

Pool Neighbourhood Plan Group Meeting

September 5th 2016 at 7.00p.m.

Attending:

Joanna Rowling, Pat Lazenby, Alexa Ruppertsberg, Barry Anderson, Gavin Barlow, Jeremy Griffin, Pam Gresty, Tony Ray.

Apologies: Ailsa Bearpark, Nicola Griffin, John Porter

JR welcomed newcomer Pam Gresty and guest Tony Ray from Leeds Civic Trust. Tony has also worked on the Holbeck Neighbourhood Plan.

TR said that with regard to extending a Conservation Area (CA), eg to include the area around Whiteley's Mill, 'the door was closed' as there are no council staff to attend to this.

BA asked if money was raised to fund staff who could work on obtaining information re extending Conservation Area would that expedite things. (Not sure about TR's response to this.)

The group's concern was to preserve local assets which fall outside the existing CA.

Reference was made to the Pool 2009 'Preserving Heritage' (CA) document. PL gave TR a copy of Peter Thornborrow's work, the 'Conservation Area Assessment' which is more informative.

TR advised that buildings/assets can be protected even if they are not in the CA by specifically designating them as Heritage Assets in the NP. This could be the way forward.

Phil Ward is Head of the Leeds CA section but Kate Newall is the most useful officer to speak to. It was decided to ask her to speak to the PNPG.

Action: BA to contact Kate Newall to invite her to a meeting

In response to a question from PL; TR said that the Corn Mill could not be listed on the NP because it is a ruin. However, it is possible that it could be a scheduled monument. Historic England is the body to determine whether the Corn Mill ruins match specific criteria including national significance. Industrial sites can be covered as medieval elements. The Corn Mill may be eligible.

TR said that officer Matt Bentley could help with reference to Historic England. The group felt this might be useful.

Action: TR to contact Matt Bentley

BA asked how many houses in Pool are not included in the CA.

PL said there weren't many- perhaps some up Old Pool bank. TR said they don't have to be listed building status to be designated in the NP.

BA commented that some house owners might not wish their houses to be listed in the NP and consequently may vote against the plan.

It was suggested that there might be a separate section re Historic sites and assets in the NP that fall outside the existing CA

BA asked who should lead in getting this work done-Parish Council, NP group or RGMC?

It was agreed that it should be the Parish Council via the RGMC.

Action: GB to lead on this.

In response to TR's question on progress thus far on Pool's NP, AR confirmed that consultations have been completed in key areas:

Business and Employment

Living-including facilities, amenities and housing need

Public spaces

Transport

AR reflected on the difficulty in reaching out to diverse sections of the community and that the overall response to the consultation was small despite all their efforts. Traffic was identified as the major concern by respondents.

TR commented that it is possible to stretch the boundaries of what can be covered by a Neighbourhood Plan by including projects that use existing green spaces for the benefit of the community. Examples were discussed by the group:-

Recreation land.

A small project to create a garden at the end of Church Close was mentioned as well as the larger ongoing project to create a Greenway between Otley and Pool. This is part of the larger co-operative project to create a continuing Wharfedale Greenway between Menston, Burley, Otley and Pool. (This is now expected to extend to Ilkley and Addingham, as their parish councils are showing considerable interest.)

A long term aspiration could be to extend the greenway to include Arthington.

TR said that it was important to define the NP's vision for the plan. This should provide clear justification for the community's aspirations. Statements about accessibility, mobility, connectivity, safety, health and fitness etc. are key.

TR said that the next stage was to take the acquired data and make a rough draft of the plan. The group agreed. Funds can then be used to use to employ somebody to write the actual document in the required mode.

TR was thanked by JR.

The next meeting to be held on Monday 3rd October at 7.00pm.

PL gave her apologies in advance.

The meeting closed at 9.00pm. **Minute taker: Pam Gresty**