Garforth Neighbourhood Planning Forum

Minutes of the AGM 2020 a Zoom meeting.

R. Clarkson welcomed everyone to the meeting and explained that after 40 minutes we would have to log out of Zoom and open up the meeting link again.

**Update on the work of the Forum:**

**Writing group report given by B. Flynn** Since last year’s AGM we have continued to meet as a small group, with LCC officers and as part of the Steering Group.

* We have moved from Draft 7 to Draft 8.
* There have been significant changes to the Draft Plan during the year. The structure has been fine-tuned again following advice from Abbie Miladinovic at LCC.
* A significant amount of work has been done by Paul Exley with support from LCC on producing the large number of maps that will be needed to support our policies; this work is almost complete.
* A new document – a comprehensive summary of the original Character Area Assessments – has been completed and added to the Draft. Many thanks to Maurice for his work on this.
* We have also begun the process of unifying the appearance of the different sections of the Plan by using a template supplied by Sam. Many thanks to Sam for her work on this.
* A lot of work has been done in preparation for REG 14 consultation, including summarising the Draft Plan and obtaining information and costings around the printing of the Plan

Despite the pandemic, the pace of work has not decreased. We have, in fact, had more regular meetings with Abbie by Zoom over the past 4 months and, as a result, we are now aiming to go to REG 14 consultation in January / February 2021. I’d like to thank my fellow members of the Working Group for their time and commitment, particularly over these last months as things have speeded up and we have all done our best to accommodate to our new Zoom environment. I’d also like to put on record our thanks to Abbie who has worked particularly hard to help us get to this point more quickly than we could have imagined.

As this will be the last AGM before the Draft Plan is presented for REG 14 consultation, a major step along the way to achieving formal recognition in a referendum, I would like to publicly thank all those who have contributed in any way to getting us to this point.

Although our timetable has slipped form where we were at last year’s AGM, I would estimate that, following a likely Reg 14 consultation process between Jan and Mar 2021, we should be aiming for a referendum in March/ April 2022.

**The Working Group report given by C. Coyle**

Role of Working Group is to provide the data, maps, survey results and resident/local business opinions that the Writing Group uses to identify and support the policies that make up the plan

Our findings can be found on the Garforth plan website in menu option Working group – submenu Evidence Base.

It contains reports covering census data, green space analysis, a parking strategy, a flood report, education, healthcare, community facilities, a character assessment of Garforth and surrounding areas and a list of noteworthy buildings

We have conducted the following surveys : Retail on Main Street, Housing needs, local industry, estate agents and ideas for CIL spending opportunities

Once the information gathering was completed we conducted a Vision and Policy Intentions survey and produced a summary of the character assessment, a consultation strategy and other information as and when needed by the writing group.

We are now preparing to publish the Plan. This will involve:

* Creating style sheets for the summary and full plan
* Printing 50 full plan booklets and 7500 summaries
* Checking distribution lists then distributing 7,500 Pre-Submission Consultation Leaflets, 7,500 summaries and 50 full plans
* Creating and posting posters
* Preparing and releasing press and social media postings
* Making the plan and summary available on the website
* Setting up feedback points on our website and collection points for paper feedback
* Setting up and manning online drop-ins for questions from residents, businesses etc.
* Pulling together all feedback

**The Secretary’s report** given by S. McQuire .

We are now in our 6th Year and have applied and received re-designation status, as has Adel and Hyde Park NPF. Aireborough, Oulton & Woodlesford have also applied. There are 12 NPF in Leeds but only Holbeck has a ‘made’ plan and they were part of the Pilot Scheme launched in 2012.

**Over the past year we have**

* Participated in the Christmas Fair on Main St when we spoke to approximately 100 residents explaining the next process Regulation 14.
* Conducted a ‘Policy Intentions Survey’ to request comments and agreement with our vision and objectives. We received 115 responses, many suggestions and general agreement with the policies suggested.
* Taken part in a LCC Community Involvement workshop which had 15 individual and 29 organisational members mostly NP groups. We were hoping that a review of the 2007 CI policies would have been completed by now but unfortunately it has been put on hold due to Covid-19.
* Continued with the GNPF notices in the library but they are now on hold again.
* Responded to the White Paper on Planning Reform
* Opened a Facebook page

