



APPENDIX 6
CONSULTATION STATEMENT

Edenfield Neighbourhood Plan
2021 – 2036

Edenfield Community
Neighbourhood Forum
September 2022



Edenfield Community Neighbourhood Forum
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1. Introduction

- 1.1 This consultation statement has been produced to accompany the Draft Edenfield Neighbourhood Plan. It sets out the consultation that has taken place prior to 30th September 2022 and prior to the Regulation 14 pre-submission consultation.
- 1.2 This statement is organised into sections which each outline different consultation stages or audiences. Section 2 details the establishment of the Neighbourhood Forum and the Neighbourhood Area. Section 3 details community engagement and consultation on the draft neighbourhood plan.
- 1.3 The statement will be extended following the pre-submission consultation to fulfil the legal obligations of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012.

2. Establishment of the Neighbourhood Forum and Neighbourhood Area

- 2.1 Edenfield Village Residents Association arranged a public meeting on 3rd October 2017 to discuss the proposals in Rossendale Borough Council's draft Local Plan as they pertained to Edenfield. The attendance was estimated at 170. Discussions included the possibility of setting up a Neighbourhood Forum in Edenfield so locals could have a greater say in how their area could develop while still conforming to the Rossendale Local Plan. It was agreed that a meeting be held on 9th October 2017 for those interested in establishing a Neighbourhood Forum.
- 2.2 25 residents attended the meeting on 9th October (minutes Appendix 1) and unanimously agreed to proceed with the formation of a Neighbourhood Forum. It was also agreed that the boundary of the Neighbourhood Area be the same as the boundary of Eden Ward which includes the villages of Chatterton, Edenfield, Irwell Vale, Strongstry, Stubbins and Turn. A Steering Group was appointed.
- 2.3 The first meeting of the Neighbourhood Forum was held on 5th December 2017 with an attendance of 24 with four apologies (minutes, Appendix 2). It was agreed that the Forum be named the Eden Community Neighbourhood Forum and the Constitution was adopted.
- 2.4 The second meeting of the Forum was held on 5th February 2018 with an attendance of 16 with eight apologies. The Forum now had 31 members. Due to a lack of support from the other villages in Eden Ward it was agreed to amend the Neighbourhood Area boundary. The new boundary which only included the village of Edenfield was agreed (Appendix 3). It was also agreed that the name of the Forum be changed to the Edenfield Community Neighbourhood Forum (ECNF).
- 2.5 An application for designation of the Forum and the Neighbourhood Area was submitted to Rossendale Borough Council on 21st February 2018 and the consultation period commenced on 23rd February 2018. The Edenfield Community Neighbourhood Forum and the Neighbourhood Area was designated by Rossendale Borough Council on 23rd April 2018.
- 2.6 During this period, ECNF has worked very closely with the Edenfield Village Residents Association (EVRA) which provided support and assistance throughout the establishment of ECNF. This support and assistance continues throughout the preparation of the Neighbourhood Plan.

3. Community Engagement and Consultation on the Neighbourhood Plan

3.1 The following communications and events helped to inform the community about the Edenfield Neighbourhood Plan. Engagement with residents, local developers, and businesses has informed the draft Edenfield Neighbourhood Plan at all stages of its preparation.

- **March 2018, first ECNF Newsletter** - The Newsletter (Appendix 4) was distributed to all households in Edenfield. It included information on the role of the Neighbourhood Forum and the purpose of a Neighbourhood Plan.
- **30th April 2018, ECNF meeting** - There were 37 attendees with nine apologies (minutes, Appendix 5). The meeting included details of the proposed process for preparing the Neighbourhood Plan.
- **9th June 2018, Edenfield Village Fete** - A village fete was organised by the Edenfield Village Residents Association and over 600 adults attended. ECNF had a stand at this event with displays to promote the organisation and the work it was doing. An additional 73 residents became members of the Forum bringing the total membership up to 201.
- **14th August 2018, ECNF meeting** - There were 37 attendees with 23 apologies (minutes, Appendix 6). The meeting included a detailed update of the progress on preparation of the Neighbourhood Plan.
- **19th August 2018, Online scoping questionnaire** - A questionnaire was distributed by e-mail to all online members of ECNF with the request to circulate to other residents (Appendix 7). The questionnaire aimed to understand respondents' opinions of Edenfield and how they would like it to evolve. There were 157 responses to this questionnaire.
- **7th September 2018, Workshop** - The Workshop was chaired by ECNF's planning consultants, Troy Planning + Design, and was held at Edenfield Cricket Club. It was attended by sixteen ECNF members representing diversity in age, gender and residence location. The Workshop included a village walk about and discussion of the preliminary results of the online questionnaire. The information and comments received from attendees and the results of the online questionnaire formed the basis of the initial draft of the Neighbourhood Plan.

- **26th March 2019, first ECNF Annual General Meeting** - There were 29 attendees with 20 apologies (minutes, Appendix 8). The meeting included a detailed update of the progress on preparation of the Neighbourhood Plan.
- **May 2019, second ECNF Newsletter** - The Newsletter (Appendix 9) was distributed to all households in Edenfield. It included an update on the preparation of the Neighbourhood Plan.
- **3rd June 2019, Design Code Engagement Session** - The session was organised with AECOM Ltd who had been appointed earlier in the year to prepare a Design Code report for incorporation in the Neighbourhood Plan. Eleven members of ECNF attended. The purpose of the session was for AECOM to explain more about the Design Code and its relevance to Neighbourhood Planning, determine if they had understood the context of the neighbourhood correctly, understand the design opportunities for potential new developments in Edenfield, and to gather feedback and opinions.
- **29th February 2020, Consultation event for residents and businesses** - The event was held from 10am to 2pm at the Edenfield Community Centre and was publicised by leaflets distributed to all households in the Neighbourhood Area (Appendix 10), notices on notice boards and in the Rossendale Free Press and e-mails to ECNF members. There were 99 attendees. The event was divided into four stations each with visual display boards plus hard copies of the relevant report for attendees to read through. The stations were:
 1. Introduction
 2. Design Code
 3. Evidence base (Factbook, Locally Important Views and Local Green Spaces)
 4. Vision, Objectives and Policies

Each station had a laptop with an online questionnaire for completion by visitors plus hard copies for manual completion if preferred. Responses to the questionnaires recorded any outstanding questions by attendees that were not able to be answered during the course of the workshop, along with an email to reach attendees with answers to their questions. Responses also recorded the extent to which attendees agreed or disagreed with the direction of the neighbourhood plan or the means of data collection used to support the plan. Responses to these questions are displayed in Appendix 11, and there was a very strong agreement with the visions and objectives of the plan, and of the methods used to gather evidence and justify policy.

- **9th March 2020, Consultation event for non-resident landowners** - The event was held at the offices of Troy Planning + Design in Manchester. Four landowners and/or their planning advisors attended separately with each having up to one hour to view, discuss and give feedback on the information provided, which focused on the draft plan policies, proposed key views and local greenspace designations, and the baseline analysis used to provide justification to the policies. The displays and information were similar to those used at the resident consultation on 29th February.
- **14th July 2022, second ECNF Annual General Meeting.** The meeting was originally scheduled for March 2020 but was postponed due to Covid restrictions. The meeting was opened up to all residents of the village. There were 46 attendees with 7 apologies (minutes, Appendix 12). The meeting included an update of the progress on preparation of the Neighbourhood Plan.

4. Consultation with Rossendale Borough Council

- **Meeting 17th October 2017** (attendees: RBC Forward Planning - Nicola Hopkins, Adrian Smith; ECNF - Ian Lord, Alan Ashworth). ECNF informed RBC of the proceedings of the public meeting on 3rd October 2017 and the subsequent residents meeting on 9th October which had agreed to establish a Neighbourhood Forum for Eden Ward.
- **Meeting 11th January 2018** (attendees: RBC Forward Planning - Adrian Smith, Nathaele Davies; ECNF - Ian Lord, Alan Ashworth). The draft constitution of the Neighbourhood Forum was discussed and a minor amendment made. The Neighbourhood Area was also discussed and a revised boundary suggested.
- **Meeting 13th March 2018** (attendees: RBC Forward Planning – Nicola Hopkins, Adrian Smith, Nathaele Davies; ECNF - Ian Lord, Alan Ashworth, Paul Williams; Troy Planning + Design – Troy Hayes, Thomas O’Kane). RBC advised on the progress of the application for designation of the Neighbourhood Forum which was currently going through public consultation.
- **Meeting 25th April 2018** (attendees: RBC Forward Planning – Nicola Hopkins, Adrian Smith, Nathaele Davies; ECNF - Ian Lord, Alan Ashworth, Paul Williams; Troy Planning + Design – Troy Hayes). RBC confirmed the approval of ECNF’s application for designation of the Forum and Neighbourhood Area.
- **Meeting 7th September 2018** (attendees: RBC Forward Planning – Mike Atherton, Adrian Smith, Nathaele Davies; ECNF - Ian Lord, Alan Ashworth, Richard Lester; Troy Planning + Design – Troy Hayes, Thomas O’Kane). ECNF updated RBC on progress on the preparation of the Neighbourhood Plan.
- **Meeting 30th July 2019** (attendees: RBC Forward Planning – Mike Atherton, Anne Storah, Nathalie Davies; ECNF - Ian Lord, Alan Ashworth, Richard Lester Troy Planning + Design – Troy Hayes). ECNF updated RBC on progress on the preparation of the Neighbourhood Plan and presented the draft Vision, Objectives and Policy Headings.

