

**Durham City Neighbourhood Planning Forum  
Minutes, Working Group Meeting, 25 July 2017, The Miners' Hall**

**1. Welcome and apologies**

**Present:** John Ashby, Pippa Bell, Sue Childs, Roger Cornwell (Chair), Ann Evans, Matthew Phillips (until 9.50 am), Ros Ward.

**Visitors:** Carole Dillon and Claire Hallam, Durham County Council (after 10 am).

**Apologies:** Mike Costello, Peter Jackson, John Lowe, David Miller, Angela Tracy.

**Roger** will respond to Angela's decision to stand down.

**2. Notes of 4 July**

- The notes were agreed with an amendment and **Sue** will post on the website.
- Pippa was thanked for the very effective press release about the St Mary's Field planning application. The issue of the University's plans for pedestrian and cycling routes needs to be pursued.

**3. The draft Scoping Report – responses from the 3 Statutory Consultees**

- All three Statutory Consultees have responded positively with suggestions for improvements which the group accepted.
- The revised Scoping Report will be sent to them, together with the Sustainability Appraisal and the Draft Neighbourhood Plan, drawing attention to the changes.

**4. The draft Scoping Report – responses from the County Council**

- Claire's schedule was discussed in detail and many points were helpfully clarified.
- **Carole** will check whether the 2016 Flood Risk Assessment is available.
- **Carole** will find out in due course which Evidence Base papers will be submitted to Cabinet in September.
- We do not need to re-consult on the revised Scoping Report. **Claire** will write to us confirming this.
- The Scoping Report could be incorporated into the Sustainability Appraisal document but probably easier to keep it separate and simply refer to it in the SA.
- The latest draft Neighbourhood Plan document will be sent by **John A** to Carole for early warnings prior to the formal consultation. He will also make sure that the University has the same facility.

**5. Future Work Programme/Project Plan**

- **John A** will amend the Scoping Report over the next 2/3 weeks.
- **All** to complete the Sustainability Appraisal process for their particular topics (**John A** to circulate the re-drafted Probing Questions as soon as possible), aiming to complete by 31<sup>st</sup> August.
- **Sue** will concentrate on drafting changes in Neighbourhood Plan, which she will circulate around the group for comment. She will ask Roger for specific maps and Pippa for images.
- **Ros** will concentrate on the revised Screening Report, the Statement of Public Engagement, etc.

- **Ros** will revise the Project Plan on the basis of public consultation starting in November.
- **Sue** will request the finance grant to be deferred to October/November due to unforeseen circumstances.
- The Project Plan will be sent to **Carole** (and also to **Michelle**) who will write a letter of support for deferring the finance grant.

#### **6. Our Response to DCC's Open Space Study**

- The County Council's information will not be available in time for the deadline of 31<sup>st</sup> July so **Sue** will send our Green Spaces chapter.

#### **7. St Margaret's Court planning application**

- The NPF Working Group has been invited to a pre-application public consultation on 2<sup>nd</sup> August between 4 pm and 7.30 pm in St Margaret's. **John A** to respond asking for a presentation at 4 pm or half an hour earlier.
- Saturday's London Times article on students turning away from studio PBSAs supports our suggestion that they could provide much-needed accommodation for professionals, elderly people etc.

#### **8. Next Meeting**

**Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> August 9 -12 in the Miners' Hall** to review amended Scoping Report, Sustainability Appraisal, Draft Neighbourhood Plan, etc (invite University's Matthew Wright).