

Garforth Neighbourhood Planning Forum Steering Group Meeting

Thursday 24th April 2014, Miners' Welfare Hall

Minutes

Present: Robin Best, Jacky Simpson, Jacquie & Paul Ainsley-Stringer, Liz Crossland, Sue McQuire, David Pitchfork, Harry Thompson, Alan Tynan, Tom Ridley LCC (chair), Jane Anne Parsons.

1. Apologies: Mark Dobson, John Bateman, Bernard Simpson

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting: DP brought the meeting's attention to the second paragraph under item 3: after the words 'these matters' delete the rest of the paragraph and insert: *MD particularly mentioned Pegasus and their proposed development on the North side of the railway line (Makins Farm). MD also discussed a further development, Your Garforth, (on land south of the railway line, near the Garden Centre) and the agreement with Green Lane Primary Academy (GLPA) which had recently surfaced. DP assured the meeting this was 'old news' and 'kite flying'. DP confirmed that GLPA had not met with the developers, it was Himself and a colleague, who were asked for the opinion for education requires for such a development, and this was back in June 2013. DP confirmed that there had been no "deals done" and tabled a letter from School Partnership Trust Academies (SPTA) to emphasise this point. (See end of minutes).* DP also confirmed that there had been no further discussions since June 2013, which is why it had not been tabled at a previous meeting.

DP also asked that MD's departure from the meeting at the end of this item be recorded.

TR informed the meeting that minutes would not appear on the website until they had been passed as a true record i.e. at the next meeting*

3. Matters Arising: SMCQ informed the group that her explanation for the need for a Planning Forum (tabled under Drop-in Session) was always intended for general information, not as an in depth article on the back of the posters.

4. Boundary: The group was shown a map of Garforth with the boundary highlighted in red. There was some discussion about the areas of housing out-

with the boundary and neighbouring parish council land but any problems should be able to be agreed in future discussions with said bodies.

5.Constitution: JA-S voiced concern about any liability the members of the Group might find themselves under in the future and whether a clause about insurance against this possibility should be included in the Constitution. She had made enquiries but had not received a response. TR had no answer and just suggested we kept matters simple. JA-S asked if we needed to mention protection of Greenbelt in the Constitution.

At 6.2 in the draft copy a decision was made that the Forum steering group be no less than 7 and no more than 11 with a quorum of 60% necessary for voting purposes. All of the 60% must be voting members.

At 8.3 it was decided that voting members had to be 18 and over.

At 8.4c there was discussion as to whether an MP or Councillors who did not have a Garforth post code but who represented people living or working within the Garforth boundary should have an automatic vote. It was decided that they should.

8.15 It was decided to impose an age restriction of 16

Any mention of a 'board' was amended to read 'steering group'

At 11.1 and 12.1 Special General Meeting(SGM) was changed to Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM)

In the absence of any advice about insurance against the prospect of members' liability it was decided not to accept the Constitution at this stage.

6.Drop-in Session: Banners have been put up at Town End, East Garforth and the Factory Shop car park. Permission has been granted for one at the Welfare Hall nearer the date. There are large and small posters. AT offered to drop some in to the churches, DP will send the electronic version round the schools, JAP will distribute some to businesses.

AT asked to prepare quotes for the publicity materials as these will be needed for the funding application.

JA-S asked about the Planning Aid voluntary help that some groups were receiving from students. TR responded that we weren't eligible at this stage.

HT said that the whole funding application process seemed far too complicated and that we really needed to tackle it by deciding exactly what we thought we needed in precise detail. It was decided to identify this matter as an agenda item and really get to grips with it at the next meeting.

7.AOB: HT asked whether there was any further news about the proposed plans for East Garforth, it seemed not. Mention was also made of the projected closure of Savilles' Garden Centre in June. Any land thus released would be brown field. HT also asked about differential grading of farmland and whether it could be assumed that higher grades had less likelihood of attracting planning permission for development. TR informed the group that Garforth had no excellent farmland (grade 1) but that our best belonged to Mr Makin & family and our worst was on Wakefield Road. This information would be something the Forum could use once it had come into being.

8.Date & Time of Next Meeting: Thursday 8th May, 7pm Miners' Welfare Hall.

The meeting closed at 8.35pm

*See e-mail accompanying the minutes and agenda for the next meeting.