



CLOUD MEETING 16 AUGUST 2017: COBBLERS' SUITE BOOT & SHOE

7.30pm

MINUTES

Present: 70 people including Cat Smith MP for Lancaster and Fleetwood and local councillor, Abi Mills (City Councillor for Scotforth West) and Erica Lewis County Councillor for Lancaster South East.

Chair: Stephen Constantine

Members of CLOUD Team ; Tony Breakell, Mary Breakell (from 8.30pm), Mark Salisbury, Tom Wilkinson, Lisa and Shaun Corkerry

1. Welcome to so many, testament to the success of the CLOUD leaflet distribution.

Minutes from the last meeting on 6th June and re-cap for those not present:

Main action points arising from 6 June Meeting:

a) To ensure all city councillors (not just South Lancaster area) are fully informed of the BGV issue and objections ,before the full council meeting in December 2017 to vote on adopting the Local Plan.

b) To be involved in the planning process through regular meetings with Andrew Dobson, Chief Planning officer, and Julian Inman, Public Consultation Officer. These meetings are to keep everyone informed but are to take place without prejudicing our case at a later stage. An initial mtg has taken place but no concrete plan yet forthcoming from council regarding transport. This will form a key part of CLOUD's objections to BGV and will require much of our focus.

c) Turley Report housing figures need challenging. Someone with expertise in this area required.

d) Look at how we disseminate information and widen awareness of the implications of Bailrigg Garden Village for Lancaster. This involved in first place designing and distributing an information leaflet. All the above carry forward as action points.

Action Points: All the above carry forward.

2. GENERAL DISCUSSION: As so many new people attended, at this point we deviated from the agenda to enable people to contribute. A useful exchange of ideas took place and some experts in transport and housing made themselves known to the group which will be incredibly useful moving forward.

POINTS RAISED:

- a) On transport matters particularly we need to ask the right questions.
- b) The whole plan comes down to cost. If we can prove BGV to be too expensive it won't happen. It is the most expensive of the Government's proposed Garden Villages.
- c) We need to propose alternative solutions to where houses CAN be built. Opportunities opened up by Bay Gateway. Someone to get David Morris MP to take this up.
- d) New land offered up since initial BGV proposals. LCC asking for factual evidence regarding suitability or not but not objections at this stage. Someone to submit flooding photos.
- e) In addition to government money for Garden Village status there is also money available via the New Homes Bill. Need to question whether it's about housing need or money.
- f) We can challenge assumptions about where prospective residents of BGV would work. How realistic are Lancaster University's expansion plans?
- g) We can challenge the council's lack of scrutiny on recent new builds eg flooding issues and allowing leasehold properties.
- h) We should work with other areas around Lancaster to share ideas and prove it's not about NIMBYism but about coming up with a sustainable long term plan that suits all.
- i) The placing of a new local secondary school would be hugely significant as obviously this would be in area of larger population. The siting would have knock on implications for traffic congestion.
- j) Shaun Corkerry has been working with police and LCC and Cat Smith to try and improve current traffic issues in Galgate. It was suggested a traffic count should be done.

- k) A Durham University report published in July 2016 for Lancaster City Council seems to have been withdrawn from the Internet but showed a much lower population growth than Turley. Someone to try and find complete original.
- l) There is a Garden Village near Cambridge called Cambourne which has not been successful and is pretty much a ghost town. Lessons can be learned from this.

Action: follow-up on the points raised

3. CONSTITUTION/FINANCE

While there may not be a need for a constitution to set up a bank account one is needed for the group to be taken seriously in the planning process. Scotforth Residents' Group advised that they opened a bank account at Skipton Building Society with an easy to write mandate and three trustees. **Action** Tony Breakell to investigate constitution and bank account.

4. Lancaster City Council Meeting in December 2017

This will be when councillors from all wards are expected to vote on whether or not to approve the

Local Plan (not just the BGV part of it) as then 'finalised'. Accordingly, this item on the agenda generated much discussion.

(i) Prior to the council debate, and because of the quantity of signatures on the petitions submitted to Council, Mark Salisbury will be allowed to give again the 5-minute presentation he gave in April but which was not debated at the time - or a modified version of it, to take account if necessary of recent developments. In any event, the text has to be provided to council officers in advance.

Action: review text prior to December meeting.

5. Next Steps

a) Anyone with expertise and experience in the areas of planning, housing, transport, accountancy or marketing, to email their details to cloudbgv2017@gmail.com if they haven't already done so and if willing to help. A committee to be formed from these and other representatives to be able to put forward all our views.

b) BGV proposals will generate a considerable increase in road traffic, and the District Plan has so far only sketched out loosely the road and motorway developments which will be needed in south Lancaster.

Action: Phil Ternouth and Peter Quick,(who attended the meeting) and Cathy Garner who offered her services afterwards, are experts with specialist planning experience to advise as part of a CLOUD working group.

c) It was agreed that concerned persons, such as those attending this meeting, and others, should write to **all** councillors prior to the December council meeting, not just those representing wards in south Lancaster, detailing their objections to BGV, including the neglect of development opportunities elsewhere, especially adjacent to the Bay Gateway.

Action: advertise the importance of this lobbying and encourage all concerned to write to councillors prior to the December meeting. Links for councillors to be sent to all on mailing list.

Next Meeting: Early October, exact date tbc.

Meeting ended 9.30pm Minutes by Rosie Morgan