

Ninth Meeting of Kirkstall Neighbourhood Forum at New Burley Club on Thursday 30 November 2017 at 7:30pm

Draft Agenda

This includes our Annual Meeting, where our primary task is to elect a Board for the next 12 months. We anticipate that some new members may want to register on the night, and that people might have questions about procedure. We must collect an accurate attendance list. We have a guest speaker from Kirkstall Valley Development Trust to report on Abbey Mills.

- (1) **Election of a Chair:** Propose John Liversedge, who chairs the Board.
- (2) **Apologies for absence:** Naomi Batten, Graham Bellamy, Wendi Carson, Christine Needham, Fiona Venner, Judith Weymont, Lucinda Yeadon
- (3) **Endorsing the list of members:** The meeting is asked to approve new members who joined before the meeting (Adrian Bennett, David Bryant, John Spellman) plus all those who register on Thursday night.
- (4) **Report on Abbey Mills from Kirkstall Valley Development Trust**
- (5) **Previous AGM held on 6 December 2016** I have not included the minutes from the previous AGM held on 6 December 2016 for item 5 because these are available from the Forum website (www.kirkstallforum.org) and it seems unlikely that members will wish to raise any issues. The opportunity to do so exists, if needed.
- (6) **Secretary's report** & any matters arising
- (7) **Treasurer's report** & any matters arising
- (8) **Election of the Board:**
- (9) **General Policy discussion:** This is an opportunity to raise new matters, and possibly seek reports to a future meeting.
- (10) **Minutes of the Eighth Public Meeting held on 27 September 2017** (attached) and any matters arising.
- (11) **Report from Johanna Mawson on Kirkstall Valley Nature Reserve.**
- (12) **Dates, times and venues for future open meetings.**

John Illingworth
30 November 2017

Secretary's Report for 30 November 2017

Forum business in 2017 was severely disrupted by the unexpected General Election, which occupied members' time, and made it more difficult to hold "non-political" public meetings. Nevertheless, the KNF Board met on seven occasions (25 January, 22 February, 22 March, 26 April, 28 June, 30 August and 25 October) and organised four public KNF meetings on 7 February, 26 July, 27 September and 30 November (AGM).

The Board members and their attendance at meetings are summarised in the table below.

name	position	25 Jan	22 Feb	22 Mar	26 Apr	28 Jun	30 Aug	25 Oct
Hannah Bithell		N/A	N/A	yes	yes	apols	apols	apols
Graham Bellamy			apols					
Andrew Bradley								
Tom Brannigan		yes	apols	apols	apols	yes	yes	yes
Fiona Butler		yes	apols	apols	apols	yes	yes	
Wendi Carson		apols						
James Corah	treasurer	yes	yes	yes	yes	apols		yes
Steve Gradys							yes	
Steve Harris		yes						
Paul Holdsworth	footpaths	yes		yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Deborah Howarth		N/A	yes		yes	yes	yes	yes
John Illingworth	secretary	yes						
Daniel Lipzith	vice chair	apols						
John Liversedge	chair	yes						
Amy McAbendroth				yes				
Michael Park		yes	apols	yes	yes	yes		
Adele Rae		yes	apols	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Mel & Tony Robbins		N/A	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	

The Board elects its own officers.

Several Board members have been ill and consequently found it difficult to attend meetings. Others have assisted at outdoor events, where attendance is not recorded. Their advice has been most valuable and has enabled us to maintain contact with important local community organisations.

The AGM has the power to vary the size of the board, but a core group of about 12 works well, ideally six men and six women. The Board can co-opt additional members, and this can bring in additional talent and give experience to new recruits.

An unexpected development during the year was the realisation that Leeds Flood Alleviation Scheme 2 could be compatible with a Kirkstall Valley Park. This would be the first significant public park in the Kirkstall area for over 100 years. In some ways, this has blown us all a bit off-course, but it is an amazing, never to be repeated opportunity. Unless we grab it with both hands, it is likely to slip away.