**Planning applications in Garforth**

* Several changes of use on Main St to additional cafes and drinking establishments
* An application for a car wash on the Aberford Road by Newhold was not granted due to traffic conditions
* The proposed camp site on Garforth Cliff was not granted due to potential disturbance to neighbours. It is now the subject of an appeal.
* The Cricket club site on Church Lane and the proposed replacement site on the Selby Road has still not yet been decided.
* The PAS site on the Selby Road has submitted a second phase development details

**The Leeds Site Allocation Plan**

Although accepted by the Inspector minus both the large extension by the garden centre and Parlington this has been the subject of a High Court judgement By Aireborough NP Forum who contested the use of green belt sites within their HMCA. The High Court found in their favour and requested that Leeds removed all their green belt sites and the SAP has been returned to the Planning inspectorate to review the exceptional circumstances for the use of green belt sites.

**The Leeds Selective Core Strategy Review** has been accepted adopted September 2019

* Housing numbers. A figure of another 51,952 is to be delivered between 2017 and 2033. The housing mix remained the same despite a forecast of 45,800 single households there was still no minimum target for 1 bed. dwellings, and the distribution of land and allocations spread throughout the city remained the same.
* The Aireborough judgement in the High Court stated that there was a lack of reasoning or justification for a fair shares approach. The HMCA stated that the main housing need was in the City Centre and in the Inner Areas.
* The judgement also said that that the release of green belt sites had not been adequately justified and has been referred back to the secretary of state
* The minimum housing standards, affordable housing standards and accessible housing standards were accepted as national policies
* Unfortunately the green spaces standards were also accepted. In effect by approximately 50% The protection and redevelopment of green space was accepted but permission remained that if the green space could be relocated then this would be acceptable*.* This has implications for the cricket field on Church lane.
* It was disappointing that the sustainable homes policy that all developments over 10 dwellings would only be required to provide a minimum of 10% energy from low carbon or renewable energy and if this is not practicable then contribution to an off -site low carbon scheme. LCC declared a climate emergency in March 19

**The AGM Business Meeting:**

**Apologies Present** : R. Clarkson, C. Coyle, L. Crosland, C. Exley, P. Exley, B. Flynn, J. Hoole, J. Lawn, C. Lomas , J. McCormick, S. McQuire, M. Norman, P. Roberts, M. Tonks, W. Treloar, R. Utley, S. Williams, E. Wills ( Vice chair of Oulton & Woodlesford Planning Forum ).

**Apologie**s: J. Langley, J. McCormick, M. Roberts, J. Steel, D. Walker, R. Walker, E. Wood, K. Wood

**Declaration of interest**. R. Clarkson confirmed a interest on the Wakefield Road and Kennet Lane

**Minutes of the last AGM**: These were accepted

**Matters arising:** None

**Treasurer’s report:** S. Williams reported that the balance at the end of September 2019 was £1,385.13. The total Income for the year to the 30th September 2020 was £2,655.85 and expenditure £1,697.62. The balance now stands at £2,343.36. The Locality grant of £2,100 had been received. The full treasurer’s report is attached.

**Membership report**: J. Lawn reported that we had a total membership of 192. Over the year we have lost 3 members, 2 have unsubscribed and 20 new members have joined over the past year. Forum members are sent details of planning applications and details of how to respond and other Forum notifications. The full report is attached.

**Election of officers:** The following officers and members were willing to stand for re – election: Chair L. Crosland, Vice chair R. Clarkson, Secretary S. McQuire**.** Treasurer S. Williams, AssistantTreasurer R. Utley , Membership Secretary J. Lawn ,Writing Group lead B. Flynn, Working group lead C. Coyle and the following ordinary members J. Andrews, C. Exley, P. Roberts, M. Tonks, W. Treloar. C. Lomas and J. Hoole proposed and seconded the election of these members En Block.

The following members were invited to join the Steering group C. Lomas and J. Hoole. Proposed by R. Clarkson and P. Roberts.

The following members submitted a postal vote, voting En Block for the Steering Group members to be elected/ re-elected. J. Langley, M. Roberts, J. Steel, D. Walker, R. Walker, E. Wood and K. Wood.

The chair thanked everyone for all the work and support they have given to the Forum over the past year and welcome C. Lomas and J. Hoole to the Steering group.

The meeting finished at 8 pm.