



MINUTES

Planning Committee

Date:	Wednesday, 7 March 2018
Venue:	Town Hall, St Annes.
Committee Members Present:	Councillor Trevor Fiddler (Chairman) Councillor Richard Redcliffe (Vice-Chairman) Councillors Christine Akeroyd, Jan Barker, Peter Collins, Michael Cornah, Neil Harvey, Kiran Mulholland, Linda Nulty, Liz Oades, Sandra Pitman, Ray Thomas
Other Members in attendance:	Councillor Julie Brickles
Officers Present:	Mark Evans, Paul Drinnan, Lyndsey Lacey- Simone, Simon Stott
Members of the Public:	Approx 24 members of the public were in attendance at the meeting

Councillor Sandra Pitman

The Chairman welcomed Councillor Sandra Pitman to the meeting as a newly appointed member of the committee.

1. Declarations of Interest

Members were reminded that any disclosable pecuniary interests should be declared as required by the Localism Act 2011 and any personal or prejudicial interests should be declared as required by the Council's Code of Conduct for Members.

The Chairman, Councillor Trevor Fiddler declared a personal interest in item 4 relating to the House of Commons Select Committee Consultation in so far as it related to fracking.

2. Confirmation of Minutes

RESOLVED: To approve the minutes of the Planning Committee held on 7 February 2018 as a correct record for signature by the Chairman.

3. Substitute Members

The following substitution was reported under Council procedure rule 23(a):

Councillor Peter Collins for Councillor Heather Speak.

Decision Items

4. House of Commons Select Committee Consultation

The Chairman invited Mark Evans (Head of Planning and Housing) to address the committee on matters associated with the House of Commons Select Committee Consultation. In doing so, he advised that the Housing,

Communities and Local Government (HCLG) Select Committee is to examine whether guidance for local authorities taking planning decisions on fracking applications needed to be updated or improved.

It was reported that the inquiry on the planning guidance for hydraulic fracturing or shale gas extraction will also focus on whether there needed to be a comprehensive document bringing all existing guidance together, for all those involved in the planning process. In addition, the Select Committee will also consider whether applications for fracking should be determined by the national planning regime rather than at a local level.

Members were advised that In order to assist in their inquiry, the Select Committee had invited written submissions on a number of specific questions. These were set out in the report.

In his report, Mr Evans provided an overview of the Select Committee process and further expanded on the four questions raised by the Select Committee. He also outlined the application process for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIP).

Members were directed to the Late Observation Schedule (circulated at the meeting) which made reference to the Government's publication (on 5 March) of a draft revised National Planning Policy Framework for consultation. He stated that paragraphs 204-205 (as detailed on the sheet) provided guidance to Minerals Planning Authorities on the matters that their planning policies should address and matters which should be taken into consideration in the determination of planning applications.

Attached as appendices to the report was a copy of the Exploratory Well Application Process and the NSIP Application Process.

At the conclusion of the presentation, the Chairman clarified the position regarding the public speaking arrangements he then went on to invite members to ask questions on the item.

Various members of the committee commented on the matter and made particular reference to the proposed NSIP arrangements; the merits/importance of keeping decisions local and the need for a full geological survey in the area.

Following detailed consideration of this matter, it was RESOLVED: That Fylde Council responds to the House of Commons Select Committee in order to advise that:

1. The current planning guidance needs to be updated in order to reflect best practice emanating from experience gained from the onshore exploration and extraction of unconventional shale gas.
2. That specific guidance relating to unconventional hydrocarbons is maintained as a comprehensive document that is capable of regular updates, similar to the current online guidance and which explains the relationships and interactions between planning and other consents that control the process.
3. That, in regard to the determination of planning applications relating to shale gas, the status quo be maintained in that Fylde Council supports the position taken by Lancashire County Council which is:

“This Council believes that local authorities should retain the powers to approve or reject fracking planning applications. Decisions should be made by the County Council, having due regard to current planning policy as set out in the development plan, Government guidance on the National Planning Policy Framework and material planning considerations”

5. Fylde Regeneration Framework 2016-32

The Chairman invited Mark Evans (Head of Planning and Housing) to introduce the report. In doing so, Mr Evans provided an overview of the vision, purpose/ aims and objectives of the Fylde Regeneration Framework 2016-32 document. He indicated that the Framework was based on the projects identified in two approved council documents: The Regeneration Framework (September 2014) and Lytham St Annes 2020 Vision (November 2009). Both had been updated and integrated into a revised document alongside additional projects that had been developed working with various local communities across Fylde.

