

**MINUTES OF DURHAM CITY NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING FORUM
ON FRIDAY 12 DECEMBER 2014**

Item No.	Discussion
Present	Roberta Blackman-Woods MP (RBW), Nick Rippin (NR), Roger Cornwell (RC), Sue Childs (SC), Mike Costello (MC), Jonathan Lovell (JL), David Hook (DH), Kirsty Thomas (KT), Ann Evans (AE), Pippa Bell (PB), Angela Tracy-Smith (ATS), Cllr Nigel Martin (NM)
1. Apologies	Teresa Hogg, Cllr David Freeman, Cllr Richard Ormerod, Frank Newton, Johnson Dent, Malgorzata Bialek, Steven Bell, Kevin Turrington, Terry Turrington, Pippa Bell,
2. Minutes of the previous meeting	Members present received copies of the previous minutes. The minutes were moved and seconded as a true record
3. Matters arising	No matters arising
4. St John's College SRC Plans	<p>Professor David Wilkinson, Principal of St John's College attended the meeting to seek feedback from the group regarding the plans for an SRC opposite St John's College.</p> <p>RBW thanks Prof Wilkinson for attending the meeting.</p> <p>Discussions were had about the design of the building. The majority of those present were happy with the most recent proposals as outlined by Prof Wilkinson. It was agreed that representatives from residents associations would report back to their respective groups.</p>
5. North Road Regeneration	<p>RBW outlined concern that North Road in Durham seems to be happening before the County Plan is in place.</p> <p>Developer seems to be in place for both sides of North Road, but appear to be sympathetic to the needs of the area. It was agreed that North road would be the initial focus of the NPF, with the plan then moving outwards through the city.</p>
6. Lower Claypath Development	<p>The group were updated on the plans by Student Castle regarding their site at Lower Claypath. No planning application has been received by Durham County Council as yet. This is expected in January.</p> <p>There was great concern in the group about the apparent lack of willingness to compromise on the plans by the developers. None of those present were in favour of the scheme.</p>
7. The Gates Development	The group discussed the proposals for the Gates, which includes restaurants, bars, student housing and potentially a cinema.

	<p>It was agreed that this site would be best suited to prime retail, commercial and housing development.</p> <p>There is another scheme about to be released for the Bus Station, however DCC are still engaged in discussions with the service providers.</p>
8. Response on DCC54/ Policy 32	<p>It was agreed that there were still major issues with Policy 32 in the revised version prepared by Durham County Council. A response was prepared and forwarded to the Inspector, along with other attendees of the EiP.</p> <p>It was agreed that communication should be maintained in this way with the Inspector of the County Durham Plan.</p>
9. Programme for Future Work	<p>The first stage of the plan after Christmas should be drawing up plans for Claypath/ the Gates and North Road, and then move outwards throughout the area.</p> <p>It was decided to draw up some proposals and then engage with members of the public, rather than try and engage with nothing to show. We will identify the issues and then ask for comments on those.</p> <p>There is now a new manager of the Durham BID in place – Adam Deathe. He should be invited to join the Forum, to replace the outgoing BID manager, Sonali Craddock.</p> <p>NR to invite Adam Deathe to join the Forum.</p> <p>It was agreed that John Holmes, Durham Cathedral Head of Property, should be invited to join the Forum.</p> <p>NR to invite John Holmes to join the Forum.</p>
10. Date, Place and time of Next Meeting	<p>The next meeting time and date were to be confirmed at a later date.</p>
11. Any other business	<p>RBW indicated that she intends to hold a public meeting regarding the developments for Purpose Built Student Accommodation in Durham. This will be on 22 January in the Town Hall</p>