

LDF WORKING PARTY

Bainbridge Room, Copeland Centre, 4.30pm Tuesday 24 August 2016

Present:

Cllr David Riley (DR) (Chair)

Cllr John Bowman (JB)

Cllr Allan Holliday (AH)

Cllr Michael McVeigh (MM)

Cllr John Dirom (JD)

Cllr Brian O’Kane (BO’K)

Cllr John Kane

Officers:

Chris Hoban (CH)

Charlotte Brown (CB)

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| 1. | Apologies for absence No apologies for absence. | |
| 2. | Declarations of Interests in Agenda Items No declarations of interest were declared. | |
| 3. | Minutes of the meeting held 15 March 2016 Minutes agreed as an accurate record. | |
| 4. | Local Development Scheme 2016 CH gave members an update on the Local Development Scheme (LDS) 2016 which sets out the work programme for producing the Local Plan documents. In doing so, CH informed Members of the purpose of the LDS and the need for a revised LDS to reflect a number of changes to the planning policy context for the Borough since 2012 including the adoption of the Copeland Local Plan 2013-2028: Core Strategy and Development Management Policies; changes to national policy and legislation and; the need to reflect the requirements of the new nuclear power station at Moorside and the worker accommodation sites and the role the Local Plan can play in supporting and guiding these. CH identified the planning policy framework for Copeland including the overarching policy framework of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act | |

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| | <p>(as amended) and National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and stated that although the Cumbria Minerals and Waste Local Plan falls within the planning framework for Copeland this is led by Cumbria County Council and Copeland Borough Council is a consultee in this process.</p> <p>CH explained Local Plan Documents which are made up of Development Plan Documents (DPDs), Proposals Map, Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs), Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) and Annual Monitoring Report (AMR): the latter which monitors matters such as where development is taking place and the size and scale of development, as examples.</p> <p>CH stated that the Current Copeland Local Plan is made up of the Copeland Local Plan 2013-2028: Core Strategy and Development Policies (Adopted December 2013); the Site Allocations and Policies Plan (currently at Preferred Options stage); Proposals Map; SPDs including Whitehaven Town Centre and Harbourside SPD (Adopted September 2012), South Whitehaven SPD (adopted March 2013), Pow Beck Development Brief SPD (Adopted January 2008), Cumbria Wind Energy SPD (Adopted January 2008) and; the Annual Monitoring Report (AMR). Supporting documents to Local Plan documents include strategies such as the Copeland Growth Strategy, Copeland Housing Strategy, Masterplans and the Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) legacy document.</p> <p>The process of producing Local Plan documents was explained stating that all policies are tested regarding their sustainability using Sustainability Appraisals and undertaking a Habitats Regulations Assessment. Whilst Development Plan Documents (DPDs) go through an examination process, Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) do not.</p> <p>CH confirmed that European Union Directives still apply until Government announces otherwise.</p> <p>A list of the remaining Local Plan Documents to be produced was given whilst specifically pointing out that the Shopfront Design SPD would be produced by the Townscape Heritage Officer and the Conservation and Design Officer under the umbrella of the Heritage Lottery Funded Whitehaven Townscape Heritage Initiative. The SPD will also apply to the other town centres as well as Whitehaven. The priority Local Plan Document is the Site Allocations and Policies Plan. A second round of consultation will take place from December 2016 and will include changes including wind energy; starter homes; NuGen Moorside worker accommodation, as examples.</p> <p>Other parts of the LDS were highlighted including the need for up to date evidence base some of which can take place through joint commissioning with other Local Authorities looking to undertake similar evidence base tasks e.g. Gypsy and Travellers and Strategic Flood Risk Assessment work.</p> <p>Arup will also be involved in undertaking some areas of evidence base work as part of a back-fill arrangement to support constrained resources for officers</p> | |

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| | <p>working with the Local Plan process as well as the two Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects.</p> <p>CB will take the lead for Copeland Borough Council on the forthcoming St Bees Head Heritage Coast review which is supported through National Trust funding which seeks to enhance their assets and therefore, National Trust are looking at reviewing this part of the Heritage Coast with a potential extension.</p> <p>Other areas of the LDS include monitoring and review through the Annual Monitoring Report; resources and responsibilities for delivering the local plan and; risks to the delivery of the LDF. Under resources and responsibilities Members were reminded that the work of the LDF Working Party is to make recommendations before policies are formally adopted by Full Council.</p> <p>Members agreed that following some minor amendments to the Glossary in Appendix 2 that the Local Development Scheme 2016 go to Full Council for formal approval.</p> | |
| 5. | <p>Revised Statement of Community Involvement 2016</p> <p>CB provided Members with an update on the outcome of the Draft Revised Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) consultation which took place between 18 April and 31 May 2016.</p> <p>Back in March this year at the last LDF Working Party meeting CH presented the draft revised statement of community involvement to Members where it was agreed that the draft revised draft SCI would go to Full Council to formally approve the statutory public consultation of the document.</p> <p>CB stated that the Council received 19 representations from ten different respondents all of which were categorised in four areas of:</p> <p><u>The structure and the layout of the report</u> – where comments referred to including paragraph numbering and re-ordering the layout of the report, all suggestions which were agreed with and applied.</p> <p><u>Accessibility of information for members of the public</u> – comments related to the need to upload both Word and Adobe PDF documents to enable the documents to be dictated to blind users and adding planning applications to the website or Mod Gov. The team will, as a matter of process, upload Word and Adobe PDF documents onto the website when embarking on public consultations but is not currently in a position to upload planning applications onto the Council’s website however, the Council is in the process of developing more modern software to capture this.</p> <p><u>Statutory consultees</u> – some comments related to concern that some organisations had been listed where others have not. Where organisations have been mentioned it is by means of example only. The team has not chosen to list individual organisation names as names are regularly subject to change and would quickly leave the document out of date.</p> | |

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| | <p><u>Suggested additional additions</u> – 8 representations related to suggested additions to the document including order of wording used, replacement names for organisations and most notably, the inclusion of a link to the Council’s Enforcement Manual all of which have been agreed and applied.</p> <p>CB reminded Members that the SCI is used to guide how the Council will engage with the community on Local Plan documents and planning applications.</p> <p>Members agreed that the Revised Draft SCI go to Full Council in September for final approval and adoption.</p> | |
| <p>6.</p> | <p>Date and time of next meeting</p> <p>CH reported that there will be an LDF Working Party in mid-November, probably on the 16th, to approve the next Preferred Options of the Site Allocations and Policies Plan consultation. CH would like to hold a series of workshops with the LDF Working Party leading up to November’s meeting to help inform the Site Allocations and Policies Plan stage two consultation.</p> <p>An email will be circulated with dates and calendar invites will also be sent to Members. It was requested that meetings take place in the same venue each time.</p> <p>Members agreed that 4.30pm is a good time for meetings to begin.</p> | <p>ALL</p> |