Appendix 1: 9th October 2017 meeting minutes

Meeting on 9th October 2017 at Edenfield Community Centre to discuss formation of a Neighbourhood Forum

Following recent meetings of the Edenfield Residents Association and the Public Meeting relating to the Rossendale Borough Council's latest Plan a meeting was arranged for Residents who had expressed interest in the possibility of a Neighbourhood Forum being set up.

The dignitaries present at the meeting were Cllr. Ann Cheetham; Cllr. Janice Johnson, Paul Bradburn Chairman of the Edenfield Residents Association and Ian Lord Organiser / Acting Chairperson of the new Group, all of whom are Resident in the Area.

Additional Residents present were Mr M Welsh, Mr T Boothman, Ms. H Iggulden, Mr & Mrs Coyne, Mr & Mrs Lester, Mrs L. Stooke, Mrs G. Hoyle, Mr. David Fisher, Mrs B. Lord, Mr & Mrs Filkins, Mr. R. Bishop, Mr B. Langrish, Ms M. Rostron, Mrs J. Mead, Mrs G. Hulme & Mr. & Mrs Ashworth

Guest Speaker Louise Kirkup from Kirkwalls Town Planning and Sustainable Development Consultants.

The Chairperson welcomed everyone to the meeting and provided a brief background relating to the reason for the meeting. He then provided an initial explanation of a Neighbourhood Forum as follows:-

Neighbourhood planning gives communities direct power to develop a shared vision for their neighbourhood and shape the development and growth of their local area. They are able to choose where they want new homes, shops and offices to be built, have their say on what those new buildings should look like and what infrastructure should be provided and grant planning permission for the new buildings they want to see go ahead. Neighbourhood planning provides a powerful set of tools for local people to ensure that they get the right types of development for their community where the ambition of the neighbourhood is aligned with the strategic needs and priorities of the wider local area.

The Chairperson next introduced the Guest speaker and Louise provided an insight into the setting up and operation of a Neighbourhood Forum. Basically the firm that Louise is a Director of specialises in advising groups like ourselves who are interested in forming a Forum and they have worked with up to seventy Parish Councils in the past on planning issues. They are currently discussing with three prospective groups wishing to form Neighbourhood Forums but we are the first of this type she has spoken with.

She outlined the steps required to set up an N.F and the need to work closely with the Borough Council Forward Planning Team. She confirmed that with Parish Councils they have had good success, getting several of them through the Referendum stage with positive results.

She pointed out the powers that NF Groups have if they are successful but noted that they cannot change Green Belts they can only oppose the Borough Council in their attempts to get them changed.

Louise advised that it takes anything from 18 months to two years to set up the Neighbourhood Forum and get it through the referendum stage to having formal authority. Concern was expressed

that this time scale could be too long to enable us to have a material influence on the current Local Plan but Louise advised that discussions with the Borough Council Planning Team can take place once they have accepted the Group can represent the area. This means the initial acceptance is part way through the process so there should be the possibility the Group can have some influence earlier. She also confirmed that grants are available to NFs to get them off the ground and cover the costs of the Advisors needed to guide in the preparation for our application and plans.

She took questions throughout her presentation and generally answered the queries raised by the various attendees.

The Chairman thanked her for the information provided and she received a warm round of applause from all present.

The Chairperson then reviewed some of the points made and suggested we should have a vote to determine if there was support for a NF. The response was unanimously in favour of proceeding to form a NF.

The Chairperson then suggested we should try to agree the boundaries for the area we wished to represent, several were discussed but it was eventually agreed we would adopt the Eden Ward boundaries. This includes Stubbins, Strongstry, Chatterton, Edenfield, Turn and Irwell Vale.

We then discussed the best way to move forward quickly and agreed that we would set up a "Steering Group" of possibly about six to ten people. The Steering Group will report back to the Members on a regular basis by e-mail and arrange meetings with the full membership every two months or so.

The Chairman asked for volunteers from everyone present to join the Steering Group and in addition to the Chairman himself the following people agreed to be part of the Group:- Gillian Hoyle, Trevor Boothman and Alan Ashworth. Richard Bishop agreed to arrange the IT development for the NF but suggested he would be a part time member of the Steering Group because of his other commitments. It was also noted that some Residents who had expressed interest in joining the NF but were unable to be present on the evening may be willing to join the Steering Group and they will be contacted shortly.

The Chairperson proposed that in view of the Boundary selected we should also invite the Residents Committees in Stubbins and Irwell Vale to put forward representatives to join both the NF and the Steering Group. The two Councillors present agreed to do this at the respective Resident Committee meetings which are scheduled in the near future.

The Chairperson asked Paul Bradburn from Edenfield Residents Association if they had any further action plans following their very successful campaign to maximise the objections submitted to the Borough Council with respect to the Plan and he confirmed at this point no further action was planned.

Appendix 2: 5th December 2017 meeting minutes

Eden Community Neighbourhood Forum.

Minutes from the Meeting held on the 5th December 2017.

Attendees: - Steering Group: Ian Lord (Acting Chair), Gillian Hoyle, Trevor Boothman & Alan Ashworth. Apologies from Richard Bishop.

Prospective Members :- Richard Lester, Roger Barlow, Gillian Hulme, Carol Ashworth, Christine Murrell, Gordon Worth, Margaret Filkins, Jennifer Mead, Geoff Lord, Mark Welsh, David Fisher, Paul Bradburn, Ann Marie Coyne, Michael Coyne, Helen Iggulden, Liz Stooke, Cllr Janice Johnson, Brian Langrish, Chris Ross and Milan Pular.

Apologies Cllr Anne Cheetham, Karen Lester & Barbara Lord.

The Chairman opened the meeting by asking if everyone had received their e-mails with the attachments containing the Agenda, Draft Constitution, Area Map, Membership Application Form and Minutes from our previous meeting held on the 9th October 2017. He advised spare copies were available if required.

The Chairman then updated everyone with respect to the latest information available from Rossendale Borough Council, confirming the number of responses received by them to their Local Plan from the Borough was 1800 and 818 of these were from our area. Objections were 810, Neutrals 3 and Supporters 5. This was a fantastic result and thanks were given to all the Members of EVRA for the massive efforts made.

Following the opening remarks the Chairman moved on to the Agenda items:-

- 1) **Minutes of Meeting held on 9th October 2017.** Everyone present at the meeting confirmed they had read the minutes and they were unanimously approved.
- 2) **Forum Boundary and Name.** Discussions took place reviewing the various considerations that had taken place regarding the boundary, initially we have adopted the Eden Ward area and this includes Irwell Vale, Stubbins, Strongstry, Chatterton, Turn and some outlying areas like parts of Nangreaves as well as Edenfield. There were no representatives present from Turn, Stubbins, Strongstry, Chatterton or any of the outlying areas and the Chairman confirmed we were still awaiting confirmation from their respective Resident Groups that they would join our Forum. We will assume for the time being they will join our Forum to avoid delaying our progress and then adjust as necessary as we move forward. We next discussed the name and all the considerations involved and it was unanimously agreed we would be "Eden Community Neighbourhood Forum" to meet all the regulations and where appropriate it would be shortened to Eden Community Forum (ECF) for brevity.
- 3) **Constitution.** The Chairman referred to all the work that has gone into the preparation of this document and thanked Trevor Boothman and Richard Lester for their major contributions. He then reviewed the document section by section to ensure all present understood the various issues and answered all the questions raised. The meeting then voted on the adoption of the Constitution The vote was unanimously to accept the Constitution and there were no objections.

- 4) **Membership.** Completed Membership Applications were collected by the Chairman and it is pleasing to record we now have twenty-five members.
- 5) **Report on Meeting with the Forward Planning Senior Management at Rossendale Borough Council .** The attendees were Nicola Hopkins & Adrian Smith for RBC and Ian Lord & Alan Ashworth for ECF.

