

Armthorpe Draft Neighbourhood Development Plan

General Statement

Armthorpe Parish Council has produced a Second Draft Neighbourhood Development Plan for Armthorpe, after taking into consideration all of the following:

1. Consultation with local residents via a public meeting and a Planning Engagement Day
2. Meetings with landowners/developers and/or their agents
3. Replies from statutory stakeholders and consultees on the Issues Report
4. A table of (amongst other things) strategic planning principles
5. Master Summary of the Housing Site Appraisal Summary Sheets supplied by Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council (DMBC) from the first round of DMBC's consultation on its Sites and Policies DPD
6. The previous and latest Environment Agency Flood Zone Map for Armthorpe
7. Consultation responses received to the Pre-Regulation Draft Neighbourhood Plan from members of the public, landowners/developers and/or their agents, statutory consultees and related correspondence.
8. Parish Council replies to the responses received to the consultation on the Provisional (Pre-Regulation) Draft Plan from land owners and agents acting for land owners/developers.
9. Comments of Mrs. J. Stimpson, DMBC Planning Policy Manager relating to the issues raised about conformity, evidence base etc. of the Provisional (Pre-Regulation) Draft Armthorpe Neighbourhood Development Plan.
10. Consultation responses received to the First Draft Armthorpe Neighbourhood Plan published on 3rd February 2014 from members of the public, landowners/developers and /or their agents, statutory consultees and all subsequent related correspondence.
11. Replies from the Parish Council to the responses received to the consultation on the First Draft Armthorpe Neighbourhood Development Plan from land owners/developers and and/or agents and statutory consultees.
12. Subsequently, following the consultation replies the Parish Council approved certain minor amendments to its First Draft Armthorpe Neighbourhood Plan.
13. 13.1 Some of the consultation responses received, however, criticised in particular the Site Selection Methodology used by the Parish Council to choose the sites it had allocated for housing development. Amongst other things, it was stated that the methodology was unclear, it lacked transparency, was not sufficiently detailed and not robust enough.

- 13.2 A further criticism was that the Parish Council had not undertaken a sustainability appraisal/strategic environmental assessment (SA/SEA) in respect of the First Draft Plan. No action had been taken in this respect on the basis of previous advice from DMBC. DMBC has since confirmed that this is the correct legal position but considers in the light of recent circumstances that it is advisable for the Parish Council to prepare a SA/SEA. This has now been produced.
- 13.3 Additionally, information was received to the effect that the Flood Zone Map produced by the Environment Agency was to be amended. It was, therefore, considered that the new Flood Zone Map may have implications for and be detrimental to the original site selection process.
- 13.4 As a result of these particular criticisms and additional information about amendments to the Flood Zone Map, the Parish Council determined it would undertake a new site selection methodology.
14. 14.1 Following consideration of alternative Site Selection methods with other experienced planning officers and organisations, including the DMBC Planning Development Policy Team, the Parish Council undertook a new site selection process using a methodology developed by URS Limited, a national company of planning consultants.
- 14.2 This process was undertaken at an Extraordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on 30th July 2014, when it determined the allocation of sites for employment/housing for inclusion in the Second Draft Neighbourhood Development Plan. The sites chosen were the same as those allocated in the First Draft Plan, which vindicated the original site selection methodology undertaken by the Parish Council and dispels the criticisms received in this regard.
15. 15.1 At the same Extraordinary Meeting, the Parish Council determined that the Second Draft Neighbourhood Development Plan should be published on its website during the week commencing 18th August 2014, for a further 6 weeks statutory public consultation period. Also, that the statutory consultees, together with the landowners/developers and/or their agents should be notified accordingly.
- 15.2 The Council also determined that notices should be displayed around the village stating that during this 6 weeks consultation period the Second Draft Plan may be viewed on the Parish Council's website and that copies would also be on deposit at both the local public library in Church Street and Armthorpe Community Centre.
16. Copies of all the documents referred to in this general statement are deposited on the Parish Council's website.