John Illingworth
30 Nov. 2017

Treasurer's Report for 30 November 2017

Kirkstall Neighbourhood Forum

Total Receipts & Payments Account for the year ended 30/11/2017

	Un- restricted	Restricted	Total	Previous year
Receipts				
Total receipts	-	-	-	-
Payments				
Payment - Room Hire	-	200.00	200.00	
Payment - Refreshments	-	8.28	8.28	
Payment - Community Festival Booking	-	75.00	75.00	
Total payments	-	283.28	283.28	-
Net receipts / (payments)	-	(283.28)	(283.28)	-
Transfer	-	-	-	-
Balance brought forward	-	700.00	700.00	
Balance carried forward	-	416.72	416.72	-

Made up of:

Current account	416.72
Deposit account	-
Cash float	-
Spare	-
	<u>416.72</u>

Checks - this should equal zero 0.00

Approval of the accounts

The financial statements were approved at a meeting of the management committee and signed on its behalf by:

Signed:

Name: (Management Committee member)

Date:

Kirkstall Neighbourhood Forum

Notes to the accounts for the year end 30 November 2017

1 Fund accounting

Funds held by the organisation are either:

Unrestricted general funds

These are funds which can be used in accordance with the organisation's objects at the discretion of the Kirkstall Neighbourhood Forum.

Restricted funds

These are funds that can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the organisation. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

2	Grants	2017
		£
		<u>000.00</u>
		<u>000.00</u>

3	Restricted funds summary	Incoming	Outgoing
		£	£
	Leeds City Council – MICE 2016	<u>700.00</u>	<u>283.28</u>
		<u>700.00</u>	<u>283.28</u>

Purpose of restricted funds

LLC – MICE 2016

For group activities, administration, room hire, et cetera, brought forward from year ending 30/11/2016.

4 Uncleared transactions

There are currently uncleared transactions for the Kirkstall Neighbourhood Forum:

Receipts

- £250 cash donation made on 26/07/2017 as a restricted fund by Linda Longbottom.

Payments

- £30 paid in cash on 26/04/2017 to New Burley Club for room hire by the Treasurer.
- £30 paid in cash on 28/06/2017 to New Burley Club for room hire by the Treasurer.
- £30 paid in cash on 26/07/2017 to New Burley Club for room hire by the Treasurer.
- £30 paid in cash on 30/08/2017 to New Burley Club for room hire by the Treasurer.
- £30 paid in cash on 27/09/2017 to New Burley Club for room hire by the Treasurer.

Eighth Meeting of the Kirkstall Neighbourhood Forum at New Burley Club on Wednesday 27 Sept 2017 at 7:30pm

Draft Minutes

Present: (17) Bobby Bowker, Tom Brannigan, Susan Chesters, James Corah, Stephen Gradys, Steve Harris, Chris Hill, Paul Holdsworth, Deborah Howarth, John Illingworth, Judith Judd, John Liversedge, Johanna Mawson, Amy McAbendroth, Roger Moran, John Rowe and Wallace Wheatley

Apologies: Hannah Bithell, Christine Needham, Adele Rae, Fiona Venner, Lucinda Yeadon.