The Chairman reported that the meeting was very positive, the Council were supportive and they explained what was required for us to gain initial designation. We advised them of our progress to date and they appeared quite keen for us to get involved. We explained our objectives were to minimise the effect on our Green Belt and reduce the proposed building numbers from fifty-four percent in the Local Plan to about twelve percent which is the figure for the Borough as a whole. They responded by saying they will still have to meet their overall number and the houses will have to be built somewhere in the Borough. We next asked about the actions and timing going forward with their plan and they provided the following details:-

- a) They will analyse all the objections received throughout the Borough and determine the main issues. They expect the 1800 objections received could lead to 8000 issues. They will select the major issues and work through them with a target for completion by end December.
- b) The first three months of 2018 will be spent working on the reports from Highways and Utilities which should be available by then.
- c) After this they will make any changes they feel are required to their draft plan and this should be completed by the summer of 2018.
- d) There will then be a six week consultation but objections can only be considered based on the "Soundness of the evidence base", "Legal issues relating to procedures followed" or "Duties to communicate issues with Highways & Utilities".
- e) The plan is then published & submitted to the Inspectorate, target October 2018.
- f) Planning Inspectorate will then examine the document and follow up with site visits in spring 2019. At this point there will be round table discussions involving all interested parties which will include our Forum along with the Developers etc.
- g) The Inspectorate will then decide what if any changes are to be made and this is likely to be completed by the summer of 2020.

We also asked if the Council would be reducing the housing numbers in line with the recent statement from Jake Berry but they advised they will continue with the number in the current draft of the Local Plan.

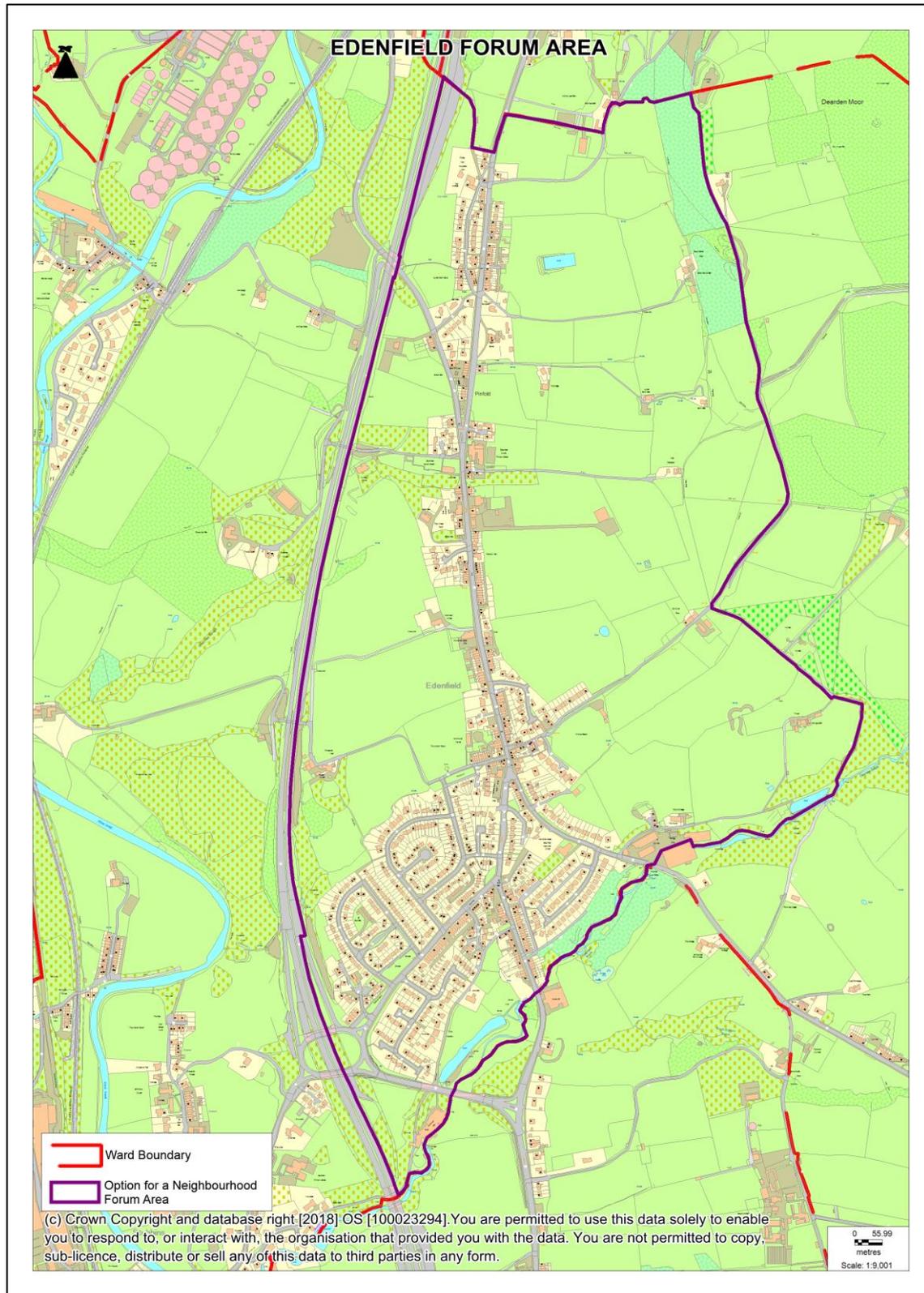
We agreed to prepare our application for the Neighbourhood Forum and our target is to submit it in December 2017.

- 6) **Publicity & Communications.**
 - a) **Communication Strategy & Plan.** The Chairman outlined the progress made on this by Gillian Hoyle; it is a very complex area particularly the Vision Statement. We are

targeting to have a draft available by the end of December and then publish early in the New Year.

- b) **Website/Social Media.** This area is being covered by Richard Bishop, significant progress is being made and we have registered our domain name so we can move forward to develop the website. This is particularly important for Younger Members; hopefully it will assist us in improving membership diversity. The domain name is "edencommunityforum.uk".
 - c) **Newsletter to all Homes & Businesses.** Gillian showed the type of one page document that is being worked on and the target is to complete and deliver to all Properties and Businesses in our area in the next three months. Mr G. Worth suggested we include in our Newsletter a comment relating to the possible re-allocation of building sites when the Council review their plan to advise Residents of the areas who have not yet decided to join our Forum the benefits of becoming Members. Mrs J. Mead advised she has details of all the addresses in the area and the Chairman advised all present he would be looking for "Foot Soldiers" to do the delivery in due course. The Chairman of EVRA agreed to ask the delivery Team from EVRA if some of them would also be willing to assist. The chairman of EVRA confirmed they use Kershaw's and sometimes Studio 51 for their printing requirements and he agreed to forward the relevant contact details.
- 7) **Planning Consultants.** The Chairman advised of the need to employ a Firm of Consultants to assist us in putting the Plan together and he confirmed that whilst we have not ruled out Kirkwell's we are in contact with the ones who have assisted the Woodford Neighbourhood Forum. We are proposing to visit this Company and others very early in the New Year and then select the best one with experience in Rural Development. We are also looking for local Architects and people with planning experience to join and provide inside expertise to the Forum.
- 8) **Grants and Funding.** The chairman confirmed that Government Grants are available for Forums like ours; there is one for nine thousand pounds to get the Forum up and running and one for up to eight thousand pounds for specific Technical issues with the possibility of other small amounts being available from elsewhere. He confirmed it may be that we have to look at some type of fund raising going forward and we are to examine what methods other Forum's have used for this. One of the Attendees suggested we consider the website "Go Fund Me" and this will be followed up.
The Chairman of EVRA kindly offered to lend the Forum £200 until we were able to obtain a grant for us to cover printing costs, the cost for using the Community Centre going forward etc. Our Chairman thanked him for the kind offer and accepted it.
- 9) **Date of Next Meeting.** Not fixed targeting February 2018.
- 10) **Any Other Business.** Mr Roger Barlow advised the meeting that the development of the Horse and Jockey site will commence on the 22nd January 2018.

Appendix 3: Neighbourhood Area Map



Appendix 4: March 2018 Newsletter

Edenfield Community Neighbourhood Forum Newsletter – Issue 1 March 2018

Forum News

Your Village Needs YOU



Welcome to the first edition of Edenfield Forum Newsletter.

