

## Garforth Neighbourhood Planning Forum Steering Group (GNPFSG)

### Meeting with members of Aberford Parish Council

**Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2014, 6.30pm Garforth Library**

**Present:** Keith Dunwell (APC), David Howson (Chair APC), Marilyn Piper (APC), Tony Bebbington (APC), Julie Sou (Clerk APC), Tom Ridley (LCC, Chair GNPFSG\*), Councillor Mark Dobson (GNPFSG), Jacky Simpson (acting sec. GNPFSG)

**Intro: TR** informed that Aberford is doing their Neighbourhood Plan and have spoken to Ian McKay of LCC Planning. The issue in question is the apparently unique overlap of a Ward Boundary with a Parish Boundary. At the moment Garforth cannot designate use of part of the land between Ridge Road and Mr Makin's Farm because it is Parish to Aberford.

There are 3 options:

1. Aberford PC could claim the land as theirs to use as they wish.
2. Aberford PC could work closely with Garforth and have a joint approach to land designation.
3. Aberford PC could release any claim to the land and let Garforth deal with it as they wish. **Scenario i)** The land would still be parish to Aberford, only the housing would be designated to Garforth.  
**Scenario ii)** If the boundary were to be changed legally, all the administration would change to Garforth and no precept would be paid to Aberford.

Years ago all the houses at Cedar Ridge were leafleted re belonging to Garforth & Aberford and all, bar one, wished to remain precepted to Aberford as the postcode would be more prestigious and insurance less costly. APC wishes to protect these houses.

**MP** stated that **APC** wished the triangle at the top right of the map between the Ridge Road and the Micklefield Boundary to be kept as Green Belt although there seemed to be some plans afoot for an incinerator? She indicated that

**APC** didn't see a problem with letting Garforth designate as much of the rest as they wished.

It was asked if Garforth couldn't have a Town Council again. **MD** replied that while that worked well for smaller villages, historically it hadn't worked for townships the size of Garforth.

Our issue may well turn out to be a test case.

At this point **MD** stated that some advanced plans for housing development on land south of the railway line,[ partially parished to Aberford, bounded by Mr Makin's farm, the Ridge Road (but not extending to this road) and Selby Road] had appeared on the scene, unannounced, with no consultation with LCC, Councillors or **GNPFSG** but claiming to have local support, in particular, that of Green Lane Academy who have been promised a new school building (looking and sounding suspiciously like a secondary school **JS**) if they support this development. **MD** very concerned that discussions have been going on with schools and the Partnership Trust without LCC and **GNPFSG** involvement and input.

It might be useful for **APC** to be represented on **GNPF** once it is up and running so that we can work in cooperation with each other and in recognition of **APC's** generous and pragmatic approach.

It appears that East Garforth Primary School has recently become an academy and is looking at selling some of their land for development.

The meeting ended at 7pm and it is intended for there to be a further meeting but no date or venue was set.