
MEETING	LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK WORKING GROUP
DATE	13 DECEMBER 2010
PRESENT	COUNCILLORS STEVE GALLOWAY (CHAIR), POTTER (VICE-CHAIR), D'AGORNE, MERRETT, AYRE, REID, SIMPSON-LAING AND WATT

24. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

At this point in the meeting Members were asked to declare any personal or prejudicial interests they might have in the business on the agenda. None were declared.

25. MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the LDF Working Group meetings held on 25th October 2010 and 1st November 2010 subject to the amendments as detailed below:

25th October, minute 17, resolution i) add the words 'subject to Members comments'.

Minute 18 under Appendix 3 add the words 'playing field provision should not be less'

1st November – Minute 21 – amend wording to state 'should' instead of 'would'.

Minute 22 – 4th bullet point, change the word 'effective' to 'important'.

Minute 23 under level of future housing heading, 2nd paragraph, add the words 'Relative to government guidance and need to prove acceptable at enquiry'.

3rd paragraph – add text to reflect some members raised opposition.

26. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

It was reported that there had been no registrations to speak under the Council's public participation scheme.

27. TOWARD A YORK ECONOMIC VISION

Members considered a report which noted the final publication of 'Towards a York Economic Vision'. It was reported to the Executive on 19th October 2010, who referred it to the LDF Working Group for further consideration. The report considered the next steps in terms of public consultation and how it will be considered to inform key strategies such as the Local Development Framework and Sustainable Community Strategy.

Towards an Economic Vision was funded by Yorkshire Forward and prepared by Professor Alan Simpson and his team following public engagement with key stakeholders in the city. Professor Simpson was present at the meeting and gave a presentation to Members outlining the key aspects of Towards an Economic Vision.

Following the presentation, the Chair made the following comments:

- The report gives a vision but there are constraints on the City due to the rivers and historical listed buildings.
- Timescale and practicality issues – LDF focuses on the next 20 years and longer in terms of the Green Belt.
- Transport strategy is questionable due to lack of investment – York has struggled in the past to secure the level of funding required and it is doubtful in the current economic climate whether funding would be available to achieve the ideas in the vision document.
- Transport and York Central need greater priority and profile, this isn't clear in the document.
- Planting of more trees – has been done before and could be done again.
- Concern that private sector investment will not be forthcoming without investment in transport from the public sector.

Members then made the following comments:

- The document presents a challenge and Professor Simpson is correct in his vision for York.
- There are short term constraints but the ambition is good and the City requires a new transport system.
- Air quality and environment issues are important and it is correct to want to change the current situation.
- Officers need to think carefully and grasp an approach which will give the ideas a fair trial.
- Foot streets, cycling and park and ride facilities are key.
- The need to convince national government that the City needs transformation to gain funding.

- York needs to attract people into the City – boldness and vision is required to attract private funding.
- Copenhagen's focus on cycling is a cost effective transport method and York can learn from European cities.
- The Equality Advisory Group should be added to the list of consultees.

Officers advised that the consensus around a long term vision is that decisions need to be made regarding what is realistic. Small decisions will build up into a long term strategy and officers will need to set out clear ideas that can be delivered.

Members thanked Officers for progressing the vision document.

RESOLVED: That the LDF working group commented on 'Towards an Economic Vision' as above and recommended that the Executive approves it for further stakeholder and wider public consultation as set out in Annex 2.

REASON: To enable proper public consultation on the Economic Vision which seeks to support future investment in the City, encourage high standards of design and give focus on the importance of quality to economic competitiveness.

Cllr S F Galloway, Chair

[The meeting started at 4.30 pm and finished at 5.50 pm].