Edenfield has been identified as an area for major housing development over the next 15 years. Rossendale Borough Council are proposing to allow almost 500 houses to be built, an increase in excess of 50% when the Borough as a whole is only expanding by 12%.

Edenfield Village Residents Association has undertaken some splendid work in raising awareness and organising opposition to the proposed developments and destruction of our Green Belt, but due to their other commitments they are unable to continue to fight this battle. In view of this a group of volunteers including some members of EVRA have got together to set up a Neighbourhood Forum and they have now submitted a formal application to be recognised by Rossendale Borough Council.

This Forum will work with the community and experts to develop a Neighbourhood Plan for Edenfield. Their aim will be to reduce the number of houses proposed and save as much as possible of our valuable Green Belt.

The Plan will establish general planning policies and propose areas for development and future land use. It will help the community to shape what the village will look like in the future.

When the Plan is prepared it will be examined by an Independent Examiner and then approved by a referendum involving all the community. If the Plan is approved, it will become a statutory document that will complement the Rossendale Council Local Plan.

www.edenfieldcommunityforum.uk

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What is the Edenfield Neighbourhood Forum?

It is a group that leads on the production of a local Neighbourhood Plan. Anyone who lives, works or has a business in the area can be a member.

All members are entitled to attend the meetings of the Forum and will receive regular information and updates. Any member can be elected by the Forum to join the management committee, for more information on Neighbourhood Forums visit locality.org.uk

Why have a Neighbourhood Plan?

If the residents of Edenfield vote in favour of the Neighbourhood Plan at the referendum, Rossendale Council must make it part of the local plan for the area. This means that the plan will be used for making decisions on planning applications in Edenfield.

Funding of the Forum

The Forum can apply for grants to cover the costs of preparing the Neighbourhood Plan. However, these do not cover the costs of the challenges to the emerging local plan, challenges during the consultation period ending this summer or challenges and representation to the Inspectorate prior to the final decision.

We need the expertise of Planning Consultants to enable us to make any of these challenges as well as their guidance in preparing out Neighbourhood Plan. To achieve this we need to raise funds now, so that we can embark on this important programme immediately.

If you would like to contribute to help us to take control of our village, please tick the appropriate box on the membership application form and a Committee member will get in touch to provide more detail.



We need your help

We want the Forum to be fully representative of all residents and businesses in Edenfield. If you would like to become a member of the Forum, please complete the enclosed membership leaflet. It can be deposited at Strachan's Chemist or Valentine's Butchers. You can also join by completing the online form on the website. If you require any further information please visit our website, www.edenfieldcommunityforum.uk or contact Ian Lord on 07808724477.

Working in partnership with Edenfield Village Residents Association

Appendix 5: 30th April 2019 meeting minutes

Edenfield Community Neighbourhood Forum

Minutes from the Meeting held on the 30th April 2018.

Attendees: - Management Committee– Ian Lord (Chairman), Gillian Hoyle, Richard Bishop, Trevor Boothman Acting Treasurer & Alan Ashworth Acting Secretary (Apologies – Paul Williams Acting Deputy Chairman.) Co-opted Legal Advisor Richard Lester.

Members :- Roger Barlow, Peter Howarth, Paul Bradburn, Margaret Filkins, Gordon Worth, Carol Ashworth, Jenny Mead, Gillian Hulme, Barbara Lord, Steven Caldwell, Peter Ash, Joanne Ash, Keith Kushner, Barbara Kushner, John Ayers, Betty Garvey, Moyra Franklin, Jennie Law ,Ann Marie Coyne, Michael Coyne, Dorothy Jones, W. J. Whittaker, Ron Marley, Robert Saggerson, Helen Iggulden, David Fisher, Graeme Conway, Stephen Preston, Matthew Scanlon and Councillor Anne Cheetham.

Apologies: - Karen Lester, Brian & Denise Langrish, Ken Parkes, Derrick Lawson, Phillip Johnson, Mark Welch, Alexander Black & Keith Dawson.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting, thanked them for attending and introduced the individual Members of the Management Committee. He advised that the Membership was now one hundred and one with a very positive increase after the circulation of the Newsletter to every house and business in the Village. He then asked for any apologies received and they are listed above.

- 1) **Minutes of Previous meeting held on the 5th February 2018.** The chairman asked if all who were present at the meeting on the 5th February had reviewed the minutes and agreed they were an accurate record of the meeting. A vote was taken; they were unanimously accepted with no objections and then duly signed.
- 2) **Designation of the Forum.** The Chairman explained that, for the Forum to be able to operate, it required the approval of RBC, a process known as designation. We had submitted our application for designation on 21st February after which there was a six week consultation period which resulted in over forty responses, only one of which was against. The Forum was finally designated by RBC on 23rd April.
- 3) **RBC Emerging Local Plan & Forum Technical Response.** The Acting Secretary who along with the Chairman and Deputy Chairman make up the Team who are working alongside the Consultants and liaising with the Forward Planning Team at RBC provided an update of the current status. The minutes covering this presentation are appended. There were several questions raised, particularly relating to the individual Developers involved and we confirmed they were all working closely together. The introduction of the Express Bus to Manchester (X41) was also highlighted and a comment was made that one of the major reasons the previous Express Bus (X43) had been withdrawn was because of the delays and difficulties caused by traffic hold ups in the Village. A further question was raised regarding the importance the Consultants placed on the 800+ objections made by the Residents and we agreed to ask them for their comments on this.

- 4) **Neighbourhood Plan.** The Chairman explained that the Forum would prepare a Neighbourhood Plan during 2018 and 2019 but that Plan will need to be closely aligned to the RBC Emerging Plan. As the details of the RBC Plan will not be known until late July we will base our Plan on two possibilities, the first using the previous number of houses proposed and the second on a significantly lower one. Our Consultants will provide the guidance and the technical input throughout the preparation of these plans. Part of the process of preparing a Neighbourhood Plan is to regularly consult with the Residents and we plan to start this with a Stall at the Village Fete on the 9th June. Through the Neighbourhood Plan we will have greater input into the type of house and infrastructure that are eventually agreed, irrespective of the number of houses involved.

- 5) **Financing of the Forum.** The Acting Secretary provided the details of the requirements, the Grants available and confirmed the success of the initial round of fundraising from the generous donations received. He confirmed the need to continue with the fundraising to enable the Forum to make the challenges at every stage and asked for Volunteers to assist with ideas and general administration. The full details are appended. The Acting Treasurer confirmed our Bank Account was with NatWest in the Non Profit Making Organisations part of the Business Banking Sector. He also confirmed that secure systems were in place to control all expenditure and payments made.

- 6) **Publicity and Communications.** Gill Hoyle confirmed the recent Newsletter had been delivered to every House and Business in our Designated Area and that the intention is to prepare two per annum with the next one being in the autumn. She confirmed they were very cost effective and asked for comments, ideas and general feedback from the Members. She additionally asked if anyone knew of a Graphic Designer who would be agreeable to providing voluntary assistance and requested the Chairman of EVRA to thank his Team for their assistance with the delivery of the Newsletter.
Richard Bishop commented on the IT status, he confirmed the Facebook Page was off to a successful start. He also confirmed our website was fully operational with Minutes of Meetings, Agendas for Meetings and Future Events etc.
Richard also confirmed that all the membership data was secure and the system meets the latest legal changes introduced.

- 7) **Management Committee.** The Chairman advised the Members that we need to increase the size of the Management Committee to enable us to meet our targets of continuing with the challenges to both RBC and the Inspectorate; collecting& categorising the data and preparing the Neighbourhood Plan, as well as continuing to raise the funds required. He asked for anyone who could assist with any of the activities to make contact with him or any Member of the Management Committee.

- 8) **Date of Next Meeting.** We are targeting to hold two or three Neighbourhood Forum Meetings per year and we are planning for the next meeting to be in late September or early October.

- 9) **Any Other Business.** There were no items brought forward.

Signed Chairman. Dated

Appendix 6: 14th August 2018 meeting minutes

Edenfield Community Neighbourhood Forum

Minutes from the Meeting held on the 14th August 2018.

Attendees: - Management Committee– Ian Lord (Chairman), Paul Williams (Acting Deputy Chairman), Gillian Hoyle & Alan Ashworth (Acting Secretary).

Prospective Management Committee Members: - Margaret Filkins, Paul Bradburn & Mervin MacDonald.

Apologies from Management Committee Members: - Richard Bishop. **Apologies from Prospective Management Committee Members:** -Richard Lester, David Rawcliffe & Mark Whitehead.

