

# Barwick and Scholes Neighbourhood Plan Review

## Discussion Paper 2A – Reasons for extending the Neighbourhood Plan Boundary

### Introduction

When a local planning authority consider a planning application it has to consider it in terms of its planning policies and material considerations. There are 3 tiers of planning policy. The top tier is policy issued by Government and this is mostly contained in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). The second tier of planning policy is the policies of the local planning authority which are contained in a variety of documents collectively called the Councils Local Plan which consists of a Core Strategy document and a Site Allocation Plan. The third tier of policy is the Neighbourhood Plan with which we are concerned.

### Policies within the extended boundary Area

The area where we are proposing to extend our Neighbourhood Plan boundary is mostly covered by green belt policy. Details of this policy are set out in the NPPF and the areas of land covered by green belt policy are shown on the Site Allocations Plan. It includes all the land within the proposed extended area.

National green belt policy is designed to maintain openness and there is a presumption against inappropriate development in the green belt which would contravene this policy, such as housing and offices. There are exceptions for agriculture and agricultural buildings, mineral workings and conversion of existing buildings.

The existing Neighbourhood Plan was constrained by its boundary from containing a policy to cover the whole area now under consideration. However the part alongside ELOR within the Plan area was covered by policy BE3 which reads as follows,

“A multifunctional green corridor as shown on the Policies map should be created. Any development in the area between the green corridor towards Scholes should ensure that the separate identity of the village of Scholes is retained . This will serve to:

- (1) Mitigate noise ,light and visual intrusion and impact from the proposed new ELOR
- (2) Provide recreational benefits for nearby communities
- (3) Provide ecosystem services such as reducing air pollution and providing habitats and corridors for wildlife.”

This policy has to conform with national and LCC policies and is stated to conform with NPPF page 123 and Leeds Core Strategy Policy H2, and G4. H2 is a housing policy which requires compliance with green belt policy and G2 is a policy which encourages increase in woodland.

This policy suitably modified could be extended to the new extended boundary area, or at least extended along the ELOR corridor. We can take advice on whether additional polices should be considered at this stage.

### Other Policy Considerations

Apart from a policy to protect against inappropriate development within the extended boundary we can also extend other policies in the existing Neighbourhood Plan. These would include policy LE2, enhancing the public rights of way network, policy E2 on Farm diversification, and policy CF3, local greenspace. In connection with the latter, Chippies Pond may be the subject of additional specific policies.

There are 2 scheduled monuments in this area, the site of Barnbow Hall on Bog Lane and the site of the Barnbow Munitions Works alongside Cock Beck.

We can also add any additional planning policies anyone feels could apply to this area.

### **Recommendation**

The Steering Group is recommended to accept this paper as a basis for consultation with stakeholders and landowners and subsequently with Leeds City Council as a basis to justify the extension of the Neighbourhood Plan boundary to protect the corridor between ELOR and Scholes, and to allow stakeholders to put forward additional policies they consider appropriate for the area for the steering group to consider.

P R Maude

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