

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE ADEL NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM



HELD ON FRIDAY 22ND NOVEMBER 2024

AT ADEL METHODIST CHURCH HALL

In Attendance: Clive Hudson (Joint Chair), Jeremy Emmott (Joint Chair), Cllr. Barry Anderson, Cllr. Caroline Anderson (Minutes), Judith Brindley, Ian Bond, Graham Bond, Francis Garbutt, Jane Riley (all Steering Committee Members)

In addition there were 42 residents present.

1. Jeremy Emmott opened the meeting, welcomed everyone and then introduced the Steering Committee members.
2. Report on Activities since the last AGM

Jeremy Emmott outlined the make up of the Forum and the Steering Committee. He thanked John Hartley, who has stepped down from the committee) and Graham Bond who is intending to step down in March. Both have been stalwart members of the committee. He iterated that we need new members for the Steering Committee and a new Treasurer.

The Forum is designated under the Localism Act and we have been designated for 10 years.

Currently the forum is in the process of trying to get a designated Right of Way on the ancient footpath known as Old Damstone Lane. He also mentioned the need for a play area in Adel which the forum has been trying to find land for.

Forum activities are funded through donations and grants.

3. Treasurer's Report

Graham Bond presented the Accounts. He highlighted the cost of running an AGM and updating the Adel business brochure, and public liability insurance.

Graham also explained the balance sheet and outlined expenses for the Referendum on the Neighbourhood Plan which will take place in 2025.

A formal proposal of the accounts was proposed by Jeremy Emmott and Seconded by Jane Riley.

Jeremy thanked Graham for his 9 years of service. He also thanked Ian Bond, Clive Hudson and Nick Brown for their long-standing support.

4. Current status of the Neighbourhood Plan

Clive Hudson explained what has happened with progress of the plan since last year.

Most of the changes the Council asked us to make to the Plan recently were not material and did not cause us an issue to amend.

Clive talked about the areas we want the Plan to protect i.e. wide streets, large gardens and where there is building we want it to be done sympathetically – all of that is still in the Plan.

The Forum is disappointed with the changes to the housing mix that we were made to amend but on balance we feel the Plan should still go through.

The Forum will be re-designated in the next few weeks after which we shall ask the Council to set up the Referendum. Clive explained how the Referendum would work. All households in Adel will have a vote, at polling stations or by post, on whether the plan should be adopted. As long as 50% of those who turn out to vote are in favour, the Plan will be passed. It will then be an official planning document which anyone who puts a planning application before the Council, will have to adhere to.

Clive advised residents about the Forum website which has been revamped and all the documents we have are available there.

5. Residents' Survey and the Future of the Forum

Ian Bond gave a presentation to residents on the survey the Forum carried out a year ago. Those attending were given a copy of the Survey results. This can be summarised as follows:

- Keeping Residents Informed – Residents were keen on a regular newsletter and some face to face contact with events like the AGM.
- We need good communication via people who can write copy, get messages out on social media and work within the confines of the Data Protection Act.

Residents future priorities are:

- Planning issues
- Pavements and Road
- Drains and the importance of green spaces

Ian explained that this will be important as we move to the next phase of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) 2023.

There will be a demand for more houses in Adel and we need to prepare for this and be realistic. If we need to secure good planning advice or legal advice for the Forum this will cost significant sums of money.

Five priorities have been identified by residents in the survey. The Forum is suggesting working groups should shape the agenda and take these activities forward. These groups would be led by volunteers within the Community and supported by the Forum.

The Steering Committee needs more people, people with skills in marketing, social media, copywriting, communication and finance. The next meeting of the Steering Committee is Tuesday 28th January at 7pm in the Gladys Tetley Room at AWMA, anyone interested is welcome.

We recognise concerns about how much time this will take up if you do get involved, but it is not necessary to be heavily involved; we would welcome contributions from other residents, no matter how little time they can give.

There has already been a call for sites by the council for house building in the future. The council will revise its list in December but currently the following land is on the list:

- Former Weetwood Police Station (planning application now passed for flats)

- Land South of Dunstarn Lane and the Ring Road, Taylor Wimpey have an option with the landowner for 185 properties.
- University land off Otley Old Road, Weetwood
- Land east of Sadler Way which is University land
- East Moor Farm on Tile Lane, owned by Leeds City Council
- Land at Otley Road, north east to Church Lane, west and south of Adel Mill. Hallam Land have a planning promotion agreement on this land.

There are no potential numbers of dwellings for these sites at present. There may be other sites submitted during the process.

6. Change to the Forum's Constitution

Jeremy explained what was changing in the Constitution – Para. 2 the purpose of the Forum. We need a two thirds majority of those present to accept the amendment to the constitution. One resident present felt the wording was a bit woolly and nondescript and needed beefing up. Jeremy explained that the constitution was in respect of the work to produce the Neighbourhood Plan and if we needed to do other activities we would amend it in a more wholesale way.

Mr. John Mallinder (resident) proposed that the amendment is accepted. This was seconded by Judith Brindley. A two-thirds majority was achieved on a show of hands, with one vote against.

7. Election of Officers

Officers were proposed and seconded en bloc by John Mallinder and Ann Bond respectively.

Joint Chairs – Jeremy Emmott and Clive Hudson

Treasurer – Graham Bond (until 31st March 2025)

Secretary – Caroline Anderson

8. Question and Answer Session

Questions were taken from the residents present. Topics covered were:

- Car Parking Charges at Golden Acre
- Double Yellow Lines around Golden Acre
- Public Transport
- Speed and volume of traffic generally
- State of the pavement (causeway stones)
- Plots of land sold off on Long Causeway (land at East Causeway House)
- Speeding on Long Causeway past the school
- E-Bikes speed and dangerous driving

Meeting Closed at 8.45pm