Members: - Roger Barlow, Peter Howarth, Gordon Worth, Carol Ashworth, Jenny Mead, Gillian Hulme, Barbara Lord, Peter Ash, Betty Garvey, Jennie Law, Michael Coyne, Ron Marley, Matthew Scanlon, Ken Parkes, Brenda Chester, Karen Lester, James Lester, Paul Formby, Gaynor Brady, Vincent Brady, Geoff Margison, Mark Welsh, John Davies, Liz Stooke, Ann Newberry, Ian Newberry, Alex Black, Arnold Wilcox Wood and Councillor Janice Johnson.

Apologies: - Brian & Denise Langrish, Peter Dawson, Ann Marie Coyne, Dorothy Jones, Emeline Cryne, James Cryne, David Fisher, Sue Openshaw, Graeme Conway, Helen Iggulden, Jean-Pierre Desprez, Janet Desprez, Joanne Ash, Barry Pitt, Susan Pitt, Nadia Krasij, June Kenyon and Karen Duckworth.

- 1) **Opening Remarks.** The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting, thanked them for attending and introduced the individual Members of the Management Committee. He advised that the Forum Membership was now in excess of two hundred with representation from approx fifteen percent of the households in our area. He then advised that Trevor Boothman had resigned and thanked him for his efforts in getting the Forum off the Ground initially and for the work done in his role of Acting Treasurer.
- 2) **Minutes of Previous meeting held on the 30th April 2018.** The chairman asked if all who were present at the meeting on the 30th April had reviewed the minutes and agreed they were an accurate record of the meeting. A vote was taken; they were unanimously accepted with no objections and then duly signed.
- 3) **RBC Local Plan Update.** The Acting Secretary who along with the Chairman and Deputy Chairman make up the Team who are working alongside the Consultants and liaising with the Forward Planning Team at RBC provided an update of the current status. The details covering this presentation are appended, there were several questions raised and answered at the end of the presentation.
- 4) **Neighbourhood Plan.** The Deputy Chairman explained that the Forum have now commenced work on the Neighbourhood Plan and agreed a schedule with the Planning Consultants to enable us to be able to present the Plan to the Planning Inspectorate in the first half of next year. He advised there would be a short e-mail questionnaire circulated in the next few days to determine the main concerns of the Residents and then the responses would be reviewed at an initial Workshop on the 7th September involving approx twenty Members of the Forum.
This will then be followed with a more in depth questionnaire based on the findings from the initial questionnaire to form the main basis for the Neighbourhood Plan.

A draft Plan & Policies with design codes will then be prepared and followed by a Consultation with the Residents. The ethos of Neighbourhood Planning is that it is very much community-led, and that on-going consultation is central to the production of a successful plan.

The next stage is then to prepare a Regulation 14 Plan for formal Consultation purposes. Following this the Submission Plan will be prepared and put before Rossendale Borough Council.

Assuming this is accepted we will then have to prepare a "Basic Conditions Statement" and provide all the Evidence Documents prior to a six week formal Consultation taking place.

There will then be an Examiner appointed to investigate the plan, any recommendations issued will be considered and the Council will then arrange for a "Referendum" on the plan involving every Household and Business in our Neighbourhood Area.

If the referendum is supported by a majority of the Community it will become part of the "Statutory development Plan".

- 5) **Financing of the Forum.** The Chairman confirmed that we have now obtained a Grant from Locality which will hopefully cover the majority of the costs associated with the Neighbourhood Plan. He confirmed again that none of this money can be used to finance the challenges that we have made or are proposing to make against the Councils plan. He advised that our fund raising efforts to date for the challenges have been very successful and they will cover all the costs for the challenges made up to and including those for the next Consultation in September. However we do not have enough money to cover the challenges we want to make to the Inspectorate early next year and he considers we have a need to raise a further eight thousand pounds to cover this. He advised that he would be writing to all the Members with respect to this shortfall and that posters were being prepared for local notice boards and for the websites etc. Additionally, when the next Newsletter is prepared a further appeal for funds will be included. He also asked for Volunteers to assist the Management Committee to form a sub-committee which will concentrate solely on fund raising through Coffee Mornings, possibly a One Hundred Club and Horse Racing Nights etc. If any Member is willing to assist in this capacity will they please contact any of the Management Committee.
- 6) **Publicity and Communications.** Gill Hoyle and Richard Bishop cover these areas. Gill updated the meeting with respect to their recent activities as follows:-
- Edenfield Fete.** The Forum had a stand at the Fete to provide an opportunity for the Management Committee to consult with the Residents and for everyone to see at first hand the proposals being made by RBC. The event was very successful; we gained 71 new Members and raised extra funds for the Forum.
- Social Media.** The Facebook page and Website are now live and generating a lot of interest from the Community.
- Forward Plans.** They are now working on two key strands, the first relating to the challenges to the Local plan and the second being the communications relating to the preparation for the Neighbourhood Plan.
- Local Plan - A "Flyer"** which will be delivered to every household and business in our area to highlight the need to make an objection to the RBC plan during the next Consultation Stage and this Flyer will outline how to make the objection and what the basis for the

objection must be to ensure it will be valid. Press releases and promotions through social media will also be undertaken.

Neighbourhood Plan - Work is under way on finalising the initial questionnaire and work is starting on the more in-depth questionnaire which will be sent to all households in the forum area and will form the basis for the plan.

- 7) **Management Committee.** The Chairman advised the Members that we need to increase the size of the Management Committee to enable us to meet our targets of continuing with the challenges to both RBC and the Planning Inspectorate, in addition to collecting & categorising the data for preparing the Neighbourhood Plan and continuing to raise the funds required.
He confirmed that five members have kindly offered to assist and join the committee; they are Richard Lester, Margaret Filkins, Paul Bradburn, David Rawcliffe, Mark Whitehead and Mervin MacDonald. He asked the Members for a proposer (Betty Garvey) and a Seconder (Roger Barlow) and then asked the meeting to take a vote. The vote was unanimous and the Chairman welcomed the new members to the Management Committee.
- 8) **Date of Next Meeting.** We are targeting to hold two or three Neighbourhood Forum Meetings per year and we are planning for the next meeting to be early in 2019.
- 9) **Any Other Business.** The Chairman confirmed to the meeting that we have introduced a new "Friends of Edenfield Community Neighbourhood Forum" to include people who do not live or work in the Neighbourhood Area but are interested for a variety of reasons and have specifically asked if they could be kept informed and assist as and when required.

Signed..... Chairman. Dated.....

Appendix 7: Survey questionnaire from 19th August, 2018



Edenfield Community
Neighbourhood Forum

22nd August 2018

To all members of the Edenfield Community Neighbourhood Forum

As you may be aware the Forum is now starting work on preparing a Neighbourhood Plan for Edenfield and we have appointed planning advisors to advise us and assist in this. It is important that we fully take into account the views of residents when preparing the Plan which we propose to do in the following way.

There is a short scoping questionnaire which we would like you to complete and submit by 6th September. This includes questions on your views about the village as well as ideas of what changes you would like to see in the future. You can access the questionnaire at <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/7YLR3C2> or via the Forum website (www.edenfieldcommunityforum.uk). This questionnaire can only be completed online but it will be possible to submit the subsequent detailed questionnaire referred to below manually as well.

The Neighbour Plan needs to involve all residents of the village not just members of the Forum so please also encourage any non-members to also complete the questionnaire.

The information we get from this short questionnaire will help us and our advisors to produce a detailed questionnaire which will be delivered to all houses in the village later in the year. We will then be in a position to produce an Edenfield Neighbourhood Plan which reflects as far as possible the views of all residents.

If you would like more information about Neighbourhood Plans we have prepared a short question and answer sheet which is attached. Information is also available on the Locality website at <https://locality.org.uk/services-tools/neighbourhood-planning/>

All information submitted in the questionnaire will be treated confidentially in accordance with the Data Protection Act and only used in connection with the Neighbourhood Plan.

Thank you for your support and assistance.

Ian Lord

Chair, Edenfield Community Neighbourhood Forum

E-mail: ianblord@btinternet.com

Tel: 07808 724477

www.edenfieldcommunityforum.uk

email: info@edenfieldcommunityforum.uk

How does the Community approve a Neighbourhood Plan?

Before a Neighbourhood Plan can come into force, it must be voted on by the local community in a referendum. It is necessary that more than 50% of those voting in the referendum vote 'yes' to bring the Plan into force.

What are the benefits of having a Neighbourhood Plan

Neighbourhood Plans are intended to give local people a direct say in the future development of their area. A Neighbourhood Plan gives local people the chance to create a planning document that guides and shapes development in their local communities.

How long does a Neighbourhood Plan last?

There is no Government guidance on how long a plan should last, but a typical plan period would be about 10-15 years.

