**Garforth Neighbourhood Planning Forum**

**Minutes of Steering Group Meeting**

Monday 27th November 2017

Present : C. Coyle, L. Crosland, C. Exley, B. Flynn, J. Lawn, J. McCormick, S. McQuire

**Apologie**s: J. Andrews, R. Clarkson ,M. Tonks , A. Tynan , S. Williams , I. MacKay (LCC planning ), M. Dobson ( LCC ), J. Hall ( LCC planning ).

**Declaration of Interest** : None

**Minutes of last meeting** : accepted

**Matters arising** ( items not on agenda): None

**Writing group update**: B. Flynn reported they had met twice since last steering group meeting and agreed a new timetable to section 14 with help from D. Gluck . Further templates to complete re greenspace ,community facilities.Work continuing with a further draft of the plan and will be discussed with D. Gluck and Abbie from LCC planning after Christmas. A meeting was held with the Delta Trust who stated that they have not been consulted on pupil numbers by LCC. To meet the potential additional numbers arising from new development their preferred option would be to build a larger 6th form releasing further classrooms for 11 – 16 groups. A small secondary school as proposed by LCC on site HG2-124 is not really viable and would offer fewer choices at GCSE which is not in the pupils best interest. Most primary school pupils in Garforth request places at the Academy. They are willing for GPNF to meet with the school council to seek information on their views.

**Working group update**: Work is still progressing on the Character assessments, housing needs survey and the industrial estate survey. All other survey results are on the GPNF website. The household survey has now closed and needs collation along with the industrial survey.

**Membership update** : Membership stands at 530 ( 1 less that the previous update) Numbers remain similar with new members subscribing and existing members unscribing. J. Lawn has produced a new membership form to clarify voting and non voting membership. It had been noted that only 50% of e mails are opened up.

**Treasurer’s report**: Current balance £7,420 which is reserved for the design, printing, publicity and distribution of the plan at referendum. Successful application of the Locality grant of £ 5,987 which will be reserved for consultant fees, room hire, publicity. This funding has to spent by end March 2018**. Need to check if there will be further Locality funding available from April.**

**AGM :** 22 members attended, officers and steering group members elected. The constitution changed as detailed in the last Steering group meeting. In view of the low turnout discussion focussed on attracting more members. Action to book hall for next year and consider reducing the time taken in reports and consider including a social event. We need to try and raise awareness and interest for the Plan at the referendum stage.

**Inspector hearings**: S. McQuire reported on the experience which focussed on community involvement, greenspace and employment sites. Further hearings will be in the summer and address the issues of green belt and housing numbers following the LCC Selective Core Strategy review. Noted that we need to consider wording used to no ambiguity. A report will be put on the website.

**PC consultation update**: just under 800 letter of support were collected. Once checked these will be discussed at the next general purposes meeting in December. J. McCormick volunteered to attend.

**AOB:**

1. Stocks site granted permission for 241 houses despite concerns expressed by many people , M. Dobson and GPNF. Clinic site comments to be submitted by 7th December.
2. Concern expressed that both the Halifax and Leeds Building Society branches were due to close shortly according to their websites.
3. J. Lawn had received a request from a members asking on behalf of his grandson asking if we would be willing to take part in a school politics project questionnaire. As we are not a political nor a protest group we did not consider that we could offer much help. It was suggested that an approach was made to Aireborough Forum. Failing that the steering group felt that as everything was on our website we could take part.
4. B. Flynn requested that GPNF fund the printing of the draft Neighbourhood plan 25 double sided pages. Treasurer to be contacted.

**Date of next meeting : Monday 22nd January 2018**