

Garforth Neighbourhood Planning Forum Steering Group Meeting

Thursday 8th May 2014, Miners' Welfare Hall

Minutes

Present: David Pitchfork, Sue McQuire, Alan Tynan, Jacky Simpson, Bernard Simpson, Tom Ridley (LCC, Chair) John Bateman, Jane Anne Parsons

1.Apologies: Harry Thompson, Paul & Jacquie Ainsley-Stringer, Liz Crossland, Robin Best, Councillor Mark Dobson, Marc Langfield (has now withdrawn from group due to work commitments)

2.Minutes of Previous Meeting: These were passed as a true record apart from Himself→himself at line 7 of the italicised correction at item 2 and require→requirements on line 8 of the same item.

3.Matters Arising: There were none.

4.Finance/Funding: TR has printed off the form to apply for funding and has filled in the parts requiring information he is able to supply. S McQ & AT are to work together filling in the rest and providing quotes.

At this point Harry Thompson arrived.

HT had submitted his details to *Locality* as the Group's point of contact but has had to step down from the interim Treasurer's position due to other commitments so the point of contact is being transferred to AT.

5.Poster Placing: Who & Where & 7. Drop-in Session

AT→Churches

JAP→Main Street Outlets 20(A2) & 10 (A4)

DP→Schools 7(A2)

SMcQ→Doctors, Dentists, Clinics 10(A4)

JB→Country Club, Liberal & Working Men's Clubs, Co-op, Tesco's & Sainsbury's 6 A(4)

JS→PDF of posters for e-mail distribution to local address book

BS→Fish & Chip Shops, Bella Vita, Take-aways 10(A4)

HT→Local Allotment Club (A small residential mail drop was discussed but was decided against in the interests of fairness and the impossibility of covering the whole of Garforth) 100(A4)

AT to deliver printed A2s and A4s in the requested numbers to JAP's shop by 10am Saturday. Fliers to be left for the public to pick up in shops, Sports Centre and the Library (AT)

There was some discussion as to what should be printed and how for the Drop-in session. It was concluded that the poster and comments box should be on the same sheet and the map and explanation of Neighbourhood Planning on another. TR offered to print out 3-400 copies of the map and explanation. AT to arrange printing of the other. An A2 copy of the explanation was suggested for the display at the session. 2 drop off boxes for returned comments, one at the Library and one at the Trust's School Uniform Shop in Main Street were suggested, AT to supply the boxes.

6.Constitution: There was a prolonged discussion on the risk of individual Forum members being held liable for costs should the group be sued in the future. There has been a great deal of enquiry on the Group's behalf by both TR and JA-S but there has been no definitive

answer to guide us. Other groups do not seem to be taking out specific insurance for this risk and the only insurance that seems appropriate at the moment is Public Liability Insurance which the Group agreed to look into.

TR explained that there shouldn't be any circumstances under which we would need insurance protection against any actions the Forum might have taken as these would first have been sanctioned by the local community and then signed off by LCC who would have been guided by their law advisors.

(It is hoped that the Referendum legitimising GNPf could be held alongside the General & Local Elections in 2015)

At this point a vote was taken on the Constitution as it stands, without a clause on Liability (this can be inserted at a later date if needed). Of the 13 people currently serving on the committee, 8 were present and 7 voted in favour of accepting the Constitution, there was 1 abstention.

8.AOB TR asked whether the Group wished to register the Klondyke (Saville's) garden centre site as 'Brown Field' allocation fit for development as the Centre will be closing in June – as raised by the steering Group at the previous meeting. There was discussion as to whether this should be done now or at all. TR explained that if it was not done before the New Year it may not be able to be included in the Site Allocations process. AT offered to fill the form in as an individual if the Group wasn't happy to act together but would defer it until after the Drop-in Session.

With regard to a query as to the possibility of engaging a Planning Student to assist the Group, TR informed us that it might be a

possibility from the beginning of the next academic year but only if we have a clear plan as to what we expect them to do.

AT informed the Group that he has a Planning contact, with no connection to LCC, Michael Townsend, who might be available to us for consultation in about 6 weeks time.

TR explained to the Group that the Forum would not be concerned with matters of infrastructure such as transport, facilities, schools, medical provision, in terms of the site allocations process, as these had already been dealt with by LCC. However if they wanted to say a site was unsuitable due to any of these reasons they could. Our only area of influence would be as to which sites we would prefer/not prefer to be used for development be it residential or commercial.

LCC is running late in assessing all the data from the first round of consultation as there was so much. There is to be another round of consultation and then the Councillors will re-allocate sites to their appropriate status if necessary.

AT suggested that the Group investigate any Garforth Brown Field sites that might be available, or have potential availability, that are not already allocated and have them registered.

It was agreed that minutes would be put on the website after ratification at the following meeting.

9.Date and Time of Next Meeting: The next meeting will be on Thursday 29th May, 7pm at the Miners' Welfare Hall. **Please note the departure from fortnightly on this occasion.** The agenda will be devoted almost entirely to the organisation of the Drop-in Session on the 31st of May. Offers of help would be much appreciated.