

PENISTONE TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Development and Regeneration Committee meeting held on July 6th 2015 in the Resource Centre St. Johns Community Centre at 7.0 pm

PRESENT: Cllr. Webber (in the chair) **Cutts, Hinchliff Mrs. Hinchliff, Chadburn, Kimberly, Ogle, Unsworth, and Hand - Davis**

Also present: Town Clerk Keith Coulton, Mike Dando from RURALIS and one member of the public representing Community Action Penistone

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were accepted from **Cllrs. Millner, Mrs. Millner, and Denton**

2. DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL OR PREJUDICIAL INTEREST

The **Chair** invited personal or prejudicial interests from members to which there were **NONE**

3. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Cllr. Webber after dispensing with introductions allowed Mike Dando to ask all members present of their interpretation of a Neighbourhood Plan and if they were in favour or not of the development of a Neighbourhood Plan This would allow him to assess whether there was a need to proceed.

On conclusion of each member's opinions and comments which were a mixture of positive and slight scepticism, Mike Dando stated that a Neighbourhood Plan would give influence in decision making by the Local Authority (BMBC) as it is more effective than a Community Led Plan. It is a serious plan and takes a long time to prepare. The housing element which appeared to be the main topic of concern was not up to debate as a Neighbourhood Plan is not just about housing. A Neighbourhood Plan will not influence where housing sites or developments will take place and as timing is of the essence and as the Town Council is not in advance with a plan, the system is stacked against this and would require continued consultation with Barnsley MBC's Local Plan.

A Neighbourhood Plan can suggest the type of housing for Penistone with regard to design and materials etc. and an opportunity in the planning and setting out of the sites. Infrastructure needs to be in the policy and in place where non allocated sites are deemed deliverable. A Neighbourhood Plan can identify local green spaces for safeguarding where for example areas of high landscape and wildlife value, however this will not deter some incremental development as the need for housing grows, and an assessment into this growth and economic development will be required.

To begin the process in formulating a plan an initial town wide consultation with not just residents but with stakeholders and businesses is required as these will be key issues for the framework in planning and non - planning. The next stage would be checking the evidence collated for the final plan which is the critical stage. The plan would then be publicised to residents over a six week period prior to handing to Barnsley MBC. At this present time and the plan not even in its infancy, the Town Council would have to prepare itself for a two year timescale prior to completion.

Signed.....Mayor 20/07/15

The cost of forming a Neighbourhood Plan is in the region of £15,000.00 to write up the final plan. Grant schemes are available up to £8,000.00 which would require the services of a preferred consultant. Quotes for the work can vary on the tasks involved and staged payments can apply.

A brief discussion following comments from individual members around the table and it was **RECOMMENDED** by members present to fully discuss and decide whether to proceed with a Neighbourhood Plan. This will be at the full meeting of the Town Council in September.

Signed.....Mayor 20/07/15

Signed.....Mayor 19/12/11