How do I get involved?

If you would like to join the Management Committee of the Edenfield Community Neighbourhood Forum, make a donation or just become a member, please e-mail info@edenfieldcommunityforum.uk or contact Ian Lord on 07808 724477 .

For more information please visit our website at www.edenfieldcommunityforum.uk.

Question Title

1. Please could you give your post-code

OK

Question Title

2. How would you describe the current make-up of your household?

- Living alone
- Couple (no children)
- Couple (children moved out)
- Family with young children (pre-school/ primary school age)
- Family with older children (secondary school children)
- Family with grown up children living at home
- Family with grown up children at university
- Family living with their older parent(s)
- Prefer not to say

OK

Question Title

3. Age - How old are you?

- Under 18
- 18 -29
- 30-39
- 40-49
- 50 -59
- 60-69
- 70-79
- 80+

OK

Question Title

4. What is your current employment status?

- Employed or self-employed full time
- Employed or self-employed part time
- Unemployed/unable to work
- Retired
- Looking after the home

- Carer
 - Student
 - Prefer not to say
- OK

Question Title

5. What do you value about living in Edenfield?

- Open and green spaces
 - The rural character of the village
 - Local wildlife and habitats
 - Sense of community
 - Friendly and safe environment
 - The schools
- OK

Question Title

6. What do you like most about living in Edenfield?

- Always lived here
 - Close to family and friends
 - Access to major routes
 - Open spaces
 - Lovely countryside
 - Close to place of work
 - Village atmosphere
 - Other (please specify)
-

OK

Question Title

7. What do you feel are the weakness or negative features of our community?

- Car parking
- Pedestrian safety
- Lack of public transport
- Volume of traffic
- Speed of traffic
- Lack of public amenities e.g. medical facilities, dentist and Post Office
- Lack of access to public services
- Quality of broadband connection

- Lack of mobile phone signal
- Litter and dog fouling
- Lack of affordable housing
- Crime rates/ anti-social behaviour
- Other (please specify)

OK

Question Title

8. In the new draft of the Local Plan, Rossendale Borough council has proposed 462 new homes for Edenfield. What worries you about further development in Edenfield?

Please tick up to five.

- A weaker sense of community
- Air quality
- Expansion targeted only at people on high incomes
- Increase in crime and anti-social behaviour
- Increased traffic
- Lack of adequate parking in Edenfield
- Lack of school/childcare places or school/childcare overcrowding
- Loss of countryside and/or green space between existing settlements
- Overstretched local amenities
- Oversubscribed medical and care facilities
- Reduction in amount of green space
- Undermine local businesses
- Unsafe pedestrian routes
- Other

OK

Question Title

9. What sorts of businesses, if any, do you think should be encouraged in Edenfield?

- Shops and retail
- Tourism (camping, bed & breakfast establishments)
- Food and Restaurants
- Light industrial units
- Other (please specify)

OK

Question Title

**10. Looking forward 10 years, what kind of place would you like Edenfield to be ?
Please select your top three choices.**

- Attractive
- Rural
- Safe
- Traditional
- Affordable
- Friendly
- Tranquil
- Accessible
- Other (please specify)

OK

Appendix 8: Annual General Meeting minutes, 26th March 2019

Edenfield Community Neighbourhood Forum

Minutes from the Annual General Meeting held on the 26th March 2019 at Edenfield Community Centre.

Attendees: - **Management Committee** – Ian Lord (Chairman); Margaret Filkins (Treasurer); Richard Lester; Paul Bradburn; Mark Whitehead; Mervyn MacDonald and Alan Ashworth (Secretary).

Apologies from Management Committee Members: - Paul Williams (Deputy Chairman); Richard Bishop & David Rawcliffe.

Attendees : -Members - Vincent Brady; Roger Barlow; Peter Haworth; Carol Ashworth; Quintin Crossley; Lesley Spurrell; Ron Marley; Colin Davies; Gill Hoyle; Les Adams, David Fisher; Trevor Latham; Liz Latham; Joanne Ash; Dorothy Jones; June Kenyon; Graeme Conway; Ken Parkes; Brenda Chester; Jenny Mead; Roy McDonald & Councillor Anne Cheetham.

Apologies from Members: - Walter Turk; Pat Turk; Stuart Dearden; Chris Bishop; Keith Kushner; Barbara Kushner; Michael Coyne; Ann-Marie Coyne; Peter Dawson; Peter Ash; Ken Holden; Gillian Hulme; Karen Duckworth; Karen Lester; Gaynor Brady, Gordon Worth & our M.P. Jake Berry.

- 1) **Opening Remarks.** The Chairman welcomed everyone to our first Annual General Meeting, thanked them for attending and introduced the individual Members of the Management Committee. He confirmed the Membership now stands at 215 with representation from approximately fifteen percent of the households in our neighbourhood area.
- 2) **Apologies.** The Apologies received are noted above.
- 3) **Disclosable Pecuniary Interests.** The Chairman asked if anyone present had any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests but none were declared.
- 4) **Minutes of Previous Meeting held on the 14th August 2018.** The Chairman asked if all who were present at the meeting on the 14th August had reviewed the minutes and agreed they were an accurate record of the meeting. Jenny Mead proposed the minutes should be accepted as an accurate record of the meeting and Roger Barlow seconded the proposal. A vote was then taken; they were unanimously accepted with no objections or abstentions and duly signed by the Chairman.
- 5) **Constitution Amendments.** The Chairman advised the meeting that the Forum's Constitution was not exactly in accordance with the regulations on Neighbourhood Forums (Town and Country Planning Act 1990 section 61F(5)(b)(ii)) and read out the existing and proposed wording for the two clauses involved. The details were as follows:-

Clause 5.2 currently reads:

"Membership of the Forum is open to any person aged eighteen (18) years or more who lives in the Area and any person aged eighteen (18) years or more who works, and who has a long-term business interest in, the Area."

The proposed new wording is

"Membership of the Forum is open to any person aged eighteen (18) years or more who lives in the Area and any person aged eighteen (18) years or more who works in the Area, whether for a business carried on there or otherwise."

Clause 5.4 currently reads:

“Membership is open to

- (a) Borough Councillors for the Ward;
- (b) County Councillors for a division that includes all or part of the Area;
- (c) the Member of Parliament for a constituency including the Area or any part thereof;”

The proposed new wording is:

“Membership is open to

- (a) any elected member of Rossendale Borough Council or Lancashire County Council;
- (b) the Member of Parliament for a constituency including the Area or any part thereof;”

The Chairman asked if there were any questions relating to the change, no questions were raised. A vote was then taken; the motion was unanimously accepted with no objections or abstentions. The Chairman advised the change would now be submitted to Rossendale Borough Council (RBC) for final approval.

- 6) **Draft Local Plan.** The Secretary provided an update on the Local Plan and advised RBC had submitted their Regulation 19 Plan to the Planning Inspectorate on the 25th March 2019 which was approximately one month behind schedule. He confirmed the support the Forum had received for their Representation made on the 4th October 2018 was 1235 in total with 892 of these coming from the Neighbourhood Area itself.

He advised the Management Committee were continuing to question RBC with respect to their Plan and particularly with regards to the Employment Land requirement calculations which are subject to ongoing discussions with the Council’s Forward Planning Team.

He highlighted the Representations made by Highways England and their subsequent change of view and confirmed the Management Committee were recording all the data to assist with the challenges to RBC’s Regulation 19 Plan.

He confirmed the ECNF Local Plan Committee were preparing for the Planning Inspectorate’s Examination probably in June 2019 and noted they expect to receive a schedule from the Inspectorate shortly.

- 7) **Neighbourhood Plan.** The Secretary updated the Members on the progress with the Neighbourhood Plan and confirmed the Vision, Objectives and Policy Themes were being finalised and good progress was being made with the Baseline, Green Spaces, Key Views and Design Codes. He outlined the six stages that will take the Plan through to adoption by RBC with an approximate schedule.

- 8) **Annual Finance Report.** On behalf of the Treasurer the Chairman provided a comprehensive explanation with respect to the financial status of the Forum and thanked the Treasurer and the Scrutineer for their excellent work. He asked for any questions relating to the Accounts and answered one raised by Vince Brady with respect to the various grants received and their availability in the future. A vote with respect to the approval of the Accounts was then taken; they were unanimously approved with no objections or abstentions.

