

## Decision Session - Executive Leader (incorporating Policy, Strategy and Partnerships)

Wednesday, 18 September 2019 at 4.00pm in the Craven Room - Ground Floor, West Offices (G048)

### Written Representations

Received from	Agenda Item	Comments
Steve Galloway	3. Acomb and Westfield Neighbourhood Plan Area and Forum	<p>I welcome, and agree with, the proposal not to include the Westfield Ward in any joint Acomb/Westfield Neighbourhood Plan It would be premature to proceed with an alternative proposal to draw up a Neighbourhood Plan for the Acomb Ward alone.</p> <p>This is because:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Such a move would rule out drawing up a neighbourhood plan for the whole of the Front Street area. Part of this district includes York Road on the Acomb Ward side, which would be subject to a different plan under the new proposals.</li><li>2. No consideration has been given to including the area of land between the built-up area and the A1237 (northern by pass) in any new arrangements, thereby failing to recognise the priority given by many residents in the neighbourhood to the protection of green spaces. The area concerned is mainly located in the Rural West Ward.</li></ol> <p>The Council should simply reject the current ill-considered neighbourhood forum/plan proposals.</p> <p>New proposals could then emerge which could be subject to re-consultation.</p> <p>A council official claims that a parallel proposal to create a "Neighbourhood Forum" for the Acomb Ward could be approved although the report fails to analyse claims that the governance structure of the proposed body is suspect.</p>

		<p>The "Forum" was also criticised by consultees as introducing unnecessary additional bureaucracy and costs. It is unclear what weight the views of any such forum might be given? (I accept that any group of people may set themselves up as an unincorporated lobbying organisation using whatever name they may chose).</p>
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