

FIFTH MEETING OF THE MIRFIELD NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN GROUP AT THE PLOUGH
SHILLBANK LANE MIRFIELD THURSDAY 14TH JULY 2016 @ 19:30 HOURS

PRESENT

Keith Andrews, Christine Sykes (Note taker), Cheryl & Philip Tyler.

APOLOGIES

Peter King. Nigel Ruscoe has decided not to be involved.

OTHER NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANS

Cheryl Tyler has obtained the Lindfield & Lindfield Rural Neighbourhood Plan 2014-2031. This is a large document for a smaller area than Mirfield; and has been approved by their local Council. This could be used as a framework for our plan.

FEEDBACK ON WORK DONE SINCE LAST MEETING

WATERWAYS

Peter King sent a report to the effect that he had contacted the Canals and Rivers Trust. Hilary Brooke (hilary.brooke@btinternet.com), who is a member of the CRT Board and of MCP, both of which are keen on the development of our waterways, to the benefit of the town. She could not attend this evening's meeting; but will try to come to a future meeting if dates are notified. The contact at Safe Anchor Trust is Bob Appleby (belappy@blueyonder.co.uk), who is one of the main Trustees. He had another engagement but made some comments as follows:

'Our skippers often remark that the new housing on the south side of the river stretching away from Ledgard Bridge towards Battyeford look particularly vulnerable to future flooding.

We are used to the river and its propensity to rise and fall rapidly during rainy periods. During the heavy floods last winter our volunteers were on hand to adjust moorings to prevent boats being lifted by rising water and thus stranded on the banks after recession. We have had to revise our navigation in some stretches of the river as a result of larger silt and shingle banks resultant from the floods, but no serious problems. CRT is presumably aware of uprooted trees etc, but none of these have actually blocked the waterways.

The waterway environs in Mirfield are now much improved, and public access has increased considerably in recent years. The waterfront area is one of the attractions in the town and future developments seem set to increase its appeal'

Keith Andrews discussed cycle ways and other features that make the waterways an attractive part of Mirfield; and agreed to prepare a chapter about this and Flooding.

MAPS

Christine Sykes has updated the maps to reflect the development pattern at the present day.

HISTORY

The information in the Design Statement is adequate for now; but could be expanded upon further down the line.

HIGHWAYS & POLLUTION

Cheryl and Phil have used some of the extracts from the Local Plan submission and will continue to work on them. They will also look at Infrastructure and the Railway. Christine Sykes will provide information relating to the work of Friends of Mirfield Railway Station.

DEVELOPMENT PATTERN

Christine Sykes had done some work on Mirfield, Northorpe, Eastthorpe, Upper & Lower Hopton. Battyeford wasn't mentioned in the chapter in the Design Statement; but it was agreed that a paragraph about this area should be incorporated as it is mentioned on the main map.

Next Meeting: TBA after 1st September at the convenience of Martyn Bolt the facilitator.

Action Points:

Keith Andrews to work on Waterways and Flooding.

Cheryl & Phil Tyler to continue working on Highways & Pollution.

Cheryl & Phil Tyler to look at Infrastructure including the Railway.

Christine Sykes to supply details of Friends of Mirfield Railway Station's submissions to related organisations.

Christine Sykes to expand the chapter on Development Pattern to incorporate Battyeford.

Martyn Bolt to decide on date of next meeting.