

**Durham City Neighbourhood Plan Working Party  
30 April 2019, Miners' Hall**

**1. Welcome and apologies**

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

**Apologies:** Pippa Bell, Matthew Phillips.

**2. Notes of working party meeting on 16 April 2019**

- a) **Accuracy:** The notes were agreed and **Sue** will post them on the website.
- b) **Matters arising:** None

**3. Looking Forwards: Preparations for the Discussion at the Parish Council**

David introduced the document that he and Angela had finalised and said that the purpose of the discussion was to sign it off and seek advice about how to present it to the PC. He explained that he had dropped his suggestion that we should spend time prioritising the initiatives as this would be too complicated.

Peter was generally supportive of the document but opposed to the transport initiatives as biased towards cyclists and against motorists. He had expressed these views in an email sent on the evening before this meeting and Matthew had replied later that evening. Not all those present at the meeting had seen the emails. Peter said that he will write directly to the PC to express his disagreement.

In the light of Peter's objections the discussion centred on the nature of the document. It was thought to be an ideas document, not a detailed action plan, that captured and fleshed out views that had been expressed during the process of developing the Plan, but which were ideas that could not be accommodated within the scope of the Plan itself. They are for the PC and the public to consider and evaluate. The various initiatives had varying degrees of support; ownership would come with their adoption and promotion by individuals and groups. Individual initiatives would rely on evidence to win support.

It was **agreed** that **Sue** would work with **David** to deal in Initiative 7 with the issues relating to the Green Belt that David had suggested including in an additional appendix taken from a document originally compiled by the Friends of the Durham Green Belt. It was **agreed** that it was not appropriate to include the appendix.

As far as the presentation to the PC is concerned, it is complicated that the proposed date of 23 May is both a Parish Meeting and the PC's AGM. It was **agreed** that **Roger** and **John A** would discuss the best way to deal with this. Roger noted the importance of referring to the PC's draft strategy document in the presentation and **John A** will send a copy to David and Angela.

**4. Any Feedback from Carole Dillon on the Draft Plan**

John L reported that Carole had replied on 24 April offering to hold workshops covering the

policies that cause her concern. These would cover the scope of the policy, added value and wording. Colleagues thought that we had already taken sufficient account of DCC comments on our draft policies and that since the Parish Council had agreed it was suitable for the Regulation 14 consultation we should not delay that and DCC could make its comments during that. If Carole still thought it would be helpful to talk with us sooner, we must have something in writing before any such meeting. It was **agreed** that **John L** would write to Carole accordingly. (Post meeting note: Email sent and copied to NPWP on 1 May.)

## 5. Report from the Parish Council

Roger reported that on 25 April the PC approved the draft Plan as suitable for the Regulation 14 consultation. No amendments were suggested, but councillors would be free to make comments during that consultation. The Chair of the PC had expressed thanks to the members of the working party for their five years of hard work and asked the Clerk to write to them accordingly. This email had been sent on 26 April and it was **agreed** that **John L** should respond.

## 6. Timetables for Neighbourhood Plan and County Plan

John L had updated the timetable with the dates of the Regulation 14 consultation.

## 7. Basic Conditions Statement

John L reported that this draft document was now complete apart from sections of the table dealing with the Economy theme. **Pippa** would need to complete these so that the document was available during the consultation. It would have to be revised in the light of changes made as a result of the consultation.

## 8. Plans for the Regulation 14 Consultation

- Arrangements for room bookings were in train. **John A** and **John L** to pursue.  
(Post meeting note: these have now been completed and are:  
Wednesday 22 May, 2.00 – 6.00 at St John's NX  
Monday 3 June, 3.00 – 7.00 at St Giles'  
Wednesday 12 June, 3.00 – 7.30 at St Nick's)
- John A had drafted a leaflet for distribution in the new Gilesgate area and this was **agreed**. John asked for volunteers to help with the distribution.
- It was **agreed** that **Pippa** should put an advert in the *Northern Echo* and issue a press release to publicise the consultation process. These had to be done through the Parish Clerk

## 9. Tasks spreadsheet

Ongoing.

## 10. Any other business:

- Roger reported that the PC now had its data protection registration in place and there was no need to renew the Forum's registration. **Roger** and **Sue** would deal with this.
- Roger reported that there had been an increase of c1700 dwellings in the parish over the last three years. These included the number of occupants in PBSAs.

## **11. Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be on Tuesday 7 May 2019 at 10.00 am at the Miners' Hall.