

**Meeting of the HEBDEN ROYD & HILLTOP PARISHES
JOINT NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING COMMITTEE
held WEDNESDAY 28th FEBRUARY 2024**

MINUTES

PRESENT: Councillors: Dyter (Chair), Boden, Butterick, Hedges, Greenwood & Slater.

HRTC Clerk: J. Boom

401. Apologies for Absence and any substitutions

Cllrs Boggis, Kimber and Anthony Rae.

402. Members' Interests relating to agenda items for this meeting.

There were no interests declared at this point.

403. Matters arising from Minutes of Meeting held 16th October 2023 not itemised on this Agenda

There were no matters arising.

404. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING PROCESS

Responses received from the member councils of the Joint Neighbourhood Planning Committee were discussed and considered.

The meeting agreed that sadly the process of developing a Neighbourhood Plan for the nominated area is now complete.

The previously circulated amendments to the Neighbourhood Plan made by Calderdale MBC's Planning Department have rendered the majority of policies unnecessary. As such the Neighbourhood Plan is unable to deliver a robust and strategic supplementary planning document against which effective decisions can be made. Member Councils and Councillors were disappointed in this action, much time and expense has been wasted but agreed that there was little point pursuing this under the circumstances.

This is a regrettable decision as so much hard work has gone into the project over the years and a scandalous amount of public money has been wasted.

It was agreed to write to CMBC to formally confirm the end of the process and to express the disappointment in the lack of support and guidance received from CMBC that has led to this outcome. Changes in planning personnel within Calderdale MBC over the years and their different perspectives on the requirements of the Neighbourhood Plan have proved to be a major problem, aligned with demands for further inclusions in the Neighbourhood Plan and delays to the completion of the Local Plan these have severely affected the delivery of the Neighbourhood Plan.

In addition to informing Calderdale MBC of the decision Locality must also be formally advised of the decision and thanked for their support throughout the process.

Thanks were expressed by the members of the committee for the hard work and diligence undertaken throughout the process by Emma Green and Anthony Rae, as a co-opted member, who have invested a great deal of time and dedication into the task and should be highly commended for their efforts. John Kimber was also thanked specifically for leading Wadsworth Parish Council involvement in the process.

Note: Cllr Hedges arrived.

405. HILL TOP PARISH MEETINGS

The meeting discussed a desire for the five parishes involved in the Neighbourhood Plan to continue to meet, retaining a mechanism to exchange ideas and experiences.

The meeting discussed how this desire could be best met on what was viewed as one of the positive points taken from the creation of the Joint Neighbourhood Planning Committee.

It was moved by Cllr Slater
Seconded by Cllr Boden and

RESOLVED: to recommend to each of the five parish councils involved in the Joint Neighbourhood Planning Committee that they develop a terms of reference for the group, which may wish to cover issues that are imminent that will have significant impact on the member councils. The meeting recommended that membership be set at two councillors per member council and that the group continue to meet at Hebden Bridge Town Hall at a mutually convenient time for all member councils.

Cllr Dyter proposed that Blackshaw Parish Council initially lead the initiative with regular rotation of responsibilities amongst the member councils.

Meeting finished at 7.46pm.