide between them that the developments in the Bradford District might be undertaken before those in Aireborough which might give us a bit of breathing space.

JR remarked that it sounded as though the meeting had had some influence on the planners.

Discussion then moved to the LCC Councillor reshuffle, the new leader, Judith Blake and the fact that Councillor Gruen had gone from his housing post to social care.

The airport link was discussed. GL was in favour of a road which went straight to the airport with no feed roads to other settlements. This would deter ribbon development along its path. It could also form the basis of an Aireborough by pass, taking traffic from the A65.

BS commented that Redrow homes had already taken options on land adjoining the proposed road with ribbon development in mind.

SH was not happy that such inordinate amounts of money had been spent on London's transport network and even with the possibility of a Northern Powerhouse very little was coming our way for transport infrastructure.

The minutes were passed as a true record of the last meeting

Secretary's report

Lots of work has been done with the action group coordinators. The forum is acting in an advisory capacity only directing the groups to information they need in order to produce their revised sustainability reports. The forum cannot be seen as an activist group.

The coordinators have met three times and have familiarized themselves with the various documents pertaining to their sites. We have a data expert and an excel expert who have made life easier for all concerned.

We may have to commission an ecology and traffic report, which is being looked into at the moment, funding may be available.

Darren Sanderson, a professional photographer has been taking artistic shots of the sites to reinforce the beauty of the collective area.

Treasurer's report

JR reported that we were applying for funding to "Locality" which may help towards the habitat, traffic, economic, housing and omnibus surveys.

NW had informed us that a comprehensive traffic survey could cost as much as £40,000. Generous residents from Rawdon had offered to make substantial donations, but we would need to do costings to put to them.

We are also getting help with the Manchester Planning Consultancy.

It was agreed that traffic was a fundamental issue and an up to date survey was essential. Ward commissioned one from Martin Stockley in 2011 which might still have some relevance.

GL said that he had heard that last year's figures showed a reduction in traffic on the A65 from 5 years ago. He added that it was worth applying to the North West Community Committee for a grant towards the above. He would make enquiries.

Apart from these initiatives we need funding for day to day expenses.
The balance at the moment is £8000

Watson Batty's Bill	£ 6000
Hire of rooms	£ 64
Training from Voluntary Action Leeds	£ 20

It would be a good idea if we could persuade members to donate to Local Giving on a regular basis.

ES and BS suggested that we could have a shared stall at Rawdon Fun Day where fund raising could be promoted.

BS and JR to meet to discuss fundraising further.

JR continued with the information that a grant starting at £5000 up to £100,000 was available from "Parks for People" from the Heritage Lottery Fund.

This might fund a heritage trail for Aireborough.

Further discussion resulted in the idea that it could finance the remembrance garden in Nunroyd Park. There is no money available at the moment, but a community group could apply for a grant.

It could be a legacy from the soldiers to the children of the area.

The Leeds Core Strategy and timetable for site allocations....

The action group coordinators are busy putting together short sustainability reports for their sites which David Feeney said he would look at before their site allocation meeting in June. There is one other meeting before they put it out for public consultation for which a date has not been set, but should be later in the year towards September.

GL pointed out that the green Belt figures were distorted by the fact that farming land had been pulled into Green Belt in North Leeds, in compensation for the Green Belt we lose.

Reports from Topic Group Coordinators

Urban Room

EK reported that Fionnuala, the work experience student, designed some pop up posters which BS has taken away to work on.

The action group coordinators were asked to think of somewhere they could have a pop up exhibition close to their sites. If these are planned near to the public consultation then it could raise a lot of interest and exposure for the Forum.

The possibility of a travelling urban room in a stripped out caravan was discussed. Obviously it has its drawbacks re storage and towing. There were mixed responses from the board.

FIC to enquire re donated, cheap caravan.

Infrastructure

Housing Needs Survey

FIC reported that EK had sent out over 200 emails with surveys attached, AVSED have offered to deliver surveys with their next newsletter. He asked if the Action Group Coordinators could email their contacts in the hope of more responses.

EK to email coordinators

Medical Facilities

It seems that the Park Road surgery has taken the brunt of the new developments in Guiseley, with 2000 new patients. They have recruited two new GPs. In addition collaboration between practices, namely The Aire Valley Medical Practices has meant that appointments can be made for Saturdays making it more convenient for working patients to be seen by a GP.

FIC pointed out that his infrastructure document is reviewed as improvements or otherwise are brought about to the infrastructure.

BS commented that an action group member had contacted the practices to ask if they had been consulted about the increased population in the area so that they could plan for the future. They said that they had not been consulted.

GL said that he was working towards meetings with fellow councillors and the medical practices to discuss just this.

Traffic

Parking remains a contentious issue.

In Guiseley cars are now parked on both sides of the A65 between the Station lights and Ings Lane making it difficult for a car and a bus or lorry to pass each other.

The Netherfield Road car park is now full and cars are now beginning to be parked in the new housing estate on Netherfield Road. All of these are parked during the day as commuters take the train.

There is also a parking problem around the JCT roundabout where employees from the nearby offices are using the roadside to park their cars.

The resurfacing of Oxford Road Guiseley after road works have been carried out is not of a good standard as the ironwork has not been properly graded in.

AOB

- LK wrote to the Wharfedale Observer with reference to discrepancies and inconsistencies in an article they published about their heritage pubs.

- She also reports that the Scout land is in the process of being designated amenity Land meaning that if the diocese should want to sell it they have to give the scouts and the ANDF 6 months in which to raise the money to buy it.
- Douglas Louis would like to meet to consult about the Greenways initiative. He would be happy to come along one Wednesday evening if we can we give him some dates.
- **EK to get in touch with dates**
- NW has been communicating with LCC re traffic counts. LCC have commissioned surveys through their consultants AECOM to collect traffic data at a number of sites throughout Leeds for the purpose of updating the Leeds Transportation Model (LTM). The surveys consist of "tube counts" which are installed for a period of two weeks and Video Counts for just one day to enable the capture of vehicle classes (i.e. car, vans, HGVs, buses etc) using the highway, which is not readily available from a Tube Count. NW asked how we could get access to the data being collected, to which they replied that it would take some time to process the data. but when it was complete they would discuss with colleagues the next steps. However when they resurfaced outside the Wetherby Whaler on Sunday they cut the wires so there is no recording being done on that stretch of the A65.
- There is a Neighbourhood Planning workshop on 8th June 7-9pm.
- The AGM is on 30th June and we need a venue in Yeadon. Everyone thought that The Methodist Church would serve our purpose well as it has ample parking. **EK to book.**
- FLC asked if the AGM in 2016 could be held earlier in the year to avoid possible holidays, making sure we avoided Easter
- JR said she still didn't have an auditor for the forums accounts. **EK to contact a friend.**
- FLC asked if we could have a comprehensive update on the masterplan for the next meeting.

The meeting ended at 9.40

Date of the next meeting

Wednesday 17th June