

Leeds Neighbourhood Planning Newsletter December 2017

There has been a lot of neighbourhood planning activity during 2017 so we felt that an update on the key issues both locally and nationally would help the 30 + groups in Leeds. We hope you will find it useful. If you have any questions please contact:

Ian Mackay: Ian.Mackay@leeds.gov.uk

Heather Suggate: Heather.Suggate@leeds.gov.uk

Abbie Miladinovic: Abbie.Miladinovic@leeds.gov.uk

[Leeds NP Webpage](#)

Local Plan Update

There will be an update on the Local Plan sent out in mid-December to all Neighbourhood Planning groups to provide an update on the Site Allocations Plan and Core Strategy Selective Review.

Neighbourhood Planning Act 2017

Secondary legislation has been introduced, enacting Provisions 1, 2 and 3 of the Neighbourhood Planning Act:

Provision 1: Duty to have regard to a post-examination neighbourhood plan

When a NP successfully passes Examination, and the Council has issued a Decision Statement under Regulation 18 of the NP Regulations setting out the modifications to be made to the Plan, the Plan then becomes a material consideration in the determination of planning applications. This provision has granted significant weight to Plans earlier in the process.

Provision 2: Notification of applications to neighbourhood planning bodies

Where there is a made or post-examination neighbourhood plan, the Council must notify neighbourhood forums and parish councils of any planning application or alteration to a planning application. This is something that Leeds City Council introduced some time ago but now it is a requirement.

Provision 3: Status of approved neighbourhood plans

Once a Plan receives a 'yes' vote at referendum, it is now considered made and part of the development plan for the area, even if the Council has not yet formally 'made' the plan, i.e. issued a Decision Statement under Regulation 19 of the NP Regulations. A Plan will be given full weight in the determination of planning applications.



Bardsey-cum-Rigton

The Neighbourhood Plan for Bardsey was formally made by the Council on 6th November. It will now be used by the Council to help decide planning applications in the Bardsey Neighbourhood Area.

The Bardsey Plan contains 14 Policies on topics such as landscape and the rural environment, the built environment, housing, the economy and community assets. View the examiner's [report here](#).

Bardsey Referendum Question: *“Do you want Leeds City Council to use the Neighbourhood Plan for Bardsey-cum-Rigton to help it decide planning applications in the neighbourhood area?”*

Response	Votes
Yes	745 (93.82%)
No	49 (6.18%)
Turnout	40.12%

Barwick in Elmet and Scholes

The Neighbourhood Plan for Barwick was formally made by the Council on 6th November. It will now be used by the Council to help decide planning applications in the Barwick Neighbourhood Area.

The Barwick Plan contains 17 Policies on topics such as landscape and the environment, the built environment, housing, the economy and community facilities. View the examiner's [report here](#).

Barwick Referendum Question: *“Do you want Leeds City Council to use the Neighbourhood Plan for Barwick in Elmet and Scholes to help it decide planning applications in the neighbourhood area?”*

Response	Votes
Yes	1335 (92.77%)
No	104 (7.23%)
Turnout	35.72%

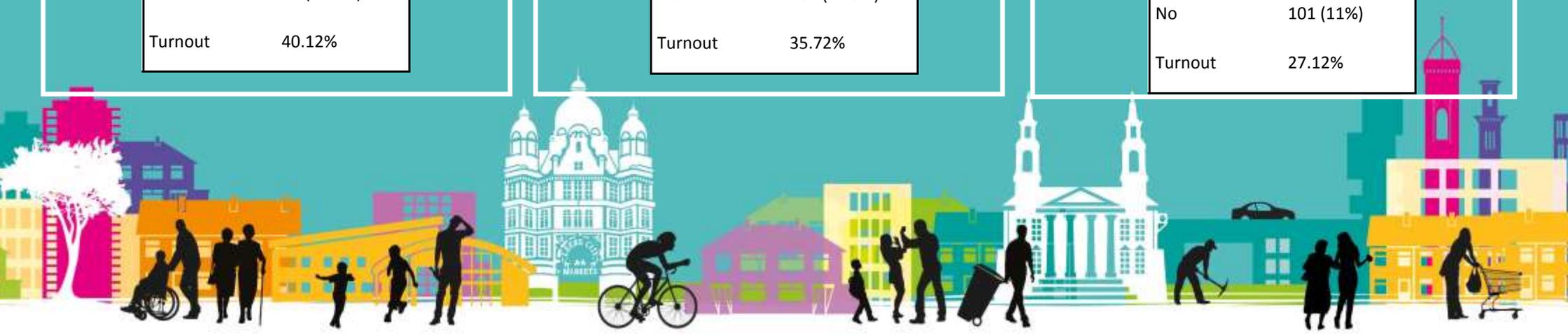
Boston Spa

The Neighbourhood Plan for Boston Spa was formally made by the Council on 6th November. It will now be used by the Council to help decide planning applications in the Boston Spa Neighbourhood Area.

The Boston Spa Plan contains 21 Policies on topics such as landscape and the environment, the built environment, housing, the economy and community facilities, and creating a people-friendly village centre. View the examiner's [report here](#).

