

Durham City Neighbourhood Planning Forum Working Group Meeting, 11 April 2017, Miners' Hall

Present: John Ashby, Pippa Bell, Sue Childs, Roger Cornwell (Chair), Ann Evans, Peter Jackson, John Lowe, Ros Ward.

Apologies: Mike Costello, Adam Deathe, Karen Elliott, David Miller, Matthew Phillips, Kirsty Thomas, Angela Tracy.

1. Notes of 4 April

The notes were agreed and **Sue** will post them on the website. She will also send the notes of the special meeting held on 31 March to Jules and Barbara at Historic England and to Carole at DCC.

Sue will send the revised Heritage policies that Ann and Roger have prepared to Jules and Barbara for comment.

2. Sustainability Appraisal

John A, Sue and Ros were thanked for their tremendous work in preparing the draft document. They thanked all those who had made comments already. The vast majority of these comments will be incorporated and they will check with the group about any they don't intend to include.

The following detailed points were discussed:

- **Pages 7-8, Table A:** It was decided to use the chapter headings from the NPPF rather than the proposed text in the left-hand column of the table. The comments in the right-hand column would be amended accordingly.
- **Appendix B:** It was decided that it was not necessary to list all the relevant policies from the *City of Durham Saved Policies 2004*. Instead, we would refer to the DCC document that analysed their compatibility with the NPPF and PPG (*City of Durham Local Plan: Consistency Assessment of Saved Policies with National Planning Policy Framework and guidance, July 2015*) and to John L's summary of that document (on our website). We could then explain how our thinking had been influenced by these documents.
- **Appendix A:** the withdrawn County Plan did help to shape our thinking in the early stages, but it was decided that it was not necessary to include the table. It was also decided to reference the document drawn up by DCC giving guidance about the assessment of planning applications after the County Plan had been withdrawn (Appendix 4 of paper Key Decision R&ED/03/16 approved by Cabinet on 6 April 2016).
- It was **agreed** that when we submit our documentation we should write a covering letter that makes it clear that we have an evidence library on our website in the "Resources" section.
- It was also **agreed** that we should send the documentation simultaneously to DCC and the three statutory bodies.
- Further detail is desirable about travel patterns in our area. It was suggested that the *Durham*

City Sustainable Transport Strategy could help with this.

- John A stated that it was the intention to finish the draft of the Scoping Report this week and send it in its present form for early feedback from Historic England.

3. Other Business

John L was asked to make Freedom of Information Requests for DCC's current SHLAA and OSNA documents to assist with our planning concerning housing and open spaces.

Sue was asked to update the website to show that it was our intention to put out the draft plan for consultation during the summer, and to state that details would be published as soon as possible.

3. Future Meetings

There will be **no meeting on Tuesday 18 April**.

The next meeting will be on **Tuesday 25 April**, 9.00 – 13.00 in the Miners' Hall. The main focus of the meeting will be to finalise the **Scoping Report**.

Meanwhile, colleagues are asked to work in pairs to continue the scrutiny of our draft **Sustainability Objectives**.