

## Linlithgow Planning Forum

### Minutes of Meeting held at 6 Springfield Grange 20<sup>th</sup> April 2017

1. **Present:** John Kelly, (JK) Convenor (L&LBCC, LCT), Máire McCormack (MM)(L&LBCC, TL) Ron Smith (RS), (BB, LCT, L&LBCC), Mike Vickers (MV), (LCT, L&LBCC & LBA), , Councillor David Tait (DT) (LBA, WLC)
2. **Apologies:** Fraser Falconer (LCDT, LLBCC), Martin Crook (LLBCC, TMG), David Timperley (DGT) (LCT)
3. **Minutes of the meeting of 16<sup>th</sup> February 2017:** The minutes were accepted as a true record of the meeting.
4. **Matters arising:**
  - a. Community Led Plans. JK contacted Angus Hardie of the SCA to determine the SCA's view of the strategic fit with Places, People and Planning. Angus Hardie's reply is below:

*Many thanks for sending me your very full response to the consultation. In answer to your question about whether the conclusions of the research are properly reflected in the consultation, I think the answer has to be yes but only partially. My reading of the politics that lie behind this review is that the development industry has been pushing hard to streamline the system, but simultaneously there is an opposite push for more community control over the whole process. The notion of there being a third party right of appeal (or even a partial one) has been firmly closed down by SG - refusing even to allow debate about it - and I think the continued and inexplicable delayed publication of the further research SG commissioned into the barriers to more effective community engagement, reflects the dilemma that SG finds itself in. So my concern is that the loosely articulated proposal for the introduction for local place plans is a bit of a sop to the community sector stakeholders. The points you raise are all valid about capacity and costs. In particular I would agree that the support should be provided from community to community rather than from the local authority. Our view is that these plans are more than just a starting point for the LDP process. They are the de facto business plan for the community and could embrace a much wider set of considerations than just spacial planning. They should reflect local priorities across issues such as childcare, youth provision, social care, education, recreation and so on. I think these plans will play into the Local Democracy Bill which is just beginning to develop a head of steam and is intended to push decision making and resources down into communities.*

*I am mindful of the fact that Linlithgow's Plan was effectively ignored by the local authority and as such is an illustration of what will happen unless they have legal force. Referendums are resource expensive - but what price democracy?*
  - b. JK contacted Lorraine McGrorty to determine the correct procedure for individuals or organisations wishing to speak at the Local Area Committee

and the Development Management Committee. The next Local Area Committee is 8am Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> May, at Low Port Centre.

- c. Place Standard: The Place Standard model re-worked by MV has been sent to Ian Gilzean for comment.
- d. Edinburgh Airport - consultation continues.

5. **Weekly Planning List:** there are two matters:

- a. For noting, 0052/FUL/17 Extension to storage building Parkhead Holdings - approved.
- b. 0237/P/17. 4 houses at Clark Ave. 30 houses were given planning permission on 24<sup>th</sup> September 1997 (0262/FUL/97). It was decided to give notice that we wished to comment and investigate further the original application and whether WLC would set aside the section 75 agreement. **Action JK**

6. **Vennel Development:** The Vennel Development was discussed by the WLC Development and Transport Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel on 3<sup>rd</sup> April and the content of the planning guidance approved. The driver for the project was not clear. The redevelopment of the Vennel is not in the LDP. A masterplan for the High St is required. It was decided:

- a. JK to request an informal meeting with Craig McCorriston to clarify the project context, aim and timeline. **Action JK**
- b. RS to liaise with Civic Trust to produce an exemplar design. **Action RS**
- c. JK to reserve a venue for an exhibition and public consultation on 6<sup>th</sup> June. **Action JK**

7. **Next meeting:** 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2017.

John Kelly  
Convenor  
24<sup>th</sup> April 2017