

**Durham City Neighbourhood Planning Forum
Working Group Meeting, 17 January 2017, Miners' Hall**

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

Apologies: Pippa Bell, Adam Deathe, Carole Dillon, Karen Elliott, Kirsty Thomas.

This was the second of the special meetings this month to ensure progress in the preparations for the public consultation on the draft plan. Roger reminded us that yesterday was the third anniversary of the establishment of the NPF.

1. Arrangements for Public Consultation

- **Sue** will email everyone with a copy of the plan with remaining queries highlighted in yellow. **All** to respond as applicable.
- **Sue** and **Matthew** will investigate methods and costs of binding.
- It was **agreed** that policy **E3** should include Riverwalk (formerly The Gates) and add justification for including Milburngate House.
- It was **agreed** that **Matthew** would modify the reference to cycling maps in the Project Chapter.

2. Email from Carole Dillon

During the meeting Roger received an email from Carole Dillon. This email has been sent to all members of the working group. It contains detailed comments from DCC colleagues collated by Carole. It is clear that we have a number of important concerns to address. We shall be discussing these with Carole at a special meeting tomorrow (18 January). Meanwhile, the following immediate actions were **agreed**:

- **John A** would email Carole to thank her and her colleagues for their work, to inform them that fuller documentation is now available on our website, and also draw attention to documents / information that we are awaiting from DCC.
- **David M** would send Carole the document he had drawn up showing the links between our evidence base and our proposed policies.
- **Ros** would check the requirements to see whether we need to include the “basic conditions” document at this stage.
- **John A** will address the issues raised about the County Plan's Issues and Options in paragraph 2.3 of our plan.
- It was **agreed** that we need to amend what is said about “the democratic deficit” in paragraph 2.1.

There were also many detailed comments about specific policies and there was no time to address them at the meeting. It was **agreed** that the following would take the lead, in conjunction with colleagues as necessary, in responding to the comments on the policies in each Theme:

- **Sustainability: John L**
- **Heritage: Ann**
- **Green Infrastructure: Angela and Sue**
- **Economy: Ros**
- **Housing: John A**
- **Transport: Matthew**
- **Community: Roger**

In view of the significance of the feedback from Carole, we have to be realistic and consider the possible need to delay the public consultation so that it runs from 3 March to 14 April rather than from 17 February to 31 March. We would still intend to announce it at our AGM on 17 February and to hold all the consultation events in March as previously agreed (Item 7, Notes of 10 January). **Roger** would check urgently with the funding body to see whether this would be acceptable.

3. Future Meetings

As noted above, **there will be an extra meeting tomorrow, 18 January, 10.00 – 12.00, in the Miners' Hall** to discuss the above comments with Carole and her colleague Michelle Robinson.

It was agreed to meet on Tuesdays 24 and 31 January, 9.00 – 10.00, at the Miners' Hall to deal with detailed preparations for the public consultation.

The next ordinary meeting will be on Tuesday 7 February, 10.00 – 1.00, at the Miners' Hall.