

PRESENT

Councillor Greenall – Vice Chairman (in the Chair)

Councillors	Baldock	Hennessey
	Mrs Blake	Kay
	Blane	Moran
	Cropper	O'Toole
	Delaney	R Pendleton
	Gagen	Pope
	Gibson	Pratt
	Griffiths	Sudworth

In attendance	Owens	(Deputy Leader & Portfolio Holder - Housing
Councillors:		(Finance), Regeneration and Estates)
	Ashcroft	(Portfolio Holder – Public Realm and Human
		Resources)
	Forshaw	(Portfolio Holder – Planning and Technical Services)
	Hodgson	

Officers:

- Borough Planner (Mr J Harrison)
- Deputy Borough Planner (Mr I Gill)
- Legal Services Manager (Mr M Jones)
- LDF Team Leader (Mr P Richards)
- Assistant Member Services Manager (Mrs J Denning)

60. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies for absence.

61. MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMITTEE

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 4, Members noted the termination of Councillors Fillis, Grice and Jones and the appointment of Councillors Delaney, Pratt and Griffiths for this meeting only, thereby giving effect to the wishes of the Political Group.

62. URGENT BUSINESS, IF ANY, INTRODUCED BY THE CHAIRMAN

There were no items of urgent business.

63. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Sudworth declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 6 'Preferred Option Local Plan' as the report referred to the M58 corridor where a friend of his resides.

64. DECLARATIONS OF PARTY WHIP

There were no declarations of a party whip.

65. PREFERRED OPTION LOCAL PLAN

The Committee considered a report of the Borough Planner which set out the Local Plan Preferred Options document, and its supporting documentation for public consultation in January / February 2012.

Comments and questions were raised in respect of the following:

- Provision of affordable housing
- Edge Hill University - expansion, Masterplan, Travel plan and multi campus options
- The railway infrastructure
- Consultation methods and forum format, venues and length of meetings
- Elm Place – land designation
- Beacon Golf Course – Need to clarify which Ward ie. Tanhouse / Upholland
- Lancashire County Council and West Lancashire Borough Council being listed individually as employers (paragraph 2.22)
- The 'Radburn' estate layout (paragraph 2.26) – not every estate in Skelmersdale
- The removal of the reference to 'poor quality housing' in Skelmersdale and the inclusion of the millions of pounds of investment in the area.
- The need for respite accommodation (Chapter 2.2 ' Key Issues)
- The negative image of Skelmersdale portrayed in the document which should be revised
- Burscough designation as a 'Market Town'
- Lack of reference to Lathom
- Future development in flood risk areas
- Retail development in Scarisbrick

The Committee was advised that the Plan would be submitted to Cabinet and Executive Overview and Scrutiny Committee following the consultation process.

- RESOLVED: A. That Members should forward any minor amendments to the document direct to the Borough Planner, in particular matters in respect of geographical locations/boundaries/designations.
- B. That the following comments be referred to Cabinet for consideration:
- i. That the Plan offers reasonable options in relation to affordable housing, Edge Hill University and Public Transport for members of the public and other interested parties to be consulted on.
 - ii. That Policy EN3 be amended to remove the designation of Elm Place as a Childrens' Play area.
 - iii. That consultation forum events be held for at least 2½ hours to enable general discussion of the whole area of the plan to take place and an additional event be held in Up Holland.

- iv. That Policy SP1 be worded stronger to prevent development in high flood risk areas.
- v. That Policy EC4 be strengthened to ensure that Edge Hill produce a Masterplan for the campus and undertake monitoring of any travel plan and that concern be expressed regarding the insufficient consideration that has been given to a twin site campus.
- vi. That Policy RS2 in respect of the threshold for the provision of affordable housing be reviewed with a view to raising the lower threshold for the provision of affordable housing.
- vii. That Policy IF1 be based on local 'West Lancashire' need rather than need from neighbouring Boroughs.

66. CORE STRATEGY PREFERRED OPTIONS (CSPO) - CONSULTATION RESPONSES

The Committee considered the report of the Borough Planner which detailed the proposed response of the Council to each representation received during the Core Strategy Preferred Options consultation period in May / June 2011.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

(Note: This item was considered prior to Agenda Item 6 'Preferred Options Local Plan'.)

THE CHAIRMAN