

## **Garforth Neighbourhood Planning Forum**

### **Minutes of meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> May 2015**

**Present:** J Andrews, Robin Best, John Blake, Andy Cahill Liz Crosland, Cath Exley, N Mason, S Lomas, S McQuire, JA Parsons, D Pitchfork, P Roberts, A Tynan(acting chair)

**Apologies:** C Coyle, E Grunwell, M Tonks

**Declaration of interest:** None

**Minutes of last meeting:** Accepted

**Matters arising**( items not on agenda)

No response from any member of the steering or sub groups volunteering to be chair. A vote was proposed to rotate the chair from the steering group members , this was accepted. The secretary will brief all chairs before each meeting.

#### **Treasurer's report:**

A bank account with cheque book has been set up with Barclays bank in Garforth. We have been awarded a grant of £7,840 from Locality( Groundwork UK ). Invoices for the hire of the Isabella room this year to date = £189. We are likely to exceed the amount allocated for room hire and will need to find meeting rooms which are free. Other Parish Council planning groups within Leeds are allocated community rooms free of charge. The secretary contacted Mark Dobson who will make some enquiries on our behalf.

**Action:**J Andrews, C Exley, JA Parsons volunteered to enquire about other free meeting room accommodation.

#### **EGM**

L Crosland reported that East Garforth school was available on the first 3 Saturdays in June. D Pitchfork said that Green Lane school's car park had been extended. Decision to be taken on the date.

Aim of meeting to discuss LCC revised site allocations proposals and to ask for more volunteers to join sub groups and other specific posts as we have to be able to inform everyone in Garforth about the forum and the neighbourhood plan asap.

#### **Sub group reports**

**Site Allocation:** Mike Dando( an independent planning consultant who also advises other planning groups in Leeds ) attended the last meeting. He gave an overview, took questions and suggested priorities for the group ie. collecting evidence on

housing types and density and greenspace in Garforth, their next meeting will be to agree a task list.

**Retail and employment:** P Roberts gave a written report on the drop in session. This sub group although small has a vital part to contribute in collecting evidence to comment on the proposed employment site allocations proposals. They plan to visit all occupants of the trading estates to elicit their views.

**Leisure and greenspace:** A Cahill reported that they were contacting all groups within Garforth and collating responses.

**Education:** D Pitchfork reported that the group has met twice, they have representatives from all schools, further education colleges, playgroups. Concern has been expressed about funding for additional pupils. There is an outstanding (£200K) amount of infrastructure money which has yet to be released by the council ( specifically for education ) from the housing development on the cliff. Concern was also expressed that any new places would be taken immediately before the houses were built. The Academy is full as are 3 of the five primary schools.

**Traffic and transport:** S Lomas reported that they had placed documents on the website. They were investigating the possibility of a bus priority traffic lights at the top of main street.

**Healthcare:** C Exley reported that a positive meeting had been held with 2 of the 3 GP practices in Garforth. They were interested in expanding their services but expressed concerns over funding and managing an increased list of patients during the building process

**Flood group:** no further reports since last meeting

Parish council : no further reports since last meeting

## **AOB**

Gala stand: this would be an opportunity to make contact with the wider public. A pitch has been requested. Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> June all day. If our request is granted we will be asking members of the steering/ site allocation groups to take part.

Ian MacKay is to set up a meeting to which we will be invited to discuss boundary, CIL money will be under discussion.

We will be meeting with some members of other Parish council planning groups in the outer south east to discuss support.

There have been further meetings of the LCC Development Plans Panel. Reports are available on the LCC website and minutes of meetings due shortly. The next ones are due in June, any of us can attend. Details of accessing LCC website will be sent by e mail **Action S McQuire**

JA Parsons suggested that we could publicise the forum from the shop before September when most uniforms are purchased.

L Crosland spoke about new homes bonus equivalent to 6 years council tax on every new home would be given to LCC who are meant to liaise with the community on spending. Concern expressed that evidence to date would suggest that this may go into LCC coffers unless we raise serious demands.

There will be an additional meeting of the steering and sub groups May 28<sup>th</sup> to which Mike Dando will attend . It was suggested that all sub groups submit questions to the secretary beforehand **Action ALL ASAP.**

**Date of next meeting Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> June.** S Lomas offered to chair.