

Boston Spa Neighbourhood Planning Advisory Committee (NPAC) Meeting

Held on Monday 3rd March 2025 at 3.00pm in
The Committee Room, Boston Spa Village Hall, 199 High Street, Boston Spa, LS23 6AA

Present: Cllr G Bowen, Cllr P Stables, Cllr K Blake, Keith Jackson, Deborah Marshall, Andy Colledge, Tomas Johnson, Cllr A Watts.

Apologies: David Faraday.

Guests: None

There were no members of the public in attendance.

MINUTES

1.	Apologies for absence
	Apologies had been received from David Faraday.
	Resolved: That the apology and the reason for absence be accepted.
2.	Public Open Forum
	There were no members of the public in attendance.
3.	To confirm the minutes from the 27 January 2025 meeting and note any actions delivered/outstanding
	Resolved: That the minutes from the meeting on 27 th January 2025 be confirmed as a true and accurate record.
	Cllr Stables reported that she had followed up with LCC Asset Management regarding the building to the rear of the High Street car park and has been informed that this is a welfare building for library staff.
4.	To receive feedback from the Energy Group
	Keith Jackson provided a verbal report on the activities of the Energy Group which has been formed with a number of residents from across the village. The group has visited one of the bungalows at the West End Estate at the invitation of a resident to review its heating and energy consumption. Many of the bungalows on the estate have been extended over the years and are not well insulated. It was proposed that a review scheme be set up similar to that of Groundwork's Green Doctor to assess houses and provide advice. Education of the public on how to live greener is vital and The Energy Saving Trust can assist with this. The Energy Redress Scheme offers grant funding for schemes such as solar panel installation. At the moment, 7.4% of houses have solar panels in Boston Spa, which drops to 5.5% when excluding the Church Fields and Shires Grove estates. In areas of social housing this is only 2.6%. Grant sourcing would assist those in social housing and on low incomes with the installation of solar panels.

	<p>A trusted providers list would assist residents in choosing a supplier as much of the village is within the Conservation Area and the rules regarding the install of solar panels and heat source pumps can be more complex.</p> <p>The Yorkshire Green project is upgrading the high-voltage electricity network in Yorkshire to improve the transfer of clean energy across the country. This will assist in facilitating the movement away from gas heating and with the mass transition to electric powered vehicles. In terms of new developments, it was questioned whether recommendations for timber-framed homes should be included in the Neighbourhood Plan as these use less energy to build than bricks and mortar. Further suggestions include secondary water systems for the reuse of grey water, the planting of deciduous trees for heat reduction, wall mounted wind turbines and solar panels to be affixed on car ports and external buildings to generate additional energy which can be sent back to the National Grid.</p> <p>A Community Energy Generation project was discussed, and it was thought that hydro power on the weir could be re-explored.</p>
5.	To consider a response to the Community Resilience survey
	The survey questions were discussed amongst the group. It was noted that other than LCC and the Emergency Services, the village does not have any groups or means to deal with a large incident. It was proposed that the group undertake a review of its resilience planning with a view to producing a village Resilience Plan. This was agreed.
6.	To review any correspondence received
	None.
7.	To consider any urgent items or items for the next meeting
	Resolved: It was agreed that topics of forthcoming meetings will be Resilience Planning and Transport.
8.	To confirm the date(s) of the next meeting
	Resolved: That the next meeting be held on Monday 7th April at 2pm in the Village Hall.