

THE PARISH DEVELOPMENT PLAN.

MINUTES OF GROUP 3 MEETING, HELD AT THE MOUNT, THURSDAY MARCH 6TH AT 7.00PM.

Chair: Councillor Ralf Dahm

Brain Cross, Mavis Jeffery, Chris Swain

AGENDA 1. OPENING

Ralf opened the meeting at 7.00pm by thanking everyone for attending and stating that perhaps we ought to be considering the whole parish rather than the conservation area, as the plan will be about land and land use. He then distributed several maps and notes on conservation areas.

AGENDA 2. ASPECTS TO BE CONSIDERED.

The group chatted informally about aspects we needed to consider and listed the following:-

a) Shearsby village is unique because:-

Of its compact character.

It has no major road running through.

Many of the buildings in the centre are historic, in as much as they link with the village's farming heritage and the resulting industries of tanning and knitting.

b) Under H.D.C's Local Plan, building within the conservation area has been allowed on brownfield sites (mostly where farm buildings have been removed or renovated), and on infill sites.

c) Whatever the future, the compact character of the village needs to be maintained if Shearsby is to remain a quintessential English village.

d) Can we re-define/modify the conservation area? Ralf to contact the officer at H. D.C.

e) Too many large/executive style houses have been built in recent years, others extended. How can we guarantee affordable housing.

f) It is essential for the character of the village that green areas are kept within the conservation area and the area surrounding it.

The group are to consider the points above and bring recommendations to the next meeting.

AGENDA 3. QUESTIONS FOR THE VILLAGE.

Chris then suggested that we put several questions to the wider village, on line and by note and ask for comments for next week. Together we constructed the following questions.

We want to maintain the character of the Village. What does that mean to you?

As part of this plan, would the village want to allocate any land (within the parish) for specific purposes?

What do you think the village housing policy should be within the conservation area?

What do you think the village policy should be outside the conservation area?

How can we ensure affordable housing within the parish?

Would you wish to sanction an extension to the business area on the Saddington Road?

AGENDA 4. EVIDENCE.

At one point in the meeting Brian spoke about pictorial evidence to support our recommendations, and brought along one of Nick Turley's paintings. It was suggested that the idea was very good but photographs, not paintings would be more supportive and the man who would be very good at producing exactly what we want is Bob Spree. Mavis will approach Bob regarding this.

FINAL POINTS.

Ralf will distribute minutes to the other councillors.

Chris will post online the six questions in Agenda 3.

Mavis will do hard copy questions for folks who may not use computers on a regular basis.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday March 13th at The Mount at 7.00pm.

The meeting closed at 9.00pm.