- 9) **Fund Raising.** Paul Bradburn thanked everyone who had contributed to the recent appeal on behalf of the Fund Raising Team and confirmed that the majority of funding raised to date came from the Coffee Morning and Quiz held in October and November respectively. He announced a further Quiz has been arranged for 7-30pm on April 27th in the Community Centre, the charge is £8 as before and this includes a potato pie supper. He further advised the Edenfield Residents Association will be holding a raffle at the Annual Cricket Match between the Residents and the Village Team and the revenue from this will be given to the Forum. The Forum will also be participating at the annual Village Fete on the 8th June with other fund raising activities. He asked for suggestions from Members and the following were put forward for consideration by the Team: - Sponsored Walk; Auction,

100/200 Club; Cheese & Wine with a Speaker and a Horse Racing night. Paul thanked everyone for their contributions.

- 10) **Management Committee.** In line with the Constitution the Management Committee Members are required to apply for re-election on an annual basis and the Chairman confirmed that all existing Members with the exception of Gillian Hoyle have put their names forward for consideration. He thanked Gillian for her contribution, she was one of the original five members who started the Forum and she has worked tirelessly in promoting the Forum through Newsletters and Social Media. The Chairman then asked for approval for the existing Members to be re-elected and Councillor Anne Cheetham proposed the motion. A vote was then taken; the motion was unanimously approved with no objections or abstentions. The Chairman advised the Members there were two vacancies on the Committee and if anyone was interested in joining they should contact him.
- 11) **Date of Next Meeting.** We are targeting for September 2019 to coincide with the submission of our Draft Regulation 14 Neighbourhood Plan.
- 12) **Any other business.** Councillor Anne Cheetham raised the issue of the A56 flooding on a regular basis and suggested the Forum contact the Police to try to obtain data relating to the number accidents related to the flooding. She further commented that the closure of the A56 leads to chaos in the Village and this issue should be included in our challenges. Finally, Councillor Anne Cheetham thanked the Members of the Committee for all their efforts in getting the Forum from a blank sheet of paper to representing the Village and for all the research and challenges made on behalf of the residents. This was endorsed by all the Forum Members present.
- 13) The Chairman thanked everyone for their contributions to the discussions and closed the meeting at 8-50pm.

Signed.....Chairman. Dated.....

Appendix 9: May 2019 newsletter

EDENFIELD COMMUNITY NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM NEWSLETTER ISSUE 2 (MAY 2019)



“THIS IS YOUR STARTER FOR 10”

Work in earnest has now been progressing on the old Horse & Jockey site for over 12 months and many will have experienced the disruption this has caused from time to time on Market Street. The development of this site is far from complete and all this is for just 10 new houses. Imagine the impact if Rossendale Council’s proposals for another 456 new houses in Edenfield gets the go ahead.

The plan for Edenfield is to increase the current number of dwellings by about 50% with an inevitable increase in the number of vehicles using the roads and the loss of almost all the green belt land between Market Street and the bypass including the land at the bottom end of Exchange Street.

The Edenfield Community Neighbourhood Forum (ECNF) is hoping to reduce the impact of these proposals but needs help and support from the village.

Neighbourhood Plan

The Forum is continuing with work on a Neighbourhood Plan for the village. An initial survey of residents generated 157 responses and an open workshop, including village walkabout, was held on 7 September 2018. The overall vision for the plan is to retain and strengthen the rural character of the village.

At the present time the Forum is collating relevant data on population, heritage/historic assets, education, transport, health care and local economic activity. It is also liaising with planning and infrastructure consultants with a view to identifying those green spaces and key views thought essential to be retained and giving consideration to the type and nature of any sustainable development which might be appropriate for the village in the future.

The costs incurred on producing the Neighbourhood Plan are, in the main, funded by central government grants. Any plan ultimately produced has to be approved via a local vote. Before any vote there is a period of consultation so it is important that as many residents as possible participate in the consultation and local vote in due course.

Appendix 10: Consultation notice for 29 February 2020



Edenfield Community
Neighbourhood Forum

www.edenfieldcommunityforum.uk

To: all residents and businesses of Edenfield

Edenfield Neighbourhood Plan Consultation

Saturday 29th February 10am to 2pm

Edenfield Community Centre, Exchange Street

A Neighbourhood Plan is a community-led framework for guiding the future development and growth of an area. Over the last eighteen months the Forum Management Committee has been working on a Neighbourhood Plan for the village. We now need your views on the work we have done and how you would like to see the village develop in the future. We will then take this information into account when finalising the Plan before it is put to Rossendale Council and an independent examiner.

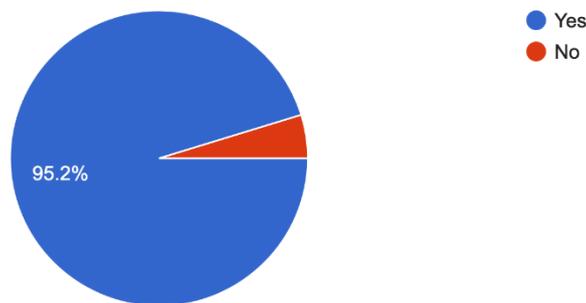
If you would like a say in how Edenfield will evolve in the years to come or if you just want to see what is going on please call in and see us at the Community Centre anytime between 10am and 2pm on Saturday 29th February. There will be free tea, coffee and biscuits.

More information on Neighbourhood Plans can be found on the Locality website www.neighbourhoodplanning.org or contact Ian Lord at ianblord@btinternet.com or on 07808 724477.

Appendix 11: March 2020 Community Consultation Survey Responses

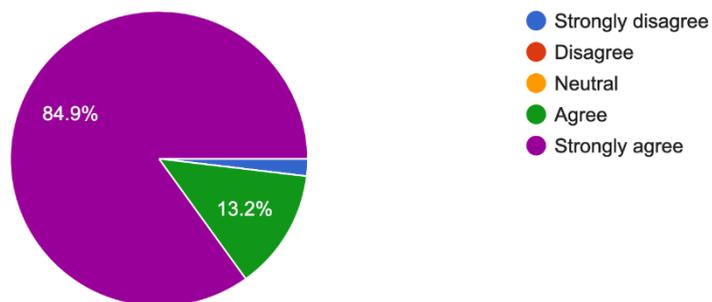
Do you know that Edenfield was in the process of creating its own Neighbourhood Plan before this event?

42 responses

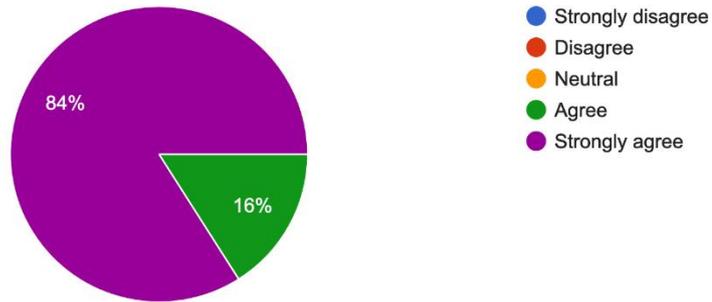


To what extent do you agree or disagree with our method for assessing Edenfield's local greenspaces?

53 responses

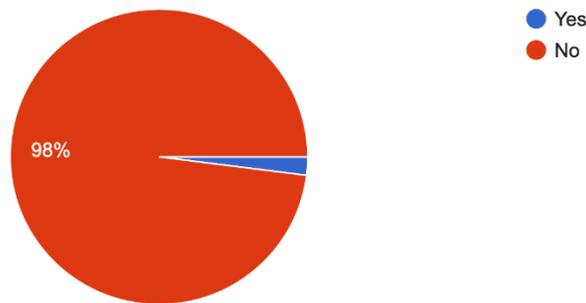


Do you agree or disagree with our method for assessing Edenfield's locally important views?
50 responses

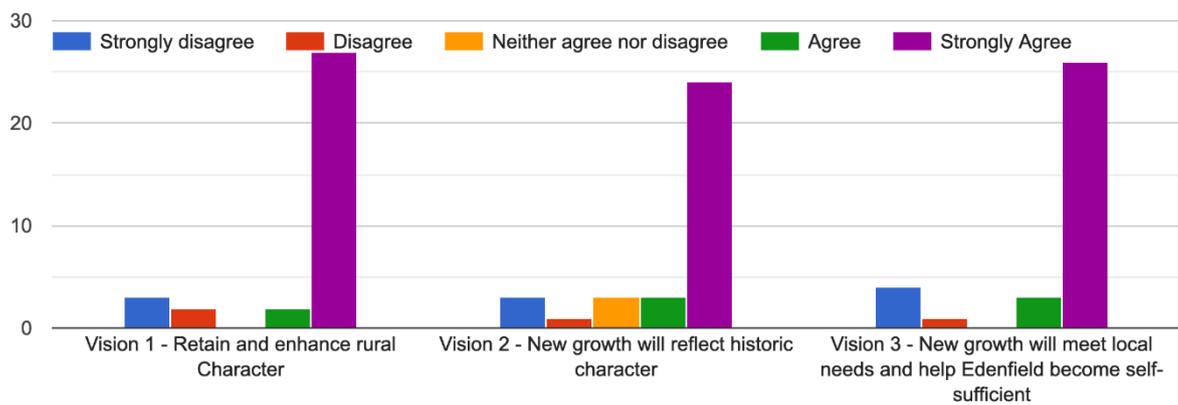


Are there any key views that are missing from this map that we did not assess? If so, could you please draw them on the physical map in this room!

