

Garforth Neighbourhood Planning Forum

Minutes of Steering group meeting Thursday February 19th 2015

Present: Robin Best, John Blake, Liz Crosland, Emma Grunwell, David LeRoy (chair), Sue McQuire (secretary), Jane-Anne Parsons, David Pitchfork, Paul Roberts, Sue Lomas, Mike Tonks, Alan Tynan, Rob Utley.

Apologies : Josie Andrews, Chris Coyle, Jessica Fergusen

Declaration of interest : D Pitchfork representing the Schools Partnership Trust in consultations with developers over future school provision.

Minutes of last meeting: Correction D. LeRoy to be the main contact with Ian MacKay and Steve Wilkinson to be the contact for sub groups. Minutes accepted.

Matters arising (including action points from last meeting):

1. J. Blake on behalf of the steering group had invited Chris Coyle to form a sub group to investigate the advantages/ disadvantages of a parish/town council for Garforth. This work would not interfere nor disrupt the work of the steering group.
2. D. LeRoy reported on his meeting with Ian Mackay and Mark Dobson. Parish boundary changes to be sorted by Ian MacKay starting September, discussion on student placement, planning applications responses from GNPF. The planning dept. would assist with providing information but would not undertake any new research.
3. S.McQuire made contact with Kippax and Scholes planning group representatives, it is planned to have a joint meeting with Steering group and sub groups in March.

Action S McQuire

4. A.Tynan is making applications for further grants in March. The community Association would not expect any payments until grants are received.
5. Students: task ideas had been received from the traffic, site allocations and leisure sub groups. S. McQuire met with Ian MacKay and the students and their supervisor. The main emphasis for this placement will be looking at how Forums engage with neighbourhoods and communities. A task list has been written and we need to agree priorities from this list . It was agreed that a priority would be to look at local business. S McQuire, L Crosland and JA Parsons to meet with student the next day.
6. Constitution: No further responses from steering group members. D Pitchfork suggested that we advertise the next meeting and include an EGM to alter constitution. **Action S McQuire**
7. Committee roles; there were no further volunteers to undertake specific tasks from steering group members. J Fergusen sent a description of the tasks involved in communicating with residents. **Ongoing agenda item.**
8. Archive; no volunteers. **Ongoing agenda item**

9. Planning applications responses: it was agreed that all applications forwarded by the planning department would be considered by the site allocations sub group on behalf of the GNPf Green Lane application **Action J Blake, Liz Crosland**
10. D. LeRoy expressed concern that the MP had used incorrect figures for the housing numbers to be built . It was agreed that Alec Shelbrooke be invited to a Steering group meeting **Action D LeRoy**

David Pitchfork: reported on his discussions to date with the developer Berkeley de Veer who had produced 2 proposed development plans in 2013, before the revised site allocations plan. The first draft would have included a secondary school and a primary (totalling 3 form entry for primary and 3 form entry secondary school) and include a total of 6 playing pitches.. The second draft just a primary school with 2 playing pitches. The plan contained 3 roads accessing Garforth and further exits all leading to Ninelands Lane,(this would involve the demolition of several houses) a further road exit onto Woodlands Road/ Drive and a the main exit from the estate onto the Selby Road. Apparently these plans will be revised as the site is now larger than planners had expected. The schools would be 'Free' schools and not be financed by the LCC..A formula is used to estimate pupil numbers so for every 100 houses 10 secondary school places and 25 primary school would be allocated. Concerns expressed that school places would still be insufficient.. It was envisaged that building would commence as soon as possible after planning permission was given. Question raised as to the evidence base for the pupil numbers. There are a lot of concerns that need addressing. There is no provision for any 'buffer zone'.

Sub group reports (minutes will be made available on website)

Site allocation : preparation of a survey/ questionnaire for an audit of land within the Garforth boundary.

Traffic& transport : researching policies, traffic accidents, traffic flow, parking strategy, cycle routes and consideration of the widening of the ridge road.

Retail/ employment : Contact with Garforth Traders group, Main Street shops listed, would plan to revitalise Main Street as a shopping centre. Miami site could be used for leisure activities or split into several smaller sites if no one is prepared to purchase a large site. Student will look at employment sites for area as a large development in Garforth would exacerbate the already existing problems for traffic congestion, flooding and sewerage infrastructure.

Leisure / green space: M Dobson attended a meeting and confirmed that there are no further plans for additional leisure activities sites. An audit of open space, and plenty of ideas for new and existing Garforth which could be provided with CIL monies.

Healthcare: A meeting is planned with GP and practice manager representatives from all 3 GP practices in Garforth to discuss future medical provision.

Parish Council: Fact finding from various organisations

Flood group : Meeting with Yorkshire water planned to sort where blockages occur

Next steps : The constitution states that the GNPf has to hold 4 public consultations/communication events per annum. A drop in session to be planned in April to inform both GNPf members and wider Garforth of the revised site allocation plans as they effect Garforth. Views will be sought. Publicity leaflets/ banners to be produced **Action S McQuire & A Tynan.**

Date to be set **Action d LeRoy.**

AOB : none

Date of next meeting Thursday 19th March 7pm