

## **EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING**

**12 November 2019**

**Present** – The Chair (Councillor Whitaker) and Councillors Barrett, Brockbank, Brown, Foster, Harbron, Heseltine, Hull, Ireton, Jaquin, Madeley, Mercer, Metcalfe, Moorby, Morrell, Mulligan, Myers, Noland, Pringle, Place, Rose, Shuttleworth, Solloway, Staveley, Sutcliffe and Welch.

**Officers** – Chief Executive, Director of Services, Chief Finance Officer (s151 Officer), Strategic Manager for Planning and Regeneration, Spatial Planning Manager, Legal Services Manager and Democratic Services Manager.

**Also in attendance:** Michael Bedford QC, representing Craven District Council.

**Apologies** – Councillors Handley, Lis, Pighills and Wheeler.

Start: 7.00pm

Finish: 8.15pm

CL.1152

### **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Jill Wilson representing 'Save our Craven Countryside' addressed the meeting under the Council's Public Participation Scheme. Reference was made to Hellifield Flashes, particularly the need for the Council to enforce restoration of Gallaber Flash, part of the flashes area, now included as 'green space' in the plan.

CL.1153

### **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

CL.1154

### **APPOINTMENT OF SUBSTITUTE MEMBER ON PLANNING COMMITTEE**

It was advised that since publication of the agenda and reports, confirmation had been provided that Councillor Handley was to remain as substitute member on Planning Committee and was not to be replaced by Councillor Ireton. No further consideration of this item was required.

CL.1155

### **ADOPTION OF THE CRAVEN LOCAL PLAN 2012-2032**

The Strategic Manager for Planning and Regeneration submitted a report which presented an Examination of the Craven Local Plan 2012-2032. The report also sought the Council's resolution to adopt the Craven Local Plan, incorporating recommended Main Modifications and Additional Modifications and supporting Policies Map.

Members were advised that additional information had been submitted, which had been published on the Council's website. The information related to appendix 3, additional page 102a, Land to west of Goodenber Road, High Bentham.

Councillor Staveley, Chairman of Craven Spatial Planning Sub-Committee, advised that the Craven Local Plan 2012-32 had been submitted for adoption following a number of public consultations and an independent examination by an inspector appointed by the

Secretary of State. The Inspector, Matthew Birkinshaw, had concluded that subject to a number of recommended main modifications, that the plan was sound, legally compliant and capable for adoption by the Council.

It was reported that the key benefits of adopting the plan included:

- the plan's spatial strategy for housing and economic growth guided the development of new homes and new jobs to the most appropriate and sustainable parts of the area over the next 13 years;
- such growth was located and designed to protect valuable landscapes, natural and heritage assets, and retain the unique character and amenity of towns and villages;
- such growth was located and designed to minimise the impact on climate change, and encourage green travel;
- for those who could not afford to buy or rent a home on the open market, most new housing developments provided 30% of the units to meet their needs for an affordable home;
- new land was allocated for employment use in Skipton, Settle and Ingleton to encourage existing business to expand and new firms to invest in the area;
- new land was allocated in the town centre of Skipton to enhance its vitality and viability; and policies sought to manage change in all the area's centres to maintain and enhance their role and function; and
- new and improved infrastructure necessary to accompany this growth was to be secured through planning obligations and developer contributions for open space, sport and recreation; education, and highways and transport.

The Spatial Planning Manager reported an amendment in relation to 3.26 to the report, to read as follows, *'If Council resolves to adopt the Craven Local Plan (2012-2032) tonight, any application to the High Court must be made no later than Tuesday, 24 December 2019'*. (Previously read Wednesday, 25 December 2019) The adoption statement contained in appendix 4 to the report, was also to be amended to reflect the above change.

The key areas of debate were:

- Several Members thanked the Planning Policy Team and all those involved with Craven Spatial Planning Sub-Committee for their hard work developing the Plan. Members also thanked consultees for their contribution to the process.
- One Member reported on local residents' concerns, particularly in relation to affordable housing and development of environmental standards.

- Concern about the rapid rate of housing development in Skipton, particularly that the current infrastructure was insufficient to support development.
- Concern about insufficient resources from central government to meet housing targets and changes to infrastructure.
- Concerns about drainage, particularly given the recent flooding events in South Yorkshire.
- One Member reported on local residents' concerns that the inspector had not made the whole of the flashes area in Hellifield a 'green space'.
- The need to ensure that necessary resources were in place to undertake enforcement of conditions. It was advised that Select Committee was in the process of undertaking a review of planning enforcement.

Members requested that their votes in relation to the recommendations contained in the officer's report be recorded as follows:

**For the recommendations (22)** – Councillors Barrett, Brockbank, Foster, Harbron, Hull, Ireton, Jaquin, Madeley, Mercer, Metcalfe, Moorby, Morrell, Mulligan, Myers, Place, Pringle, Rose, Solloway, Staveley, Sutcliffe, Welch and Whitaker.

**Against the recommendations (0)**

**Abstentions (4)** – Councillors Brown, Heseltine, Noland and Shuttleworth.

**Resolved –**

- (a) Notes the conclusions of the Inspector at paragraph 300 of his report that with the recommended modifications set out in the accompanying appendix, the Plan satisfies the requirements of Section 20 (5) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act (as amended) and meets the criteria for soundness in the National Planning Policy Framework (as set out in Appendix 1 to the report).
- (b) Notes the conclusions of the Inspector at paragraph 13 of his report that the Duty to Co-operate (DtC) has been met.
- (c) Notes the conclusions of the Inspector at paragraph 292 of his report that the Council has carried out an adequate Sustainability Appraisal (SA) of the Plan and reasonable alternatives have been considered to a sufficient degree.
- (d) Notes the conclusions of the Inspector at paragraph 298 of his report that the Plan meets the relevant legal requirements, including in the 2004 Act (as amended) and the 2012 Regulations.
- (e) Adopts the Craven Local Plan (2012-2032), incorporating all modifications (Main and Additional) and the accompanying Policies Map (as set out in Appendix 3 to the report).
- (f) Endorses the Statement of Environmental Particulars under Regulation 16 of the Strategic Environmental Assessment Regulations 2004, demonstrating that the SA process has been adequately undertaken, in terms of it being an appropriate interaction and assistance with the Local Plan making process (as set out in Appendix 6 to the report).

- (g) Confirms that the Council is satisfied that the Local Plan will not have any adverse effects on the integrity of any designated European site considered in the final Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) Report.
- (h) Notes that in accordance with Regulations 26 and 35 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 (as amended), that as soon as reasonably practicable after adoption, the adopted Craven Local Plan and accompanying Policies Map (Appendix 3), the Adoption Statement (Appendix 4) and the Sustainability Appraisal Report (Appendix 5) is to be published on the Council's website and made available for inspection during normal office hours at the Council Offices, Belle Vue Square, Broughton Road, Skipton, and at local libraries located within the plan area at Skipton, Settle, Bentham, Ingleton, Cross Hills, Gargrave and Embsay with Eastby, and on the Supermobile library.

Chairman