Mr Drinnan (Head of Regeneration) was then invited to further present the specifics associated with the comprehensive document. Particular reference was made to the various regeneration schemes and /or public realm projects proposed across the borough. Members were advised that the Framework would be a living document and would be utilised to secure external funding, including contributions under Section 106 of the

Town & Country Planning Act 1990 and would be open to town & parish councils and other local community groups to nominate schemes for consideration and inclusion within the Framework. Mr Drinnan advised that it was proposed to formally adopt the Framework as a Supplementary Planning Document to afford greater weight in the decision making process. As such, it was proposed that Framework document, be subject to a period of public consultation in line with the provisions of the Council's Statement of Community Involvement.

Mr Drinnan further reported that officers had been working with a number of communities to further develop a number of projects. He explained that Wrea Green Parish Council had been working to develop further opportunities to improve the public realm associated with The Green and it was proposed that the revised scheme for Wrea Green be incorporated within the Framework.

Included as appendices to the report was a copy of the Regeneration Framework 2016-2032 and Wrea Green Public Realm Works.

Mr Evans drew the committee's attention to the Late Observation Schedule which was circulated at the meeting.

At the conclusion of the presentation, the Chairman invited questions from the committee. Clarification was sought on a number of areas including: The Church Road/Lytham Road widening scheme in Warton and the associated costs included in the document; Wesham proposals as identified by the Town Council; projects in the Kirkham area; criteria for determining high/medium/low priorities; sources of funding/access to funding for various projects; ability to provide an equitable an balance of funding in the urban/rural Fylde; access to Lottery funding; the description in the Framework document of Elswick being Tier 1 rural settlement as opposed to a Tier 2 rural settlement. The questions were addressed in turn by the relevant officer.

Following consideration of this matter, it was RESOLVED:

1. That the revised details of the public realm scheme proposed for the village of Wrea Green as set out in appendix 2 to the report be incorporated within the Fylde Regeneration Framework 2016-2032.
2. That the Regeneration Framework 2016-2032, as set out at appendix 1 and 2 of the report, be utilised to secure developer contributions in line with Section 106 of the Town & Country Planning Act 1990 in addition to funding from other external sources.
3. That the Regeneration Framework 2016-2032, including any amendments that reflect the latest schemes that are at an advanced stage of discussion with Town & Parish Councils and other community groups, be the subject of a public consultation exercise carried out in accordance with the Council's Statement of Community Involvement.
4. That the comments received as a result of the public consultation exercise be considered by the Planning Committee at a future date, prior to adoption of the Regeneration Framework (2016-32) as a Supplementary Planning Document.
6. Substitute Vacancy - Planning Committee

The Committee received the report.

7. Appointment to Outside Bodies/Working Groups

The Committee was invited to recommend nominations to the various outside bodies/working Groups (within the remit of the committee) for consideration at Full Council. In addition, copies of reports received from members currently serving on outside bodies were also included as an appendix to the report for information purposes.

During the course of discussion about the various appointments to outside bodies, clarification was sought about the replacement body for the Blackpool, Fylde and Wyre Economic Development Company (EDC) Leaders' Group. An undertaken was given to members to clarify the position by way of email.

Following consideration of this matter, it was RESOLVED:

1. To recommend the following nominations to the outside bodies for consideration by Council:
 - Duty to Cooperate - Chairman and Vice-Chairman of Planning Committee.
 - Planning Education Liaison Group - Councillors Richard Redcliffe and Linda Nulty.

2. To recommend removal of the Blackpool, Fylde & Wyre Economic Development Company (EDC) from the list of outside bodies following the decision to disband the company and an update relating to the status the replacement body be provided to the members in due course.
3. To confirm the continued establishment of the following working groups:
 - Local Listings Project Board comprising: Councillors Richard Redcliffe, Maxine Chew and Ray Thomas.
 - SHLAA Steering Group comprising: Councillors Peter Collins and Linda Nulty.
 - Arboricultural & Landscape Working Group comprising: Councillors Christine Akeroyd, Jan Barker, Neil Harvey, Kiran Mulholland and Ray Thomas.
4. To note the reports from members currently serving on outside bodies.

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