

Edenfield Community Neighbourhood Forum.

Minutes from Management Committee Meeting held on 2.12.21 at Edenfield Community Centre.

Attendees: - Chair Ian Lord; Treasurer Margaret Filkins; Paul Bradburn; Richard Lester; Mervyn Macdonald ; Dave Rawcliffe; Mark Whitehead;

Apologies: Alan Ashworth; Richard Bishop

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the Management Committee Meeting and then proceeded with the agenda items as follows:-

- 1) **Minutes of the Management Committee Meeting dated 2.8.21.** The Chairman asked if all present had reviewed the minutes. A vote was taken and the minutes were unanimously accepted with no objections and then duly signed.
- 2) **Matters arising from 2/8/21 meeting.** There were no matters arising not covered by agenda items.

3) **Draft Local Plan.**

Since the last meeting the Planning sub-committee had met twice with Jake Berry who had agreed to submit a request to the Secretary of State for Housing to "call in" the draft Rossendale Local Plan. Jake had subsequently submitted the request on 29th October but as yet there had been no response.

Since the last meeting the Main Modifications to the Plan had been published by the Council but there were no changes to the allocation of 456 homes for Edenfield. The Forum had submitted further detailed representations during the consultation period which had ended on 9th November. The Inspectors' report on the Plan was then published on 3rd December which accepted, with some conditions, the Edenfield allocations. It was very concerning that the Council were now proposing to adopt the Plan at their meeting on 15th December.

It was agreed that urgent action was needed to try to get the adoption voted down at the Council meeting. It was agreed that a press release should be issued the week before the meeting and a draft was agreed. It was also agreed that an email should be sent to all Councillors summarising our objections to the Plan and requesting that they vote against adoption.

The public are not allowed to attend the Council meeting but can observe on Zoom. We can ask one question which has to be submitted in advance. It was agreed that a question be drafted which the Chairman would put forward.

The possibility of a legal challenge to adoption of the Plan was discussed but it was agreed not to follow this up due to the very high cost.

- 4) **Draft Neighbourhood Plan.** Nothing further to report.
- 5) **Elm Street planning application.** A Permission in Principle planning application had been submitted for nine houses on land off Elm Street. As the land is Green Belt it was agreed that an objection should be submitted.
- 6) **Chatterton Hey field.** The Methodist Church own this land and had kept the Chairman informed of the work being done by Highways Agency. A gate has been installed at the south-east corner of the field to stop unauthorised vehicles but the Church are happy for pedestrians and dogs to continue to use the field.
- 7) **Local Cycling & Walking infrastructure Plan (LCWIP).** This Plan is being prepared by LCC and we have registered an interest for the forthcoming public consultation.
- 8) **Treasurers Report.** The Treasurer reported that there are had been no income or expenditure since the last meeting. The 2020 Accounts had been approved by the Scrutineer, Debra Batchelor.
- 9) **Fund Raising.** Nothing further to report

- 10) **Website/Social Media.** The press release will be posted on the website and Facebook
- 11) **Date of next Forum Annual General Meeting.** The local increase in Covid infection rates and the concentration of efforts on the Local Plan meant that a meeting had still not been arranged. The Covid situation will continue to be monitored so that a meeting can be arranged when a good attendance can be expected.
- 12) **Date of Next Meeting.** To be arranged
- 13) **Any Other Business.** None

Signed.......... Chairman. Date.....7/2/22.....