

CRAVEN SPATIAL PLANNING SUB-COMMITTEE

25th February 2019

Present – The Chairman (Councillor Dawson) and Councillors Barrett, Brockbank, Shuttleworth, Staveley and Sutcliffe.

Officers – Spatial Planning Manager, Planning Officer, Electoral Services Manager and Committee Officer.

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Rose.

Start: 6.30pm

Finish: 7.17pm

The minutes of the Sub-Committee's meeting held on 28th January 2019 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

Minutes for Report

CSP.168

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The following persons addressed the Sub-Committee:-

a. Mrs J Aldersley of Gargrave objected to and questioned the conclusion reached by the examiner in response to concerns expressed to him regarding the consultation process / the approach to consultation and public engagement in preparation of the Gargrave Neighbourhood Plan. She also re-iterated her concerns expressed in addressing the Sub-Committee in January 2019 on the question of highway safety associated with the proposed allocation of a housing site at Marton Road, Gargrave and in particular issues of equality and equality assessment in terms of the suitability of footpaths for wheelchair users and access to / from the proposed site to the village centre and Gargave Station. Questions as to the ability of the existing drainage system on Marton Road to cope with additional development and the impact on wildlife were also raised.

b. Mr J Adams of Gargrave also addressed the Sub-Committee reiterating his concerns presented to Members on 28th January, 2019 regarding the consultation process / the approach to consultation and public engagement in preparation of the Gargrave Neighbourhood Plan. In summary his concern was not that the consultation statement did not reflect the process that took place, nor that responses had not been referred to, but that the evaluation of residents' feelings had not been fair and objectively undertaken. Similarly he did not believe that consultation had been fair or objectively fairly carried out. Therefore the proposed Gargrave Neighbourhood Plan should not go forward to referendum. He had tried but not found information on Craven District Council's website which showed that proposed housing sites had been objectively assessed, including representations thereon.

In responding to Mr Adams on the question of representations received on housing sites proposed for possible inclusion in the Craven District Local Plan, the Spatial Planning Manager stated that the Council was only required to produce a summary of main issues raised. The Council hadn't, and wasn't required to, itemise and publish each representation received and the detail of each representation, all work carried out and documentation published was compliant with the relevant regulations.

Note : Copies of e-mails and supporting documents submitted by Mr Adams and Mrs Aldersley prior to the meeting had been forwarded to all Members of the Sub-Committee.

CSP.169

GARGRAVE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN – EXAMINER'S

REPORT

Further to Minute CSP.160/18-19, the Strategic Manager for Planning and Regeneration submitted a report presenting the Examiner's Report on the proposed Gargrave Neighbourhood Plan.

In presenting the Strategic Manager's report the Planning Officer reminded Members that the role of the independent examiner had been to only consider whether the proposed neighbourhood plan met the following basic conditions as required by the relevant legislation.

- Did the Plan have appropriate regard to national policy.
- Contribute to the achievement of sustainable development.
- Was in general conformity with the strategic policies in the development plan for the area.
- Was compatible with human rights requirements.
- Was compatible with EU obligations.

The Examiner's report, copies of which had been circulated with the Strategic Manager's report, considered procedural matters including consultation on the draft Plan, and conformity with each of the five basic conditions. Within his report the Examiner had made eighteen recommendations relating to the basic conditions. It was pointed out that as soon as possible after considering the Examiner's recommendations and establishing a formal view on whether the draft neighbourhood plan met the basic conditions, the Council, as local planning authority was required to publish on its website, and in such other manner as was considered likely to bring the following documents to the attention of people, who lived, worked or carried on business in the neighbourhood area:

- The Regulation 18 Decision Statement.
- The Examiner's Report.
- Details of where and when the Regulation 18 Decision Statement and report could be inspected.

The Regulation 18 Decision Statement, a draft copy of which had also been circulated with the Strategic Manager's report, set out:

- Each of the examiner's recommendations and reasons contained within the report;
- The action Craven District Council, as the Local Planning Authority, would take in response to each recommendation, as suggested by the Council's Planning Policy Team;
- Whether the Gargrave Neighbourhood Plan met the basic conditions and
- Whether the Council was satisfied that the Plan could proceed to referendum.

Having considered each recommendation the Planning Policy Team had concluded that, subject to the modifications included therein, all eighteen recommendations should be accepted. Subject to the Sub-Committee's agreement that the draft Plan met the basic conditions and could now proceed to a referendum, the intention was that the referendum be held on Thursday 30th May 2019. If more than 50% of those voting at the referendum voted "yes" the Plan would be brought into force, meaning it would form part of the statutory development plan for Craven up to 2032. Both the Development Plan and the Neighbourhood Plan would then form the basis for determining planning applications in the Neighbourhood Plan area.

Members having considered the Examiner's recommendations, the proposed modifications and the Planning Policy Team's suggested action in response to each recommendation, it was proposed, and

Resolved – (1) That the recommendations within the Examiner's Report in respect of the proposed Gargrave Neighbourhood Plan and action to be taken in response to each recommendation, as suggested by the Planning Policy Team, are accepted.

(2) That, subject to the text being modified as necessary so as to comply with the Examiner's recommendations, it is agreed that the Gargrave Neighbourhood Plan

meets the 'Basic Conditions' as applied to neighbourhood plans by the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.

(3) That, as recommended by the Examiner, the proposed Gargrave Neighbourhood Plan now proceed to referendum, the area covered by the referendum to be the Gargrave Neighbourhood Plan Area designated by this Council on 27th January 2014 (Minute CSP.77/13-14 refers).

RECOMMENDED – (4) That a supplementary estimate in the sum of £9,085 to cover the examination of the Gargrave Neighbourhood Plan and other ancillary costs is approved.

(5) That a budget up to £20,000 to cover the costs associated with the referendum on the Gargrave Neighbourhood Plan is approved; the costs to be reimbursed by a Neighbourhood Planning Grant of £20,000.

CSP.170

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

To be arranged, if required, in consultation with the Chairman and Sub-Committee Membership.

Chairman.