

Third Meeting of the Kirkstall Neighbourhood Forum at Paxton Hall on Wednesday 8 June 2016 at 7:30pm

Draft Minutes

Present: (33) Helen Ashman, Graham Bellamy, Tom Brannigan, Sue Brear, Wendi Carson, James Corah, Joanna Dickinson, Brian Ellis, Rhea Ewen, Steve Harris, Barbara Houghton, John Illingworth, Judith Judd, Ursula Klingel, Sylvia Landells, Daniel Lipzith, John Liversedge, Valerie Lunn, Jean McCarthy, Paul McBrinn, Michael Park, Andrea Purdy, Adele Rae, Paul Redgrave, Andy Rontree, Katherine Smith, Ken Waterworth, Sheila Waterworth, Wallace Wheatley, Karen Willcock, Mike Winter and 2 others.

Apologies: (12) Naomi Batten, Melody Brewer, Fiona Butler, Keith Collridge, James Jelliman, Ian Mackay, Sam Meadley, Elizabeth Minkin, Pauline Scholey, Ian Smith, Fiona Venner, Lucinda Yeadon.

- (1) **Election of a Chair for this evening.** The formal business started at 7:40pm. John Liversedge was proposed and seconded as Chair, and there being no other nominations he was elected unopposed.
- (2) **Endorsing new members:** The meeting approved 11 new members: Joanna Dickinson, Brian Ellis, Rhea Ewen, James Jelliman, Ursula Klingel, Valerie Lunn, Jean McCarthy, Paul McBrinn, Paul Redgrave, Ian Smith and Karen Willcock.
- (3) **Minutes of the Second Public Meeting held on 5 April 2016** were agreed as a correct record, subject to a minor amendment from Sylvia Landells who explained that her group envisaged mixed use development at Abbey Mills rather than an exclusively co-housing site.
- (4) **Matters arising from the minutes:** Members discussed whether the present Board equitably represented all areas of Kirkstall ward. The Secretary explained that the Board were elected by the public meetings. There was no constitutional requirement to achieve exact proportionality, although it was plainly desirable that all areas should be included. Boundary problems were also discussed, and it was pointed out that our area of interest in the Claytons might extend beyond the legal boundary for Kirkstall Ward. It was agreed to keep the overall balance under review and the Secretary was asked to prepare a brief summary of the relevant constitutional rules.
- (5) **Summary report on Board Meetings:** The Secretary circulated a summary report of recent Board meetings which included a decision to maximise cash income instead of consultants' advice. This was accepted without dissent. The summary also identified five key areas for urgent debate:
 - a. **Affordable housing:** At least 100 units of affordable housing are required on the failed Tesco supermarket site within the Kirkstall District Centre, *in addition* to any retail or commercial development which might or might not be agreed.
 - b. **Design Quality:** Planning applications in Kirkstall will be judged by the same standards that apply in the most privileged areas of Leeds.
 - c. **Flood Relief Scheme:** This Forum will engage fully with the emerging flood relief scheme and focus on residents' well-being and quality of life. Every opportunity will be taken to improve youth and sports provision, and public access to recreational land.
 - d. **Sustainable Development:** Major planning applications must achieve zero carbon dioxide emissions, with less stringent requirements for householder applications.

- e. **Traffic and Congestion:** A detailed professional study of traffic congestion is urgently required on both sides of the valley for the area within 1km of Bridge Road.
- (6) Members supported all five issues going forward, however lack of time meant that some topics received more discussion than others.
- (7) The meeting wanted more work on traffic problems. Road safety, congestion and air pollution were key issues. St Ann's Lane was identified as the top priority, also major radial routes (Spen Lane, Queenswood Drive, Morris Lane, Kirkstall Hill and Burley Road) and orbital routes (Kirkstall Lane, Bridge Road and Savins Mill Way). Members sought a professional feasibility study on the vacant Tesco site. There was particular concern about the lack pedestrian crossings on Broad Lane and Wyther Lane, and the lack of provision in central Kirkstall for the additional traffic anticipated from Kirkstall Forge.
- (8) Affordable housing was an important priority. There was an extended discussion and support for co-housing proposals and admiration for the "Lilac" scheme on Victoria Park Avenue.
- (9) There was also support for "Quick Wins" and the Board were asked to identify obvious projects, where rapid progress was anticipated, to increase public participation and engagement.
- (10) Members requested a brief report on the legal basis for Neighbourhood Plans, which would include a summary of the Forum Constitution and a glossary of common acronyms and abbreviations (e.g. LDF, QTARA, SAP) to be published on the Forum website.
- (11) **Dates, times and venues for future meetings.** Members requested another Public Meeting in central Kirkstall as soon as possible, with a target date of Wednesday 14 September if this could be achieved.

John Illingworth
29 June 2016