- (1) **Election of a Chair:** John Liversedge was nominated and elected by the meeting.
- (2) **Endorsing the list of members:** The meeting approved the following new members: Johanna Mawson, Victoria Peckitt, John Rowe, Laurence Venables, Judith Weymont and Jayne Young
- (3) **Minutes of the Seventh Public Meeting** held on 26 July 2017 were agreed as a correct record. There were no matters arising that were not already on the agenda.
- (4) **Treasurer's report** Members received an interim report from James Corah.
- (5) **Kirkstall Valley Park** Amy McAbendroth gave a slide presentation covering the entire valley, including those parts located in Armley Ward which will become accessible from Kirkstall when new footbridges are in place. The Secretary explained that the Council's Parks Department has no funds to construct or maintain a new park in Kirkstall, so the offer to provide two footbridges as part of the flood alleviation scheme was very helpful. The heat pump scheme was similarly designed to generate a recurrent income stream for the park, initially modest, but ultimately up to £3 million per year, which would be fully comparable with the energy from waste scheme in East Leeds. Members agreed to support the proposals.
- (6) **Flood Alleviation Scheme:** Phase one of the flood alleviation scheme (FAS) in Leeds city centre is almost complete. The Secretary reported that the Council released the FAS2 proposals for public consultation on 20 September 2017 although the published information was not yet complete. Members agreed to submit a response along the lines suggested in the draft report.
- (7) **Public Health:** The Secretary reported that, in Leeds, rich citizens are more physically active, suffer less disability, and live (on average) about 12 years longer than poor people. This *social gradient in health* has been recognised in most countries over the last fifty years. The Evening Post reported new Leeds figures on 20 Sept. Members agreed to incorporate **proportionate universalism** into our planning documents. This seeks to improve everyone's health, but directs the greatest effort towards those in greatest need. This is relevant for housing policies, air pollution, traffic congestion and recreational open space.
- (8) **Footpaths:** Paul Holdsworth reported on the latest position. We must prepare witness statements to claim Public Rights of Way (PROW) along existing footpaths. Members agreed to start with easy footpaths across Council land before tackling contested routes across private land. Forum agreed to affiliate to the Ramblers Association for £60 per year.

- (9) **Traffic congestion:** Members acknowledged that Kirkstall is gradually becoming more congested as the number of motor vehicles continues to increase. Badly planned retail development has resulted in serious congestion along the B6157. Forum agreed to oppose further road building, and to press for measures such as residents' parking, rail bus and cycle corridor improvements and congestion charging which could reduce the burden of commuter traffic flowing through the ward.
- (10) **Anti-social behaviour:** There was a discussion about ASB, including the school run, assaults, quad bikes, motor cycle rideouts and cycling on footways. Members accepted that many areas have worse crime records than Kirkstall, but fear of violent crime or ASB could limit enjoyment of recreational open space. Lack of Police response to 101 calls was a problem. Forum agreed to deploy more CCTV, especially mobile cameras which can move to temporary locations when needed.
- (11) **Draft Intentions Document:** Forum agreed to add KNF13 and KNF14 to the Current Intentions Document (attached).
- (12) **General Policy discussion:** Bobby Bowker asked about Wildlife Policies and the Secretary agreed to invite expert witnesses and produce a draft policy document for further discussion and amendment.
- (13) **Dates, times and venues for future open meetings.** Forum agreed to hold its AGM on or around 30 November, subject to room availability.

John Illingworth
28 November 2017

Current Intentions Document

This is version 5 of a document which will go through many drafts. It sets out broad policy objectives and is here to be amended. It will be brought back to future meetings. Since this is a planning document it does not specify who the providers will be, but sometimes this could be a local cooperative or community group.

Planning History: The last strategic planning document to complete the full legal process in Kirkstall Ward was the 1972 Development Plan Review! Local Plans in 1980 and 1986 did not complete the required public consultation. Large areas of Kirkstall were administered by the Leeds Development Corporation from 1988 to 1995 and were consequently excluded from the Leeds Unitary Development Plan (UDP). The only areas that were considered were those with limited opportunity for change. For obscure reasons Kirkstall was also excluded from the UDP Review in 2004, so the current Leeds Development Framework is the first strategic planning document since 1972 which residents could properly challenge and amend.

Scope: Our Kirkstall Neighbourhood Plan must comply with relevant parts of the [National Planning Policy Framework](#) (NPPF) and [Leeds Development Framework](#) (LDF). Locally, we have opportunities to suggest amendments to the LDF to avoid conflict with our Neighbourhood Plan. If our suggestions are rejected by Leeds City Council, then we must comply with the LDF. The positive outcome from a recent [Judicial Review of the St Ives Neighbourhood Plan](#) in November 2016 suggests that residents have considerable power if they choose to use it.

