

NEIGHBOURHOOD

DEVELOPMENT FORUM

Action Minutes of Management Board Meeting

Held on Wednesday 21st January 2015 at the Station Hotel Guiseley.

Present: Alec Denton, Graham Latty, David Ingham, Frank La Corte, Liz Kirkpatrick, Lynda Kitching, Steve Howarth and guest, Richard Taylor.

1. Apologies for Absence: Christine Schofield, Clive Woods, Ryk Downes, Joan Roberts, Nigel Wilson, Richard Webster and Jennifer Kirkby.

Lynda Kitching, (Vice Chair) opened the meeting and introduced Richard Taylor, a guest who had been introduced by David Ingham.

2. The minutes of the last meeting were accepted.

3. Matters Arising

LK asked SH to outline his points regarding the Ings Lane site

GL commented on the Coach Road proposed development saying that the main objection was the access issue from Silverdale Road

4. Resignations

Unfortunately Chris Manson our technical officer and Ian Dawes, our local business expert have resigned from the committee. Their business commitment has made it impossible to devote enough time to the ANDF.

5. Aireborough Festival progress so far and help needed.

EK informed the board that organisation of the event had been going on since November and that she and RW, along with JK, had been working very hard to put together a programme of events.

Supplementary information.

(The Aireborough Festival is to help us to evaluate the setting up of an Urban Room for community engagement as advised by lead architect Terry Farrell in the Farrell review. It is also to help the ANDF sign up local people for social media interaction, obtain evidence for the masterplan, generate awareness of the Forum and to raise funds.)

EK gave an update of the progress of the Festival planning so far.

- The 9000 invitations are printed and in the process of being delivered, however we are still short of volunteers for areas of Yeadon
- The timetable of events is almost firm and when complete will be printed and distributed to libraries, pubs, shops etc. The management board have been kept up to date with the programme so far.
- Posters will be placed on community boards and shop windows.
- We have already had press coverage in Yorkshire Life and anticipate articles in the Wharfedale Observer, Telegraph and Argus and free magazines and papers.
- We are emailing all members, posting on the website and Facebook to promote the event.
- We now need volunteers to man the room for each event.
- Volunteers needed to make teas and or bake cakes.
- Volunteers to distribute programmes to shops and pubs and public places.
- We need a display from each topic group to put towards our permanent display in the Lehar room.
- We are endeavouring to get our councillors involved.

FLC suggested that a call for volunteers and request for display material be sent as an email to the management board.

GL volunteered that some MICE money may be available to us for leaflet publicity and delivery.

AD offered to distribute programmes at the Rombalds Stride where there will be many hundreds of people passing through the control at Guiseley School.

6. Views on Site Allocations

The proposed Site allocations were discussed. The fact that nearly all of the allocations in Aireborough are recommended on Green Belt sites raises an issue.

The draft plan will go to the plans panel in February, and eventually to a public consultation later in the year.

Concerns were voiced with reference to the lack of proper consultation or procedure with regard to the proposed site allocations.

LCC has said that all areas of Leeds have to take their fair share of development. (The Government guidelines do not stipulate that development has to be shared within a region. It can be argued, that Aireborough has already had its fair share of development, Guiseley in particular bearing the brunt.)

DI commented that not only should Green Belt be sacrificed to housing except in exceptional circumstances, but a Green Belt review should have been carried out before the draft allocations were drawn up.

Leeds only reviewed Green Belt sites that had already been earmarked by them for development. It was a selective review.

Brandon Lewis had said that no development should take place without infrastructure first being improved in order to cope with said development.

LK commented that JK should write to LCC with regard to

- The incomprehensibility of the site sustainability reports as there was no key.
- The fact that the Green Belt review was not comprehensive, taking each site and assessing its value, but selective, taking only those sites that had already been earmarked for allocation.
- This meant that important Green Belt sites, performing important ecological and boundary roles, would be lost when other less valuable sites were left untouched.
- The evidence that LCC were consulting the community.

It seems that the developers and councillors are pushing the allocations through without proper consultation.

We all agreed that she should go ahead and ask the questions on behalf of the ANDF.

FLC informed us that any communication regarding site allocations should be addressed to the CPO or they would be disregarded. Phil Crabtree was leaving as CPO and Tim Hill taking his place.

DI raised the point that the developers were not likely to build the right sort of houses, the ones that are needed in Aireborough.

He introduced RT who outlined his idea of finding out exactly what types of housing are needed by approaching local estate agents and asking about the demand for each type of house and the supply.

He predicted that the demand would be for smaller starter homes, affordable housing and retirement properties. Developers would, however make more out of building prestigious homes. He suggested that perhaps a solution would be to find our own developer to build what is required. That being the case we could build more houses per hectare and save valuable green space. We already have plenty of large houses, now we need the smaller ones.

GL informed us that 1497 homes have been built since 2000, 734 flats and maisonettes, 463 terraces, 113 semis, 187 detached.

FLC reminded us that he was in the process of launching a housing needs survey which should help us get a feel for the type of houses needed.

LK pointed out that in the site allocations there was no provision for employment sites, Watson Batty's correlation from the census reports with regard to distance travelled to work showed that Aireborough residents in general were commuting many miles outside the area.

GL remarked that Peter Gruen had informed him that the airport would provide jobs for the area, but nothing else was planned.

Airport transport links were then discussed and the fact that the Harrogate line passes only half a mile from the airport and would be the most sensible option as a new road would only encourage ribbon development.

GL and AD left the meeting at 8.30

AOB

Victoria Road

The proposed one way system on Victoria Road with improved pedestrian crossing facilities to the junction at the Station Hotel was discussed.

It was expected to be trialled for one week in February and the effect on other roads monitored.

There has been a massive response on Facebook against the proposal especially from the residents of the Silverdale estate who find it impossible to turn right out of

Silverdale Road on to Park Road because of the pedestrian crossing. This will be compounded if the proposed development on Coach Road goes ahead.

FLC suggested that 5 seconds could be cut from the green sequence of approaching lights to the junction, giving a 20 second window for a pedestrian crossing.

Green Lane

DI informed that RPC were concerned about parking on Green Lane and now on New Roadside on the approach to the JCT roundabout effectively closing a lane to the roundabout and were considering contacting the Police. The possibility of speaking to EMIS, whose employees seem to be causing the parking problem was proposed also.

The meeting was closed at 9.00