

Garforth Neighbourhood Planning Forum Steering Group

Thursday 12th June 2014, Miners' Welfare Hall

Minutes

Present: Karen Harrison, Robin Best, David Pitchfork, Emma Grunwell, Liz Crossland, John Blake, Alan Tynan, Tom Ridley(LCC Chair), Jacky Simpson

1.Apologies: Alan Tomlinson, Jane Anne Parsons, Bernard Simpson, Sue McQuire, Mark Dobson

2.Minutes of Previous meeting: There was a correction in item 3 of the amount submitted for the bid. This should have read £1116.10. The minutes were then approved as a true record.

3.Matters Arising: There were none

4.Drop in Session: This was agreed to have been a very successful event and general thanks went to all who helped run it.

DP produced graphs from the event showing the age profile of all the people we now had on the Spread Sheet (which stands at 226 and growing)* and the areas of concern picked up from the views and comment sheets*. TR had produced a map with the postcode areas that the people on the spread sheet represented*.

RB reported that he had been asked on several occasions why we could not apply to be a Parish Council. JS reported that this matter had already been aired at the meeting with Aberford Parish Council and Councillor Dobson's comments, explaining why he didn't think it a practical idea, were recorded in the minutes of that meeting. JB suggested that we ought to do some research into what the benefit to Garforth might be of becoming a Parish Council. It was felt that, whatever decisions about this that might be made in the future, our main concern, at present, was to address Designation.

DP, referring to the postcode map, felt we ought to be looking at involving more Garforth based businesses along with firms on the industrial estate towards the northern boundary of Garforth. It was agreed that all members

should canvass a handful of such businesses and bring details to the next meeting.

EG pointed out that the age profiles for the area on the spread sheet were slightly adrift from those used by LCC taken from the West Yorkshire Observatory Profile data. It was not clear how this could be rectified without contacting all the people already on the spread sheet and asking them to resubmit their data.

JB suggested that the graphs presented should be put on the website for people to comment on.

The queries that had come in from Cedar Ridge about being outside the Boundary were brought up and we were told that the Boundary could be changed if necessary and agreed after Designation.

5.Designation: It was decided that we needed to get on with the Designation Application form as soon as possible. AT agreed to allow his name to be submitted as interim Chairman. The residential and age profiling from the Spread Sheet will greatly assist this. As many group members who were willing and available agreed to meet on Monday 16th June to start this process.

AOB: AT has been in touch with Locality who are urging us to get a funding bid in immediately as the money has to be spent by 31/12/14. AT was given the contact details for a Planning Consultant. TR pointed out that it was difficult to approach someone for a quote if we were not yet in a position to give them a remit. A Planning Consultant would, however, be aware of what services he could offer and would know what the authorities are looking for. AT was asked to get in touch with the consultant for an exploratory chat.

TR reminded us that we don't necessarily have to go down the route of forming a Neighbourhood Plan. It might be possible just to work on site allocations and submit comments when these became subject to development applications. We might decide to be a body which purely influences site allocation. We might decide just to develop a very simple or even single issue NP. It would be expected that a Principle of Developments would emerge from the 2nd LCC consultation in the spring of 2015 but that anything 'concrete' could well not materialise for 2-3 years.

The group was made aware that there had been an application to build on land at the back of Stocks Bros but that Environmental Health had vetoed this due to the dust pollution from the Works. Concern was raised that if this really was a hazard where did that leave the school, nursery and residential properties already in situ?

AT asked how much of our allocated land needs to be other than residential and also suggested that the service and facility providers should be approached as to what their input would need to be.

EG asked if, when land was sold, did that have to be in respect of its current use? TR explained that developers/businesses often buy land and bank it until they can or want to use it.

Actions to be completed before the next meeting:

1. Book the Welfare Hall for the AGM, a Saturday in September, am or pm.
2. Start the Designation Application Form
3. Bring some business contact details
4. Put the Drop-in Session graphed information on the website

The meeting closed at 8.40pm

6.Date, Time and place of next meeting: 7pm, Thursday 26th June, Miners' Welfare Hall.

* Starred items are sent as attachments in the e-mail that accompanies these minutes.