

## **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING STEERING GROUP HELD ON 27<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2014**

Present: Cllr Ron Powell (Chair), Cllrs Mark Houlbrook, Susan Durant, Rachel Durant, Joe Blackham  
Caroline Robinson, Ann Pennington, Katie Foreman  
Jeremy Sherlock, Mike Dando, Jane Stimpson

1. **Apologies:** Annie Farrand, Neil Butler, George Derx, Rob Porter
2. **Minutes of the Meeting of 30<sup>th</sup> July 2014**– agreed as a true record
3. **Consideration of Draft Consultation Document** – MD presented a draft consultation document that had been circulated prior to the meeting. This would be a much more digestible document than a draft plan so would be more effective for consultation purposes, making sure that we are on the right lines.

The following amendments were agreed:

Page 2:

The Vision should include a reference to a sports, leisure and community complex at Moorends

Page 3:

Policies GD1-3 needs to be reviewed in the light of Core Strategy policies.

Page 4:

Policy GPT1 – comments on CIL should be in in one place.

Page 5:

Housing – this section should be more positive to say that the Plan will not amend the S+P allocations, but will identify smaller sites that are below the threshold in this document. It was agreed that smaller sites should be identified in the final plan. There will need to be a site appraisal for these sites. The appraisal form prepared by Kathryn Jukes for this purpose will be circulated to the group.

Page 6:

Policy TH2 – amend to “may allocate new housing sites”

Page 7:

Housing – same comment as above

Policies MH” and ME1 should be amended to “may”

The last sentence on the page relating to Supermarket provision should be deleted

Page 8:

Policy MCS2 should include a specific reference to allotments

MCS4 – should include a specific reference to a sports, recreation and community complex.

Page 9:

Policy MHT1 – wording needs revising as it will be difficult to safeguard land without a reasonable chance of project delivery.

Thorne Colliery Site – should be titled “Thorne Moors” as the proposals on the Colliery site would enhance that amenity

Policy MTC1 – wording should be amended so that a facility could be provided on the Welfare Ground as part of a comprehensive development.

Page 10:

Thorne Memorial Park, Town Centre public realm and Moorends Station should be added to this list.

#### 4. **URS Town Centre Report**

The URS Town Centre Report had been circulated. Unfortunately it was not possible to arrange a follow-up meeting until Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> October at 4:00pm (Assembly Rooms).

Some comments had been received from DMBC Planning.

It was agreed that at this stage that the priority was to draw issues from the report and the previous consultation so that the Thorne Town Centre section of the Draft Consultation Document can be completed. It was felt that the following policies should be included:

- Vacant buildings and sites – a policy encouraging improvement/ development – with sites identified
- Car Parking – review of current provision with additional sites identified if necessary
- Improvements to public realm
- Traffic including shared surfacing (to improve access to the Market Place) and bus stops
- Heritage assets – protecting and enhancing the conservation area

The report considered whether a Neighbourhood Development Order which provides more planning flexibility may help encourage investment. However that this is a major barrier, and excessive flexibility may damage the conservation area.

The Market should be treated as a non-planning issue.

It was agreed that there should be some positive text regarding the Town Centre – there is a lot of negative comment despite a fairly low level of vacancies and recent investment – if the eyesores could be dealt with the image would be completely different. The Plan should aim to encourage investment which is not attracted by negativity.

It was agreed that MD would complete this section and circulate for comment.

#### 5. **Consultation Timetable**

JSh had prepared a timetable for the next phase of consultation. It had been agreed that it would be publicised through the Thorne Times, which would require the Draft Consultation Document to be finalised, formatted and printed by 15<sup>th</sup> September. It was agreed that this was excessively tight and that it would be better to get things right rather than rush, so the

document will be included in the Thorne Times at the end of October. JSh will circulate a revised timetable to include the following:

- A formal launch in early October. This would be an invitation only evening reception at the Punch Bowl. The invitations would go to Businesses, Voluntary Groups, Developers, and Statutory consultees.
- The document included as an insert in the Thorne Times in October. JSh to check the potential of supporting copy on page 1 or page 3.
- 2 consultation meetings in early November (Moorends Community Centre and the Band Room).
- Deadline for comments 21<sup>st</sup> November

**6. Future Meetings (all at Assembly Rooms):**

- Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> October at 6:00pm (after the meeting with URS)
- Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> October – 7:00pm
- Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> November – 7:00pm

Jeremy Sherlock

Town Clerk