Sustainable Development: This is usually defined as development which meets the needs of the current generation without compromising the needs of our successors. Paragraph 14 of the NPPF includes a presumption in favour of sustainable development, and subsequent paragraphs explain how this should be applied. Paragraph 17 on *Core Planning Principles* includes the following bullet point:

- *support the transition to a low carbon future in a changing climate, taking full account of flood risk and coastal change, and encourage the reuse of existing resources, including conversion of existing buildings, and encourage the use of renewable resources (for example, by the development of renewable energy);*

Draft Policy KNF1 restricts further built development in the highest flood risk areas (presently defined as the area between the Kirkstall mill goits and the main river) EXCEPT (1) for water source heat pumps and low carbon renewable energy; (2) greenhouse crops and agricultural activities; (3) physical recreation and active travel; (4) associated educational and scientific activities.

Draft Policy KNF2 requires high design and construction standards in all new developments, and public spaces, with zero tolerance for second-rate cheapskate developments in the older urban areas.

Draft Policy KNF3 supports development of the suburban rail network in Kirkstall Ward, including a new rail halt on the Harrogate line between the Hawksworth and Spen Hill estates, and a return to four track working on the Skipton / Bradford lines with the re-opening of all the rail halts and stations in the Aire Valley that were closed by the Beeching review.

Draft Policy KNF4 supports development of the bus network, with additional bus lanes to be created at traffic bottlenecks, and measures to improve road safety, and reduce traffic noise, vehicle speeds and air pollution.

Draft Policy KNF5 supports the development of a low-carbon suburban heat network linked to the progressive replacement / renewal of existing water, gas, electricity, telephone and data services and the separation of foul sewage from surface water drainage.

Draft Policy KNF6 supports the development of an off-road public footpath network, and requires the Leeds flood defence scheme to improve pedestrian access to the banks of the River Aire in Kirkstall Ward.

Draft Policy KNF7 recognises the need for (1) 500 additional parking places in residential areas that were built before mass car ownership, and (2) wide-area residents' parking schemes, with differential charging in favour of residents, to reduce the problems caused by commuter, match-day and special event parking in residential areas.

Draft Policy KNF8 identifies the former "Tesco" site bounded by Kirkstall Lane, Kirkstall Hill, Beecroft Street and Commercial Road as an area for housing development (reflecting the LDF site allocations policies) and further specifies affordable high-density low-carbon housing similar in design and tenure to the nearby "Lilac" scheme on Victoria Park Avenue.

Draft Policy KNF9 identifies the vacant historic Kirkstall Mills (Abbey Mills and St Ann's Mills) for various community / educational uses, for example: after-school / breakfast clubs; artisan workshop; café; children's play; community hub; library; performing arts; physical recreation; restaurant; scientific education, research and development; social care; sustainable energy.

Draft Policy KNF10 introduces weight and speed limits, one-way traffic flows and improved pedestrian facilities on St Ann's Lane.

Draft Policy KNF11 supports litter removal, footpaths, planting and future maintenance of the recreational open space between Latchmere View and the Leeds outer ring road.

Draft Policy KNF12 supports the provision of frequent outdoor play facilities throughout the neighbourhood, such that in principle there is a small outdoor play area with a swing and maybe a slide for example, within only a few minutes' walk of every child's home. The small local 'walk-to' sites will be in addition to larger 'drive-to' sites designed to serve a wider area. The plan will identify sites for these play facilities.

Draft Policy KNF13 seeks confirmation of all existing Kirkstall footpaths as public rights of way, and their extension, inter-linking and the creation of new accessible footpaths to serve all parts of Kirkstall Ward.

Draft Policy KNF14 supports the creation of a Kirkstall Valley Park, in partnership with the Yorkshire Wildlife Trust and other environmental organisations, to link with existing public parks to the west of the River Aire and create a continuous tract of open green space between the A65 and the A647, with a new visitor centre and footbridge at St Ann's Mills.

Draft Policy KNF15 places the principles of **proportionate universalism** at the core of all our planning policies. This seeks to improve everyone's health and wellbeing, but directs the greatest efforts towards those in greatest need. This is relevant for housing policies, air pollution, traffic congestion, employment, social care and recreational open space.

Draft Policy KNF16 recognises biodiversity as a legitimate planning objective, and aims to minimise the loss of existing wildlife habitats, and where possible create a greater variety of new habitats as an integral part of the development process.

John Illingworth
30 Nov. 2017