

DURHAM CITY NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING FORUM

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

18 March 2016 at 6.00 pm, Committee Room, Redhills

Present: John Ashby, Roberta Blackman-Woods, Sue Childs, Roger Cornwell, Alan Doig, Karen Elliott, Ann Evans, Jack Gill, Janet Gill, Cliff Gilroy, Fleur Griffiths, Eileen Grimes, Grenville Holland, David Hook, Peter Jackson, Ann Lockhart, John Lowe, Jonathan Lovell, Roger McAdam, Brendan McKeon, Catharina Miller, David Miller, Janet Murrell, Matthew Phillips, Sue Pitts, Cath Raymond, Jean Rogers, Kirsty Thomas, Angela Tracy-Smith, Elizabeth Williams.

Apologies: Pippa Bell, Adam Deathe, David Freeman, Nigel Martin, Nicholas Rippin, Val Standen, Ros Ward, Jean Woodward.

1. Chair's Welcome and Introductory Remarks

Roger Cornwell chaired the meeting. He welcomed everyone and thanked them for their attendance. He described the progress we had made in evidence gathering and listed the theme groups and convenors:

A beautiful and historic city: Kirsty Thomas and Angela Tracy-Smith

A city with a diverse and resilient economy: Pippa Bell

A city with attractive and affordable places to live: Sue Childs and John Ashby

A city with modern infrastructure: Karen Elliot and Matthew Phillips

A city with enriched community life: Roger Cornwell

A city adapted to climate change: John Lowe and David Miller

It is our intention to draft the next stage of the plan in April and present it for further consultation during May and June. After further refinement it will be presented to the County Council, to an Inspector and finally to a local referendum. This meeting is an opportunity to endorse the approach we are taking and the roadmap we have set out, or to suggest changes. The approach was fully endorsed.

2. Chair's Annual Report 2015 – 16

Roger referred to the report that had been distributed prior to the meeting. He thanked Roberta Blackman-Woods for her work as chair of the forum in its early stages and noted our good fortune in securing the services of Ros Ward as project manager. Ros was thanked for working on a voluntary basis.

Roberta noted that she would shortly be meeting Ros for an update on the plan and she emphasised the importance of the contribution that the County Council could make supporting the development of the plan, particularly by supplying essential data.

3. Treasurer's Annual Report 2015 – 16

Sue Childs presented her report that had been distributed prior to the meeting. Our expenditure had been very modest to date but funds were available for future work.

4. Election of Officers 2016 – 17

The vice chair, John Lowe, thanked Roger for his work as chair. Nominations were received for the various posts. There were no contested elections and the posts were confirmed as follows:

Chair: Roger Cornwell

Vice Chair and Secretary: John Lowe

Treasurer: Sue Childs

Engagement Officer: Pippa Bell

5. Any Other Business

In response to a question, Roger confirmed that the area covered by the plan was the unparished area of the City, the electoral wards of Nevilles Cross, Elvet and Gilesgate, and the part of Durham South on the City side of the River Wear.