

**Boston Spa Neighbourhood Planning Group Meeting  
Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> April 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); L Beckwith (FOSL), D Marshall (Clerk to the Council)

**Guests:** None

**In Attendance:** Tomas Johnson, Leeds City Council.

Meeting chaired by Cllr K Blake. Minutes taken by Cllr G Bowen.

## MINUTES

1.	To receive any apologies for absence.
	Apologies were received from L Beckwith, R Harrison & D Marshall
	<b>Resolved: That the apologies be accepted.</b>
2.	<b>To confirm the minutes from the March meeting and any matters arising.</b>
	The minutes had been circulated prior to the meeting.
	<b>Resolved: That the minutes be approved.</b>
3.	<b>Vision and objectives – what needs to be retained and what added.</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Important to see how our current NP has been used so far (and whether effective) so that the next plan will be more effective in influencing and shaping future local development. Agreed that wording needed to be tight and specific.</li> <li>• It was noted that the context of producing a NP was now very different to the time when the first one was produced.</li> <li>• Agreed we needed to elicit community feedback and ensure a robust evidence base to inform the content of the revised plan.</li> </ul>
4.	<b>Review of Boston Spa Neighbourhood Plan using template provided by Tomas Johnson, Senior Planner, Neighbourhood Planning and Engagement Team, Leeds City Council.</b>
	<p>Discussed which parts of the plan needed major and minor changes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agreed that Housing and Development Section is a priority <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Need the plan to work so that proposed planning developments are better aligned with the aspirations set out in the Plan and enable better engagement with the PC.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

- Discussed parish boundary issues – for example housing development in Clifford which has come right up to BS boundary, and therefore impacts on our infrastructure such as schools, traffic, etc. Agreed we needed to link/liase with Clifford and Thorpe Arch at some point in this process. –
  - Future proofing the plan discussed, e.g. ‘embodied carbon’ which may significantly alter the way housing develops in relation to use of materials. These things need to be considered so the plan can predict such issues.
  - Questioned whether we could safeguard ‘views and vistas’ even where these impinged on private land.
  - Discussed reuse of existing or empty buildings to maximise use of building and provide accommodation in the village. What are the constraints/opportunities?
- Transport and Getting About section agreed as priority. Public transport needs greater coherence, predictability and reach.
    - Inclusivity needs to underpin all aspects of work on the NP – e.g. in relation to transport issues (which include walking and cycling).
    - Discussed rights of way, including exploring status of ‘informal’ rights of way to gain clarity for the revised plan/village walking routes.
    - Cycling (safety, parking and routes) discussed – agreed likely to be a key part of the strategic vision (though recognised this was not something that was relevant or had appeal for everyone).
    - Discussed parking in general and in any housing developments. Recognised the tension of providing sufficient parking so that cars do not ‘litter’ the village/new housing development – but balanced by the need to reduce use of cars in general.
    - Discussed impact of cars and parking on green spaces, aesthetics and on hedges.
  - Environment and Energy agreed as a priority. Discussed trees and TPOs for trees outside the conservation area. Agreed something to explore – including new tree planting and the replacement of elderly trees where necessary. Agreed hedges also needed to be considered in the same way – so that existing and new hedging would be preserved and created – generally and in the light of new development.
  - T Johnson suggested at our next meeting we use a set of cards to identify vision/priorities – and he would help us work our way through it.
  - Agreed homework for everyone is to look at the document T Johnson sent for reviewing current plan. Each person to fill in as much as they wish/are able and T

	Johnson agreed to consolidate our responses for the next meeting. Responses to T Johnson before 18th May.
5.	<b>Leeds Local Plan 2040. What does it mean for us.</b>
	Referred to the Leeds Local Plan 2040 and how this and other government developments might impact on the work we are doing. Agreed this was a particular value Tomas could bring to the meetings.
6.	<b>To confirm the date of the next meeting.</b>
	<b>Resolved: The date of the next meeting will be Thursday 25th May at 6.30pm in the Village Hall.</b>

**The meeting closed at 20:10.**