



Skipton Town Council

16/07

Environment & Planning Committee
Thursday 26 May 2016
7.00 pm

Present: Councillors Whitaker (Chairman), Bell, Emmerson, Hickman and Kerr.

Officers: Dave Parker (Chief Officer) and Wendy Allsopp (Committee Services Officer).

In attendance: Councillor John Dawson.

1. To accept representations from the Public between 7.00 pm and 7.15 pm.

None.

2. To accept apologies for absence.

Apologies were accepted from Councillor Andrew Rankine due to illness and Councillor Harbron due to a prior commitment.

Absent – Councillor Dow.

3. To record declarations of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests of items on the Agenda.

None.

4. To consider the recommendations of the Chief Officer relating to requests for dispensations to Members on items requiring a declaration of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests.

None.

5. To agree the Council's response to Craven District Council's consultation on the latest pre-publication draft of the Craven Local Plan.

After studying the draft plan Members made the following observations:

Strategy for Skipton (Draft Policy SP5) – Councillors hold concern about the lack of employment and mixed use sites and ask whether the proposed area for this use is sufficient?

The Committee would prefer developments **not** to take place on sites -

SK015 & SK087 – amenity land which should be maintained as green space.

SK114 & 119 – If development is approved at these locations sufficient infrastructure, including improvements to access and drainage, must be administered so as not to increase current flooding problems on lower land.

SK061, 101 & 116 - Councillors would prefer this to be earmarked for employment land

SK094 – Members would **strongly** object to development taking place at this location as they believe the risk of flooding on this land would be severely accentuated

Any substantial building proposed at the entrances to the Skipton, in this case on Grassington Road and Harrogate Road, could be seen as overdevelopment. A green corridor should be maintained on the approach to the town.

Tourism (Draft Policy EC4) – The Town Council welcome the reference to Neighbourhood Planning.

Members suggest that the Tourism sector is not restricted to the Railway Station and canal sites.

Town Centre (Draft Policy EC5) – After considering the map the Committee agreed that the following areas should be included in the section highlighted red:

Coach Street, Albion Place (behind Skipton Town Hall) and Swadford Street (from Sheep Street to the junction with Coach Street). This is due to the Council's concern about restraints in achieving additional retail space.

The section highlighted green should follow the outline of the Leeds Liverpool canal which should include the 'bus station.

Signed by Chairman

Community Facilities, Open Space & Recreation (Draft Policies INF2 & 3) –

As the Town Council maintain much of the current children's play provision in Skipton they would like some sort of clause to be introduced suggesting that developers should assist the Council, financially, for at least 20 years if a play area (existing or new) is to be maintained or managed by the Town Council.

Skipton Castle Woods should be highlighted in green as should the entrances to the town which it is important to protect.

Parking (Draft Policy INF4) – It was agreed that a major study was required specific to Skipton. In recent years, parking problems had been exacerbated by extra employment provision at Homeloan Management Limited on Gargrave Road and Belle Vue Mills on Broughton Road.

Housing Allocation options

The Affordable Housing percentage must be maintained. To ensure that no one area gets new developments the Planning Authority should recognise and address overflow in any one location.

It was **RESOLVED** to authorise the Chief Officer to submit the above response to the District Council.

6. To consider the Council's response to a consultation by Craven District Council on proposals to revoke a Parking Order for the disabled bays in front of 17/19 High Street, Skipton

Members **RESOLVED** to strongly object to the proposal due to fact there is already a lack of parking spaces in the town centre They are led to suspect that this area may be used for trading purposes. If this is the case Members doubt the reason given for revoking the Parking Order in this area.

Meeting Closed at 9.05 pm

Signed by Chairman