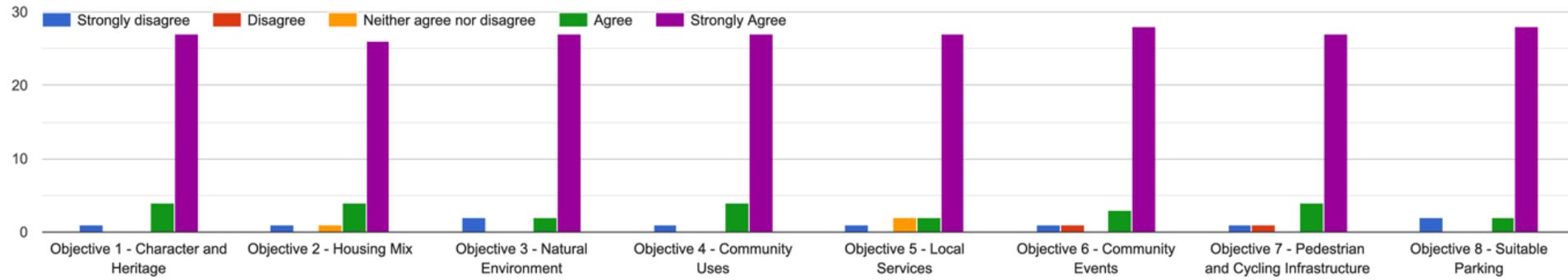
50 responses



To what extent do you agree or disagree with the visions of the neighbourhood plan?



To what extent do you agree or disagree with the objectives of the neighbourhood plan?



Appendix 12: 14th July 2022

Meeting Minutes

EDENFIELD COMMUNITY NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM) HELD ON THURSDAY 14th JULY 2022 AT EDENFIELD COMMUNITY CENTRE

ATTENDEES - Management Committee - Ian Lord (Chair), Margaret Filkins (Treasurer), Mervyn MacDonald (Acting Secretary), Richard Lester and David Rawcliffe. 40 members

APOLOGIES - Management Committee - Paul Bradburn and Richard Bishop. 5 members

- 1) Opening remarks and welcome** – The meeting commenced at 7.47pm with the Chair (IL) welcoming all attendees and then introducing the Management Committee members in attendance. He explained that it had not been possible to hold AGMs over the last two years due to Covid restrictions so now was the opportunity to catch up. He also explained that non-members had been invited to attend, but not vote, as the Forum was keen for all to have the chance to express their views. Furthermore, non-members were encouraged to become members and potentially to become Management Committee members .
- 2) Apologies** – IL gave details of those who had sent apologies for being unable to attend.
- 3) Disclosable pecuniary interests** – IL explained the need for disclosure of pecuniary interests. None were made.
- 4) Minutes from last AGM held 26 March 2019** – IL advised that these had been distributed to all members with the notice of the meeting. He asked for a proposer and seconder, from those who had attended the 2019 meeting, that the minutes prepared be accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting. This was proposed by Stuart Dearden, seconded by Vince Brady, and approved by way of a show of hands with no objections.
- 5) Forum activity report and 7) Development of ex green belt land** – An Activity Report had been distributed prior to the meeting which gave a summary of the Forum’s activities since its commencement in 2017 and included a summary of the Forum’s income and expenditure also from commencement and up to the end of the last financial year on 31 December 2021. Additional copies were available for anyone who required one. IL advised that the Local Plan (2019 – 2036) for Rossendale had now been formally approved by the Council and he further explained that despite the considerable efforts of the Forum and others the attempts to persuade the Council and the independent Planning Inspectors to desist from removing the

H66 land west of Market Street from Green Belt had ended in failure. This produced a number of comments from the floor from which it was clear that all those who spoke were most unhappy about the position albeit for various reasons. Transport issues were mentioned several times and IL advised that one of the conditions that needed to be satisfied before actual building could commence was a proper transport assessment and also for the issue of schooling provision to be resolved. He also mentioned that another condition was that a masterplan be produced which produced another adverse response from the floor in respect of the recent document issued by two of the developers. IL advised he did not believe the recent document was a true masterplan as envisaged in the Local Plan and that the Forum would be seeking for this to be rectified but ultimately it was a matter for the Council to deal with. He also explained that the Neighbourhood Plan and associated Design Code should be followed by developers which might help with some of the points raised. Vince Brady addressed the meeting from the floor to advise that he had attended many of the public hearings in front of the Planning Inspectors and felt that the case put forward by the Forum was comprehensive and professional. Councillor Anne Cheetham raised points about Market Street parking and also that Lancashire County Council had resolved to better supervise parking in and around all the schools under its control plus that other transport issues were likely to arise when United Utilities started work in the Edenfield area on the Haweswater aqueduct. There was also a suggestion that a one way system should be considered. IL concluded that there was a lot for the Forum to consider from the points raised which would be considered at the next Management Committee meeting.

- 6) Financial Reports and approval of accounts** – IL advised that, in addition to the summary of figures given as part of the Activity Report the Forum’s accounts for the years ended 31 December 2019, 2020, and 2021 had been distributed to members with the Notice convening the AGM. He asked whether there were any questions or comments but there were none. He asked for a proposer and seconder that the accounts be approved. This was proposed by Barbara Lord, seconded by Jenny Mead, and approved by way of a show of hands with no objections. Margaret Filkins was standing down from the position of Treasurer and IL thanked her for her excellent work over the last four years.
- 8) Neighbourhood Plan** – IL explained that the draft Neighbourhood Plan was being changed to reflect the new Local Plan (2019 – 2036) as adopted by the Council in December 2021. The Design Code had been updated and the revised version had been supplied to the Council who in turn had supplied them to some developers. He further explained that it was hoped the updated version of the Neighbourhood Plan would be available for public consultation in the near future and for the public referendum within nine month’s time.

9) Fund Raising – IL advised that as per the accounts the Forum had undertaken various fund-raising events over the years to 2019 but nothing over the last couple of years. He further explained that although almost all funds raised had been spent there was no immediate need for further funds until there was documentation from the developers that needed consideration. In response to a question from the floor he said he thought the most likely area of expenditure would be with transport advisors. Mervyn MacDonald commented that it would be possible to spend almost unlimited funds, but the Forum had to be realistic. He added that to date many free of charge hours had been spent on Forum activities by some Committee members which if undertaken by third parties would have involved considerable costs. He further added that going forward it was important that the Forum gained additional Committee members.

10) Election of Management Committee – IL reported that Alan Ashworth and Mark Whitehead were both not seeking re-election and that Paul Williams had resigned as a Management Committee member in 2021. He thanked them all for their extensive work for the Forum over the last four years. He further reported that the remaining seven Management Committee members (five in attendance plus Paul Bradburn and Richard Bishop) were all seeking re-election. Furthermore, Helen McVey had indicated prior to the meeting that she would like to join the Management Committee. Volunteers were sought from the floor for additional Management Committee members and Vince Brady put his name forward. IL asked for a proposer and seconder that the Management Committee be elected en bloc consisting of himself, Margaret Filkins, Richard Lester, David Rawcliffe, Mervyn MacDonald, Paul Bradburn, Richard Bishop, Helen McVey, and Vince Brady. This was proposed by Stuart Dearden, seconded by Karen Lester and approved by way of a show of hands with no objections. IL thanked the members for their support and advised there were still spaces available on the Management Committee and should anyone wish to volunteer after the meeting then they should contact him at any time.

11) Date of next meeting – IL advised that the next AGM would likely take place in March 2023. If, in the meantime, a general meeting of members was needed then one would be arranged.

12) Any other business – From the floor Quintin Crossley suggested that if “foot-soldiers” were required to canvass support for Forum membership or some other reason he would be prepared to assist and there could be others who would be similarly like-minded.

The meeting ended at 9.20pm

Edenfield Community Neighbourhood Forum
Edenfield Neighbourhood Plan (ENP), 2021- 2036
(Draft version: September 2022)



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