

Garforth Neighbourhood Planning Forum Steering Group

Thursday 11th September 2014 Miners' Welfare Hall

Minutes

Present: Sue McQuire, Robin Best, Alan Tynan, Liz Crossland, David Pitchfork, Tom Ridley (LCC Chair), Emma Grunwell

1.Apologies: There were none.

2.Minutes of Previous Meeting: These were accepted as a true record.

3.Matters Arising: Item 5, publicity banner can only be put up at the Welfare Hall after the weekend of 12th-14th September due to a previous event. General mail drop sent out.

4.AGM: AT has reduced the size of his address. TR thinks it hits just the right spot. AT worried that people don't really know or understand what this 'Forum' is about. The Plan, when voted for in the Referendum, becomes statutory and has teeth. TR is to set up all the Power Points together. AT asked for the postcode map for his address.

Subgroups: a)Site Allocations. There will be a handout and a PP presentation.

All PPs to be sent to TR by 17th September and handouts to DP by the same date.

b)Education: DP has now included Nursery and Tertiary in terms of what Garforth will/should need

c) Health Care: PP bullets to 'fly' in. JS to ask about a microphone availability.

***Two microphones exist but both are broken. Any other ideas?**

d)Leisure: EG intends a review of existing facilities and development of new including additional football pitches, better access to indoor and outdoor facilities, trails etc and use of green space & Green Belt. EG asked for a PP slide of

the map showing protected green spaces. AT queried why a green field could be called a park in comparison with what are generally regarded as 'proper' parks. TR explained that the designation of 'Park' actually conferred protection and the land could not be built on.

e)Flooding: BS to show PP presentation largely concentrating on the recent flooding. JS to prepare a handout on the state of the drains.

f)Transport & Traffic: RB to refer to the inconsiderate parking at both railway stations, traffic congestion and poor wheelchair access at the main Railway Station. BS mentioned that there are plans to raise or remove the Grade 2 listed bridge with the possibility of installing lifts. BS also mentioned that one of the reasons for over-use of parking and train travel from Garforth devolved from the disparity of fares between West and North Yorkshire. EG wondered whether future planning should just be for Garforth in the short term or whether we should be considering supporting more regional developments such as reducing/removing the differential charging between WY and NY.

g)Business & Commerce: JAP not in attendance but had outlined her presentation at the Workshop in August.

h)Litter and Dog Fouling: JS to give a PP presentation on the state of littering in Garforth with a handout inviting people to sign up for the Dog Watch group.

Hall Layout: Screen on the stage with tables at the front for the Interim Chairman and Steering Group members. All the rest of the chairs to be set out with a central aisle and room to move round the sides.

Group members to attend at 9am to set out the Hall. JS to provide signup sheets for the Steering Group and sub-groups along with large labels for the sign-up tables. DP bringing a laptop and projector with a clicker.

5.AOB: TR announced that the closing date for public access is today, the 11th Sept. And he has already started writing the report. There have been two responses, one from Chris Makin objecting that the Boundary doesn't include Aberford and one from Aberford PC asking for a week's extension so that they can

discuss the matter at their next meeting. TR is unwilling to grant this as there is a set time set for public access and they could have called an EGM to consider the matter if it was thought necessary. Several of the Parish Councillors attended a meeting with us earlier in the year and assured us that they saw no problems.

TR announced that he was leaving LCC to be Team Leader in Planning at Selby. Someone else was being appointed to support us. The Group thanked Tom for his assistance over the past months and congratulated him on his promotion.

AT having problems with VAT claims for which he had not allowed in the bid after he was told they were not needed. Intends to speak with his accountant to see what could be done. The following e-mail from Alan has been pasted in here as it very succinctly sets out the problem that Alan outlined to the meeting:

*Dear Graham , I apologies if I have drawn the wrong conclusion. Given the delays form all sides, I had assumed there was a resource issue! From my point of view I am a volunteer attempting to establish a Garforth Forum along with 7 other like minded residents. Had I have known the complex nature of taking on this roll to obtain funding to establish and attempt to involve the community of Garforth on this worth-while quest, I would not have put my name forward. My time spent on this one issue alone has be immense. The amount of reading through guidance notes is akin to attaining a university degree in double quick time so as not to miss the funding close down! I emailed on the 2nd Aug requesting answers to 4 question – I received your reply on the 15 Aug timed 15.47 My email requested:- Item 2 Do invoice's contain VAT @ 20% ,your reply **“Vat is to be added to the invoices”** Item 3 Does Leeds City Council [who are zero rated] claim back VAT, your reply **“VAT cannot be claimed back by Leeds CC”** CDF advised VAT would NOT be paid as part of the Fund amount so we have 20% less to spend on procuring print etc. I understand professional services , consultants etc. would not charge VAT. I know this is not your problem, however, it becomes The forums problem. Out of the available funds the Grant of £7K limit , has to pay 20% to VAT. on suppliers invoices. We are NOT a Parish and do not have a bank account for the Forum [Steering Group]. CDF have been referred me to a HMRC document Ref Note 749 [April 2002] Related to “Which Business and non-Business – are or are not subject to VAT “[Item 7. of the in the notes “Recovering VAT costs to Non Business activities”] HELP! I assume a Neighbourhood Forum is NOT a business? Regarding fund payments – please see email in Green text sent to me 29th Aug from Emma Perry which I forwarded to you at Leeds CC on 20 Aug 2014.Emma of CDF email is dated 19 Aug stating “ Funds to be paid the same week” ! You stated in your most recent email no funds received or any recent contact with CDF.I have copied this email to Emma at CDF for comment. Emma & Graham is there NO way we can claim VAT on the invoices for print, posters, banners, etc. via*

Leeds CC – I am not an accountant and need help on this- We are a potential Forum NOT a business !

LC to e-mail JB to pick up the map he had asked for from the Trust shop.

There was discussion as to how to get more publicity through Face Book and Twitter. JS to ask Chris Coyle if he can help, also Councillor Dobson. There was a query as to whether the WEB Site could be made more attractive to the younger element.

6.Date, Time and Venue of Next Meeting: Thursday 16th October
7pm Miners' Welfare Hall. Meetings to be monthly on the 3rd Thursday of the month currently booked up to December.

The meeting closed at 8.45pm.