Boston Spa Referendum Question: *“Do you want Leeds City Council to use the Neighbourhood Plan for Boston Spa to help it decide planning applications in the neighbourhood area?”*

Response	Votes
Yes	865 (89%)
No	101 (11%)
Turnout	27.12%



Thorp Arch

The Thorp Arch Neighbourhood Plan Referendum will be held on Thursday 7th December. The Plan contains 13 Policies on themes such as the built environment, the countryside and natural environment, housing development, community and recreational facilities, and the local economy. Read the [Examiner's Report here](#).

Holbeck

Holbeck Neighbourhood Plan has been examined by Tony Burton, who has recommended that, subject to proposed modifications, the Plan should proceed to referendum. Read the [Examiner's Report here](#).

Alwoodley

The Alwoodley Neighbourhood Plan is currently being Examined by Chris Collison.

Other Plans to Watch Out For

We expect 2018 will be as busy for neighbourhood planning as 2017 has been. Over the next 6 months we expect many more plans will reach key milestones. Wetherby, Walton, Aberford, Adel, East Keswick, Kippax, Otley and Scarcroft are likely to submit their Plans to the Council for independent examination. Bramham, Horsforth, Oulton and Woodlesford, Shadwell and Thorner are anticipated to conduct their Pre-Submission Consultation. Carlton, Garforth, Headingley, Hyde Park, Little Woodhouse, Pool-in-Wharfedale, Rawdon, Aireborough, Beeston, Kirkstall and Rothwell are all in the process of producing early draft Plans.

Monitoring and Review of Neighbourhood Plans

With more Plans coming forward and being Made, its important that we develop a collaborative strategy for monitoring and the implementation of NPs in Leeds. We are working on a methodology for this. The Forum for Neighbourhood Planning has recently published a useful article on how groups can help with this process, [see here](#).

See [this case study](#) about Felpham Neighbourhood Plan.

[Provision 4](#) of the Neighbourhood Planning Act introduces some basic principles for reviewing Neighbourhood Plans although this provision has yet to be enacted through secondary legislation. This is combined with extra funding being made available for groups wishing to review Plans, above the grant funding already available.



Inner Area Event

We are working with key partners, including Leeds Beckett University, to organise an event for inner area NP groups and those interested in Neighbourhood Planning in inner areas.

The event is due to take place in March, when we have set a date we will be in touch.

Design Toolkit

We have been working to produce a toolkit on how to include high quality design in your Neighbourhood Plan. This has reached an advanced draft stage and we are seeking comments. If you would like to see a copy and give us some feedback on the draft, please contact Abbie Miladinovic, who is happy to provide: abbie.miladinovic@leeds.gov.uk

Disappearing Front Gardens Research

Roundhay Environmental Action Project (REAP) is keen to hear from Neighbourhood Planning Groups where concerns have been raised about disappearing front gardens. Ruth Gelletlie from REAP writes: *“REAP promotes practical, local action to tackle the impact of climate change and encourages sustainable living in our community. We are concerned about the increasing trend in paving over front gardens. Research shows that a quarter of UK front gardens are paved over and a third have no plants in them at all. This is happening despite our growing knowledge of the environmental and health benefits communities derive from gardens.”*

REAP are doing some local research on these issues and hope to raise awareness of the impact. If you want to know more, please contact Ruth for more information: ruth.gelletlie@gmail.com

Community benefits of gardens include: making our towns cooler in summer, improving air quality, storm water mitigation and flood prevention, wildlife habitats and health benefits.

Leeds Beckett Planning Students

We will have 3 Leeds Beckett Planning Students joining us in the New Year for a 10 week placement. They will be undertaking set projects for groups as part of their placement and we are currently looking at what these projects should be. If you feel that your group would benefit from some assistance, for example with consultation and engagement, or with research for your evidence base, please contact Abbie Miladinovic to discuss: abbie.miladinovic@leeds.gov.uk or 0113 37 87260.



Resources, Guidance and Top Tips

Locality has issued a pack containing links to all of their guidance notes, [available here](#).

Historic England are currently consulting on draft guidance for heritage issues and neighbourhood planning. View the [draft guidance here](#).

[Neighbourhood Planning Roadmap](#)

[Community Engagement – Locality](#)

[Good Councillor’s Guide to Neighbourhood Planning](#)

[How to write Planning Policies](#)

[Designated Local Green Spaces](#)

[Green Infrastructure](#)

[Climate Change and Neighbourhood Planning](#)

[Design in Neighbourhood Planning](#)

[Neighbourhood Planning and Trees](#)

[The Director of Health’s Annual Report 2014/15 – Planning for a Healthy City](#)

[Neighbourhood Planning and Flood Risk](#)

[Data Mill North](#)

[Leeds Observatory](#)

[Forum for Neighbourhood Planning](#)

[Planning Aid](#)

[Planning Practice Guidance—Neighbourhood Planning](#)

Funding

Locality has announced the continuation of the funding and technical support offered to Neighbourhood Planning groups. It has made £22.5 million available to groups throughout 2018. Applications can be made via the website. Please note, however, that there is a pre-Christmas deadline of 15th December. Applications submitted before then will be determined in January of 2018. Further info can be found [here](#).

