

**Boston Spa Neighbourhood Planning Advisory Group (NPAG)
Meeting**

Monday 22nd April 2024 at 6.30pm

Committee Room, Boston Spa Village Hall, 199 High Street, Boston Spa, LS23 6AA

Present: Cllr Gail Bowen (Chairman); Keith Jackson; Andy Colledge; Cllr Penny Stables; David Faraday; Tomas Johnson (LCC),

Apologies: Keith Blake.

MINUTES

1.	Apologies for absence
	Apologies had been received from Keith Blake.
	Resolved: That the apologies from Keith Blake be accepted.
2.	To confirm the minutes from the 29th February 2024 meeting and note any actions delivered
	Resolved: That the minutes from 29 th February 2024 be accepted as a true and accurate record with the inclusion of the proposed additional wording provided by Keith Jackson which referred to “the need to establish liaison meetings between representatives of the community and builders during any building work which has a significant impact. This could be triggered by a request for building conditions to be applied by LCC for developments above a certain size or in sensitive green areas”.
3.	To receive any further feedback on consultation to date, and sharing of information.
	<p>It was noted that the questionnaire had now been posted on the PC website. Cllr Stables will arrange for information about this to be put on relevant social media. Keith Jackson has had contact from a local estate agent and received good feedback about the village, along with the message ‘keep on doing what you are already doing’.</p> <p>Cllr Stables updated us on the development of a trader group in the village and some feedback she had received, mostly about parking issues (and possible solutions). Cllr Stables agreed to ask the trader group to respond to the consultation proforma on the PC website.</p> <p>We had agreed to share (on the PC website) some of the consultation data collected to date, presented in simple graphics. Cllr Bowen will pursue this. Cllr Stables’ work liaising with schools on the NP is in progress.</p> <p>A potential development of up to 400 homes to the west of Tadcaster was brought to the attention of the group. The opportunities and threats of this to Boston Spa were briefly discussed, in particular the benefits which might accrue in relation to completing a safe cycling route from the village to Tadcaster, and beyond in both directions. This is on the radar of Sustrans. This opportunity needs to be noted for inclusion in the revised NP.</p>

	A question was raised about linking NPs as Tadcaster is about to develop their plan. Advised that it would be useful to cross reference to other NPs, inserting reciprocal paragraphs and links where possible.
4.	To discuss a proposed development in Boston Spa – a case study for the new NP.
	Cllr Bowen referred to a piece of work recently undertaken by the PC in looking at a planning application. The relevant policies of the NP had systematically been evaluated alongside the planning proposal to identify compliance and non-compliance. This exercise had worked very well and was recommended to the group for further consideration. Cllr Bowen agreed to circulate a blank of the proforma used. It was suggested that at a future meeting either of this group or a relevant sub group of NPAG that this methodology would be used to examine two or three planning applications (not necessarily those relating to Boston Spa) in order to ‘test’ the robustness of the NP.
	Resolved: That this approach would be used at some point in the future to test out the usability and comprehensiveness of the NP.
5.	To consider planning for the plan.
	<p>A brief discussion was had about what would constitute a mandate for reviewing (or rewriting) the plan. The PC has already supported a motion that the plan be reviewed. It was agreed that public ‘approval’ for a review of the plan be sought at the forthcoming Annual Parish Meeting on Wednesday 15th May. Tomas indicated that assuming this took place, there was sufficient evidence for there being a mandate for review in view of the work undertaken to date by NPAG. To this end, the meeting of the 15th needed to be advertised. Cllr Bowen agreed to contact the Clerk to discuss and expedite this.</p> <p>Gail circulated a brief document setting out a methodology for doing a review of each of the 8 current objectives of the plan. The review would ask the following questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - how successful/effective has it been – what has been achieved and what still needs to be done? - is it still relevant in the light of technological developments; new legislation/regulation; changing expectations and aspirations; demographic change; economic change (there will be much overlap)? - could it be made/expressed more clearly – what detail is missing? - should it be altered/enhanced/deleted in the light of current public views? <p>It was felt that this would then give us a real feel for whether or not the current 8 objectives were the right ones to retain or how they might be amended, and also allow us to bring what is currently in the plan up to date.</p> <p>Each member of the group agreed to take away one or two of the objectives to prepare a written critique for the next meeting. This would then allow for work to be undertaken in greater detail on each of the objectives, each being led by members of the group forming new sub groups made up of interested parties, or delegated to others.</p> <p>David Faraday agreed to look at objectives 1 and 2. Keith Jackson agreed to look at objective 4 and 8. Cllr Stables agreed to look at objective 7.</p>

	<p>Andy Colledge agreed to look at objective 5. Cllr Bowen agreed to look at objective 3. Cllr Blake was allocated objective 6 in his absence.</p>
6.	<p>To consider arrangements for the July weekend consultation at the Party in the Park on the 13th and 14th July.</p>
	<p>It was agreed that wall to wall cover of the whole group for this event was not needed and that if members could offer two hours, that would suffice as members of the PC would also be in attendance on a rota basis. Cllr Stables – away Andy Colledge – 2 hours on the 13th Keith Jackson – 2 hours on the 14th David Faraday – 2 hours on the 13th Cllr Bowen – 2 hours on the 14th.</p>
7.	<p>To consider any urgent items or items for the next meeting</p>
	<p>None.</p>
8.	<p>To confirm the date(s) of the next meeting</p>
	<p>Resolved: That the next meeting of NPAG be held on Thursday 30th May at 6.30pm.</p>

With no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 19.58. Members were thanked for their attendance and contribution to the work of the group.