

Boston Spa Neighbourhood Planning Group Meeting Thursday 25th May at 6.30pm in Boston Spa Village Hall

Present: Cllr G Bowen, Cllr K Blake, Cllr P Stables, D Faraday, K Jackson, V Skinner

Apologies: R Harrison (Boston Spa in Bloom); D Marshall (Clerk to the Council)

Guests: None

In Attendance: Tomas Johnson and Paige Carpenter, Leeds City Council

Minutes taken by Cllr G Bowen.

DRAFT MINUTES

1.	To receive any apologies for absence.
	Apologies were received from R Harrison & D Marshall. It was noted that Lynn Beckwith had resigned from NPAG since the last meeting.
	Resolved: That the apologies be accepted.
2.	Public Open Forum
	There were no members of the public in attendance.
3.	To confirm the minutes from the 13th April meeting
	The minutes had been circulated prior to the meeting.
	Resolved: That the minutes be approved.
4.	Review the NPAG document summary
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design code issues – whether assistance is needed in drafting a design code for Boston Spa. If necessary, funds would be sought to facilitate this. Recommended that we look at Clifford’s Neighbourhood Plan. • NPAG summary document. T Johnson had received the comments each member of the group sent to him, based on the policy summary document he had compiled. T Johnson has had the comments summarised, with additions from other relevant colleagues in LCC and will circulate the document before the next meeting so that it can be examined in more detail. •
5.	Setting objectives for the Neighbourhood Plan (led by T Johnson of LCC)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The question was raised about implications of the Leeds Local Plan. T Johnson will keep us up to date and will attend a Parish Council meeting to update PC members. • T Johnson led a ‘structural brainstorming’ activity. Three headings were addressed from each activity – and agreed that the remaining headings would be explored in a future meeting. <p>Boston Spa is a sustainable village. Would it be appropriate to describe BS in these terms? Issues raised included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heavy reliance on cars

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not well set up for active travel – only relevant for leisure activities rather than connectivity. • Good range of shops and services (Post Office, Library, Chemist, etc.) • Not sustainable in relation to employment – people have to travel • Housing stock – good range but some older houses which may not be well insulated. Expensive housing. • Good focus on trees, hedges and green spaces. No cycle lanes. • Home working – would a home working hub help? • Smaller buses might help – problems with larger buses on the bridge. • Explore change of classification of the road from A to B? • Could we describe BS as a safe village? • Many people come and go – many spend little time in the village. Loses a sense of community. • May feel isolated on the outskirts of the village. • A number of ‘pocketed’ communities – do these pockets interconnect? Are they visible to one another? • Is the park safe? For girls? • Parking on pavements a problem for many • Do we have safe routes to schools? • Would a new one-way system work – we have many narrow streets, often with parked cars. • Boston Spa is a communal village. Are we a communal village – and how would we know? • Do we have intergenerational mixing – through groups, activities, etc. • Lots of events in the village – are they properly intergenerational? • Do we have volunteer groups which can support people and their needs? • Resources and facilities for young people discussed – do we know what their needs are? • Discussed ‘even better if....’ question – what would make BS even better? • Useful to have young person input and perspective. • Agreed that at the next meeting we would continue this very useful exercise and look at the policy summary prepared by T Johnson, which now includes NPAG’s comments.
6.	Actions and next steps
	The next meeting will be used to continue this exercise and look at the policy summary prepared by T Johnson with the NPAG input.
7.	To confirm the date of the next meeting.
	Resolved: That the next meeting be held on Thursday July 6th at 6.30 in the Village Hall.