



**MINUTES OF THE HARDEN NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN PROJECT TEAM
HELD ONLINE ON 1st October, 2020**

Present: Cllr Jools Townsend (Chair)
Steve Johnson
Jamie Wilde (IntegreatPlus)
Ken Eastwood (Clerk)

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs Gerwyn Bryan and Kay Kirkham.

2. Minutes of last meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 13th July, 2020 were accepted.

3. Overview of comments received from Bradford Council

Jamie Wilde stated he had received three sets of comments on the draft plan from Bradford Council's Planning Policy, Development Management and Landscape Teams.

In summary, the comments were very supportive and positive. Bradford Council had stated they were impressed with progress made so far and have suggested a number of amendments to finesse wording as well as providing advice about additional matters that could be included in the plan.

Integreat Plus have already incorporated a number of the quick fix edits but have further work to do to update the draft plan.

The section on local green spaces is dependent on Bradford's site allocation process being completed. Bradford Council have stated they expect the allocations to be published for consultation later this year. Jamie Wilde is to make further contact and see if a clearer date can be obtained.

The Council had suggested that the draft policy on speed management, pedestrian and cycle safety is not a land use policy that could be influenced through the planning system. Following discussion, it was agreed this work should be referenced in the plan's narrative so that the Village Council's aspirations could be made clear.

Cllr Jools Townsend outlined contact with Bradford Highways re. follow-up to the Harden Traffic Study report commissioned by the Village Council. She is to follow up with a Highways Manager.

Steve Johnson commented on the change in traffic volumes during the pandemic, noting that in the future more people are likely to be working from home.

Jools Townsend stated that nationally, traffic is back to 90% of pre-Covid levels, whilst the use of public transport has dropped significantly. However, the long-term trajectory is that vehicle mileage and vehicle ownership is likely to continue to increase significantly.

4. Run through of amendments made in response to comments

Housing section – fine. Comment on sustainable homes and renewable energy re. duplication of controls in the Building Regulations.

Happy with design policy and home working policy. Building for Life & Lifetime Homes and broadband policy.

Communities and facilities – Bradford have requested further information on allocation of the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL). Something that could be picked up through a separate Community Action Plan, highlighting key areas that would be focus of CIL.

Community energy scheme and enhancing village centre policies well received.

It was noted that Land Use Classes have recently changed nationally – so policies on retaining community services and facilities need a re-write. The Addingham neighbourhood plan has a similar policy that will be helpful here.

Very positive on green spaces and guidance provided on how to assess landscape characteristics.

Suggested that the tree planting policy be amended to encourage developers to include tree planting in proposals. Jools Townsend suggested wider aspirations be included in the plan's narrative to make a link to a Community Action Plan. The Village Council has already committed to identifying suitable sites, following the declaration of a climate emergency.

Steve Johnson made comment on maintenance, particularly of small parcels of grass. It would be helpful if responsibility was clearer following completion of new development.

The non designated heritage assets report was discussed. The intention is to reference in the plan and to develop a policy to encourage sensitive enhancement where development takes place at buildings identified on the list.

Before going to consultation with the neighbourhood plan Jamie Wilde advised that the Village Council should write to the householders included in the list. Jamie Wilde to share a draft template letter.

Following a discussion on local history and knowledge, it was suggested the letter could also ask if residents had background history to share. This could form a separate Village Council Local History Project and content could be catalogued and published on the Village Council website.

Steve Johnson stated he had some further comments on the heritage assets report Jools Townsend suggested the document is serving a specific purpose, cataloguing assets to include in the neighbourhood plan, so as a suggestion perhaps some additional work could be done to include details of local history and heritage. A local history project could perhaps be developed, to capture and publish detail on the history of Harden on the Village Council website etc.

Steve Johnson mentioned that the transport proposal at Harden Beck Bridge could have an adverse impact on adjacent recognised heritage assets (cottages). It was agreed that if the scheme was progressed careful consideration would need to be given to these considerations.

Jamie Wilde stated he had undertaken a virtual tour of Harden and mapped all the dry-stone walls.

With regard to preserving key views, Bradford Council had advised that further detail on why the views are important was required. Jamie Wilde has been reviewing the Wilsden Landscape Assessment which covers Harden and assembling further evidence and justification.

5. Discussion around how we might undertake consultation given current context

Jamie Wilde outlined the 6-week, pre-submission consultation process. The regulation 14 consultation is undertaken to promote and market the neighbourhood plan in a way which is likely to encourage people to review the plan and provide comments. The consultation must also engage statutory consultees including Bradford Council, Environment Agency, Natural England, Highways Agency, English Heritage and others.

Following the consultation, amendments to the plan may be made in light of comments received. Following that step, the plan would be formally submitted to Bradford Council who would assume responsibility for further consultation, for submission for independent examination and for making arrangements for the local referendum. It was agreed Jamie Wilde would discuss likely timescales with the Council.

There was a discussion on how to conduct the consultation. It was agreed, in principle, to distribute a dedicated newsletter directing residents to the website and to the

location of physical copies of the plan in local shops. In addition, a virtual Q&A surgery could be held.

Following further discussion, it was agreed to commence the consultation in the New Year, giving the Team time to review the latest draft plan during November and to plan and prepare for the consultation during December.

6. Next Steps

Jamie Wilde to share an updated version of the draft neighbourhood plan, with a table summarising the changes made, by the end of October.

All to give thought to the consultation arrangements and to preparing the newsletter and display materials, ready for the New Year.

Jamie Wilde to prepare and share a timeline with indicative dates.

7. Any Other Business

None.

8. Date of Next Meeting

16th November, 2020 at 5pm.

Meeting closed at 6.02pm.