

**MINUTES OF DURHAM CITY NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING FORUM  
ON FRIDAY 6 MARCH 2015**

<b>Item No.</b>	<b>Discussion</b>
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), Adam Deathe (AD),
1. Apologies	Teresa Hogg, Cllr David Freeman, Cllr Richard Ormerod, Frank Newton, Johnson Dent, Malgorzata Bialek, Steven Bell, Kevin Turrington, Terry Turrington, Cllr Nigel Martin
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	<b>No matters arising</b>
4. County Plan Examination Update	<p>A discussion took place on how to respond to the interim report from the Planning Inspector. It was agreed that progress needs to be made on the Neighbourhood Plan in the next six months.</p> <p>RC confirmed that members of the NPF had asked for a meeting with Durham County Council. Cllr Neil Foster indicated that this could happen after DCC meet with the Planning Inspectorate.</p> <p>Concerns were raised about the response of DCC to the Inspectors report, as they seemed to dispute the Inspector's findings and comments on the evidence presented during the EiP.</p> <p><b>ACTION: Follow up meeting with DCC (Working Group)</b></p>
5. Neighbourhood Plan Policies	<p>RBW outlined that following the Inspectors report, there is an opportunity for the NPF to begin expanding membership and speaking to the public. It was agreed that the website would include a membership form for potential new members, and the SC would progress a flyer to ask for comments on Durham, as the NPF needs to demonstrate 'inclusiveness' and that the public have been consulted. Not only this, but it would be advantageous to have wider mix of people on the NPF, to make sure the group is fully representative of Durham.</p> <p>RBW referenced a document sent to members by NR, which indicated best practice when writing policies for a Neighbourhood Plan. This could be useful, although it was</p>

	<p>agreed that some external help would be needed when producing the plan. NR is to look and find some planning support for the NPF. RBW suggested that any members who knew local residents with experience of planning may wish to request their involvement in the NPF, as they be well placed to assist in the formation of policies.</p> <p>A request was put to AD for the BID to become more involved in the development of the Neighbourhood Plan, particularly with any policies relating to the economy of Durham. AD indicated that he would be happy to assist, most likely with reference to the North Road, Silver Street, Bailey and City Centre areas of Durham.</p> <p><b>ACTIONS: Website to include membership form (RC) Flyer to be designed and distributed (SC) NR to contact planning organisations to find prices etc.</b></p>
6. Planning Applications	<p>KT indicated that she has taken a number of photographs of the city centre (North Road, Silver Street, Market Place, Millennium Place) which will be useful for future planning applications and the Neighbourhood Plan.</p> <p>A discussion took place about the large PBSA developments proposed for Durham. It was agreed that the Planning Inspectorate and Secretary of State would be contacted with a view to calling-in these applications. The issues to focus on would be cumulative effect, prematurity of determination, and the lack of a clear policy (Policy 32). This would be alongside the other key issues such as the effect on the WHS. Any request needs to emphasis the national impact, not just the local.</p> <p>RC indicated that, following the Inspector's report, DCC planning application committee reports seemed to include a standard paragraph on the County Durham Plan. This was of concern, as each application should be judged on its own merit with relation to planning policies, and should not be standardised. The NPF will raise this issue as well in call-in requests.</p> <p>It was agreed that residents groups in the city would also write asking for a call-in. the message should be that there should be no large scale student developments built until a robust Policy 32 is in place.</p> <p><b>ACTIONS: NPF to write to Planning Inspectorate requesting call-in of major PBSA developments (RC)</b></p>
7. Next Meeting	TBC, but working group will meet in interim
8. AOB	None