

**Durham City Neighbourhood Plan Working Party  
15 January 2019, Miners' Hall**

**1. Welcome and apologies**

**Present:** John Ashby, Sue Childs, Roger Cornwell (Chair), Ann Evans, John Lowe, David Miller, John Pacey, Matthew Phillips, Angela Tracy.

**Apologies:** Pippa Bell, Peter Jackson.

**2. Notes of working party meeting on 8 January 2019**

- a) **Accuracy:** The notes were agreed and **Sue** will post them on the website.
- b) **Matters arising: Item 7:** It was **agreed** to postpone Carole Dillon's visit until we had received the AECOM report.

**3. Looking Forward**

David had circulated the latest draft after discussions with Angela and John L. They had revised the introductory section. It is a companion document to the Plan, reflecting views from the public during the development of the Plan, particularly from the Priority Survey, and especially taking account of the widespread feeling of dismay about their inability to influence change. It was encouraging people to become active citizens in line with the vision for Theme 6. The document adopted the "creative city" approach to implementing initiatives and promoting sustainability. The City Centre Hub was now included as one of the initiatives.

John P provided David with a copy that he had proof-read. It should be aspirational and inspirational. John A emphasised that it must be embraced by the Parish Council and suggested that **Angela** should make a presentation to the PC, probably in April. It would always be open to further developments; it belongs to the people, not just to the PC, and therefore it should be widely disseminated. We would use the "Love Durham" website for this.

We then looked at individual initiatives:

**Initiative 2: Clean Durham:** This needs to refer to individual initiatives as well.

**Initiative 4: Identification, protection and enhancement of heritage assets and green assets in Durham City:** This needs to add a reference to the importance of key views and the contribution that people can make to identifying them. An interactive map would help with this and also more generally in helping people to make known their ideas and issues.

**Initiative 10: North Road Regeneration 'Making Places' Study:** This should come earlier as No.8 as a pilot example of "Making Places". The TESTT studios are planning an exhibition of ideas for North Road.

**Initiative 8: Durham City Centre 'Making Places' Study:** This needs to include reference to facilities for children and young people.

**Initiative 9: Durham City Northern Quadrant 'Making Places' Study:** This needs to include something about the DLI memorial garden.

**Initiative 13: Broadband Upgrade:** This should be omitted as it is no longer a priority for BID.

**Initiative 14: Re-conversion of some houses in multiple-occupation back to family homes and general housing:** This needs to include brief information about the scale of the problem.

**Initiative 15: Mechanisms for controlling the impact of student accommodation:** This needs to add reference to the problems of student car parking, bins and noise. The section on public engagement should include reference to public lobbying for improvements.

**Initiative 16: Walking and Cycling Durham:** Sue will check the references to the maps (“Maps X and Y of Appendix D”). We need to mention coping with mobility difficulties and the need to identify places for pedestrian crossings.

**Initiative 19 - The development of a City Centre Hub:** Angela described this as a hub at the centre of a wide range of city facilities. It would start modestly with a focus on providing information about what events are happening and what facilities are available (e.g. rooms for hire).

It was **agreed** that any further comments should be sent to David within 10 days so that he could prepare a revised version for our meeting on 29 January. **All**

It was **agreed** that the cover would use the “Love Durham” logo designed by Angela and that the title would be *Looking Forward - Durham as a Creative and Sustainable City*. It should not include the word “vision” as this was in the Plan.

#### 4. Any matters to report from:

##### a) Parish Council

- Roger reported that the indicative budget included £10k to pump prime initiatives from *Looking Forward* and that there was also money in the budget for the Environment Committee that might be used for some initiatives.
- John A reported that the PC did not yet have a bank account into which Sue could transfer the remaining NPF funds.
- Roger reported that the PC will apply for a licence to use OS base maps and that we should use these for all proposals maps and others if suitable. The licence also provided access to detailed information about the location of properties.

##### b) AECOM

We have had no report as AECOM is waiting for further map details about Observatory Hill. Roger has produced a map but it was **agreed** that it needed to highlight more clearly the boundary of the original proposal. **Sue** will provide Roger with some explanatory text and also clarify issues about rights of way. **Roger** was asked to provide three additional maps showing: the original proposal, DCC’s proposed extension; and DU’s proposed deletions.

#### 5. Timetables for Neighbourhood Plan and County Local Plan

Due to the delay in receiving the AECOM report, a further revision of the timetable would await developments. The consultation period for the Pre-submission Draft of the County Plan has been confirmed as 25 January to 8 March.

## **6. Consultation Statement**

There were no matters to report specifically about the *Consultation Statement*, but it was **agreed** that a draft should be prepared telling the story to date to use during the forthcoming Regulation 14 consultation. This would explain how we had responded to the previous consultation.

## **7. Basic Conditions Statement**

John L had prepared a revised draft and it was **agreed** that he should send this to Carole Dillon for her advice. He had included material on conformity with EU Directives but had still not received advice on these from DCC. He would remind Carole about this.

## **8. Plans for the Regulation 14 Consultation**

**All** are asked to send to Sue any amendments to the Summary leaflet that David had distributed. Sue reported that she had made arrangements for this to be printed commercially.

## **9. Any other business:**

None

## **10. Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be on Tuesday 22 January 2019 at 9.00 am at the Miners' Hall.