

**NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY COUNCIL**

**TYNEDALE LOCAL AREA COUNCIL**

At a meeting of the **Tynedale Local Area Council** held at Hexham House, Gilesgate, Hexham, Northumberland, NE46 3NH on Tuesday, 12 February 2019 at 4.00 p.m.

**PRESENT**

Councillor G Stewart  
(Chair, in the Chair)

**MEMBERS**

T Cessford	N Oliver
A Dale (no.s 129 - 132)	KR Quinn
R Gibson	JR Riddle
CW Horncastle	A. Sharp
I Hutchinson	KG Stow
D Kennedy	

**OFFICERS**

S Robson	Principal Planner - Planning Policy
D Rumney	Principal Programme Officer (Highways Maintenance)
J Sanderson	Senior Planning Manager - Planning Policy
N Turnbull	Democratic Services Officer

**ALSO PRESENT**

1 press  
5 members of the public

**129. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Homer.

**130. MINUTES**

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the following meetings of Tynedale Local Area Council, as circulated, be confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chair:-

Ch.'s Initials.....

- (i) 11 December 2018
- (ii) 15 January 2019

## **DEVELOPMENT CONTROL**

### **131. DETERMINATION OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

The Chair announced that, due to a technical issue, it had been necessary to withdraw the development control section of the agenda from the meeting. Officers were looking at dates in order that the applications were considered at the earliest opportunity. This included the following reports:

- a) 18/02761/VARYCO**  
**Variation of condition 1 (temporary permission) pursuant to planning permission 17/00223/FUL**  
**Land West Of Heathery Hill, Lowgate, Hexham, Northumberland**
- b) 18/02238/FUL**  
**Application to rebuild barn which had permission under T/20080196 for change of use and conversion of existing barn to create a single residential dwelling and garage (retrospective)**  
**Acomb View, The Riding, Acomb, Hexham, Northumberland, NE46 4PF**
- c) Tree Preservation Order 2018 No 07 of 2018**  
**Land at Bramley House, Elvaston Road, Hexham, Northumberland**
- d) Planning Appeals Update**

### **132. Local Transport Plan Programme 2019-20**

The Local Area Council received a report which set out the draft Local Transport Plan (LTP) programme for 2019-20 for consideration and comment prior to final approval of the programme. (A copy of the report is enclosed with the minutes as Appendix C).

The Principal Programme Officer (Highways Maintenance) highlighted the following points:

- The grant allocation from the Department of Transport was expected to be £18.6 million based on indicative settlement figures and was due to be confirmed by 31 March 2019.
- The programme was broadly split into 2 parts:
  - Integrated transport consisted of minor improvements and safety schemes.
  - Highway capital maintenance - the majority of which was aimed at addressing the structural decline of the road network.
- Councillors would be contacted prior to work commencing in their wards.

- The difference between the various surfacing programmes; where they were used and after care required. It was suggested that it would be beneficial if short videos to explain the different types of surface treatment were made available by Communications which Councillors would be able to share and promote on social networks to broaden public knowledge.

Members made the following comments:

- The LTP programme was welcomed as there were significant problems to be addressed.
- More money was needed to deal with the backlog of maintenance on the road network. Every opportunity was being taken to lobby the Government for additional funds.
- The administration had given a commitment to spend £100 million on the road network and a significant improvement had been seen in the condition in the roads in the West over the last 18 months.
- Prioritisation of schemes was best determined by officers given their professional expertise.
- The replacement traffic signals which incorporated new technology were a significant improvement at Chollerford Bridge.

A number of Councillors queried the status of schemes in the following locations:

- Cameron Road and Tarsset Drive, Prudhoe.
- The junction of The Crescent and Wylam Wood Road in Wylam and also the road safety issue for residents on Wylam Wood Road when walking into Wylam village. The Parish Council and the Wylam Road Safety Group had highlighted this as a LTP priority.

**RESOLVED** that the report and presentation be received.

### **133. Northumberland Local Plan - Publication Draft Plan (Regulation 19)**

The Local Area Council received a presentation on the Northumberland Local Plan, which provided information on the progress to date, details on the Publication Draft Local Plan and next steps. (A copy of the presentation is enclosed with the minutes as Appendix D.)

The presentation included information on:

- Progress to date on the Local Plan (Regulation 19).
- The draft vision
- Objectives
- Delivery of the vision
- Aims of the Draft Plan in terms of Economic Development, Housing, Connectivity, the Environment, Managing Natural Resources etc.
- New chapters on Town Centres and Central Services, Quality of Place,

The Principal Planner - Planning Policy highlighted changes to settlement specific policies. There had been some modifications to housing allocations within the main towns and service centres as a result of difficulties identifying suitable housing sites within Haltwhistle. The Local Plan was compliant with the National Planning Policy Framework and a considerable amount of work had been done to ensure that the Local Plan and Neighbourhood Plans were aligned.

Members discussed the weight that would be given to the Draft Plan which would increase when submitted and as it progressed through the various stages. The Senior Planning Manager - Planning Policy explained that some parts of the plan would be attributed more or less weight depending on the number of representations received in objection. It was also noted that it would be inappropriate to refuse planning applications on the basis of the Draft Plan.

The Senior Planning Manager - Planning Policy confirmed that the current consultation, which had commenced on 30 January 2019, would run for 6 weeks up until 5.00 pm on 13 March 2019. The first of 23 Drop-in events had been held in Hexham with approximately 250 participants. The locations and dates of remaining events in the Tynedale area were reported. The timetable for the key stages within the Local Development Scheme were set out although once the Local Plan was submitted this would be subject to confirmation by the Planning Inspector.

It was noted that preferred areas for the extraction of sand and gravel had been identified at Anick Grange Haugh and West Warmley. In response to questions regarding the process, it was confirmed that between 10-12 sites had been through a two stage assessment in order to ensure that the criteria for at least a 7 year supply would be met. Further information on the process to ensure deliverability and impact on flooding etc was available on the Council's website.

Councillor Cessford reported that the Acomb Neighbourhood Plan had been approved by Cabinet earlier in the day. He acknowledged the work carried out by Acomb Parish Council whose Councillors had taken a very active role in the process. There had been a 93% acceptance rate in the planning referendum held the previous month.

The Chair, Councillor Riddle, Portfolio Holder for Planning, Housing and Resilience and members expressed their appreciation to the Planning Policy Team for the incredible amount of work undertaken to progress the publication of the Draft Plan.

**RESOLVED** that the presentation and comments be noted.

**134. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting would be held on Tuesday 12 March 2019 at Hexham House, Gilesgate, Hexham at 4.00 p.m.

**CHAIR** \_\_\_\_\_

**DATE** \_\_\_\_\_