

Garforth Neighbourhood Planning Forum Steering Group

Thursday 10th July 2014, Miners' Welfare Hall

MINUTES

Present: Alan Tynan, Sue McQuire, Liz Crossland, Robin Best, Jacky Simpson, Bernard Simpson, Emma Grunwell, Tom Ridley (Chair, LCC), John Blake, Jane Anne Parsons.

1.Apologies: David Pitchfork & Councillor Dobson

2.Minutes of Previous Meeting: These were passed as accurate.

3.Matters Arising: There were none.

4.Designation: The draft Boundary and Vision statements were agreed with a couple of minor deletions. It is still awaiting the additions of some statistics relating to information garnered from the Spread Sheet and Drop-in Session.

The area to the south east, within the proposed boundary, that was rumoured to belong to Austhorpe was confirmed to be ancient church glebeland that would not affect our boundary at all. It was agreed that the Vicar be contacted with a view to an explanatory discussion or inviting him/her to a meeting at some point.
(JS)

JS to compile the Designation Application, as soon as all the component parts have been completed and returned, and to send it to TR before the next meeting at which it is hoped that the document be agreed for immediate submission.

5.AOB: AT explained about the funding we have been granted and further funding for which he is in the process of applying. Stage 1 of the Neighbourhood Planning process ends with designation. AT has applied to Locality for the Direct Milestone 1 grant which would assist designation. AT advises that we should delay designation for around 4 weeks and engage Shaun **** to guide us through designation see e-mail from AT to Locality below:

The Garforth Steering group are meeting this evening and I am to propose that we engage Shaun to look at the application for designation and hold on submitting the document to the LA to allow Shaun to advise on its contents to determine if it is suitable. As we are a new group we are not confident we have attained a suitable understanding of any pitfalls that may occur in the future and would welcome his guidance.

All though the local authority are and have been very helpful and welcome Tom Ridley's advice.

I feel that after speaking with Shaun the group would benefit from his expertise in applying for Designation based on his knowledge of other groups. This would also permit Shaun to meet the group to determine future guidance with regards the on going procedures ultimately in attaining a strong neighbourhood plan with the minimum of problems

I will put to the above to the group this evening at our Steering Group meeting to ask what the Group wish to do :-

1) Delay our submission for designation by 4/5 weeks to take further advice and guidance and engage Shaun Hanson to assess the groups submission and advise on the content of the document that is to be submitted.

2) Withdraw the application for Direct Milestone 1 grant, therefore submitting for Designation in the next 2 weeks based on the information and comments we have received from the local community.

Await a further award for funding from the £7K [Front Runner] grant which the group has recently made application to engage Shaun to advise on the Stage 2 process.

This will necessitate further submissions for funding to engage Shaun for further guidance and help to develop at the next stage.

The group has already been awarded £1116-00 from this fund.

I understand that grants / funds are to cease / withdrawn from Dec 14 for the future and the Government have not issued, to date, any decision on future funding and that all funds awarded have to be used before the December 14 cut off point.

The group had commented in previous meetings that we needed more information to confirm the group had all the facts and that the submission was appropriately set down and that the Garforth Forum would, when Designated be correctly established.

Shaun advise that certain other groups had applied for Designation and now are experiencing difficulties developing the neighbourhood plan based on the statements made in the designation submission.

I will call you tomorrow and email you to advise of the groups intentions/decisions.

I hope this does not inconvenience you to much in holding up the assessment.

There was in depth discussion about items 1&2 in the e-mail above and the Group came to the conclusion that delay would compromise the Forum's ability to commence the Plan using the funds already granted. There was a unanimous vote to adopt point 2, AT to withdraw the DM1 grant application. TR to ask Ian McKay(LCC Neighbourhood Planner) to write to Locality immediately to initiate the grant application process for Stage 2 informing them that he sees no pitfalls with our Designation Application. Planning Aid England hold the contract for the funding for Stage 2. Once the money is allocated, even if it is not spent by 31/12/14, it will still be available if allocated. The Group thanked Alan for his work on the applications.

EG enquired if there were any other sources of funding mentioning Section 106 monies, Community Infrastructure Levy and Community Chest. TR informed the Group that the first two would not be available but that the CC was the responsibility of the Councillors of whom enquiries could be made. It was thought that there might be problems if they were seen to be part of the Forum. (JAP to enquire at the next Outer East Community Committee Garforth & Swillington Forum on 15th July.

JS had been rung by the booking secretary re frequency of future meetings post designation as there have been enquiries about the uses of the room. It was decided that future frequency should be monthly, that the Welfare Hall is very convenient but that Peter Mudge might be contacted to be asked if there is anything suitable elsewhere that wouldn't charge. (The Isabella Room costs £7.00 an hour. We usually have it for an hour and a half)

The Group's attention was drawn to the imminent closure of the objections period for the Miami Site proposal. The Community update provides the link for the LCC website and planning applications.

6.Date, Time & Venue of Next Meeting: 7pm, 24th July 2014, Miners' Welfare Hall.

The meeting closed at 8.45pm.