

Hyde Park Neighbourhood Forum Meeting 29th May 2014

Present: Cllr Neil Walshaw, Sue Buckle, Pervis Akhtar, Bill McKinnon, Marian Charlton, Wendy Cook, Ian Mackay, Jenna Riley, Shafique Sheikh, Howard Eaglestone, Mick Jolley, Dawn Carey Jones, Frankie O'Byrne, Jen Carlberg, Lois Mortimer, Mary Osborne, Lydia Blundell

Apologies: Janet Bailey, Mavis Whitbread, Amit Roy, Gwyn Harrup, Ali McNeill, Jill Settingerton, Pravin Dayalji, Ghaffar Karim, Rev Joanna Seaborne, Cllr Christine Towler, Cllr Janette Walker, Cllr Jonathan Pryor, Nathan Clarke, Victoria Jaquiss

Notes from last meeting: Everyone read through the notes from the last meeting and agreed that they were a decent account of the last meeting. **Matters Arising:** None

Representation re Headingley Plan and Firming Up of Hyde Park Boundaries: Cllr Walshaw said that the meeting needed to achieve two things: firming up of Hyde Park boundaries and representation to the council about the Headingley boundaries.

Cllr Walshaw asked IM what the best way of discussing boundaries was. IM said the deadline for submitting representations to the council about the Headingley Plan was 5pm tomorrow and that about six representations had been received so far.

IM suggested we try to sort out our representation, possibly by endorsing what was written on back of the agenda [*see end of these notes for text of draft*], and then come up with an ideal boundary option and then an option B.

MJ: We are having to respond as an objection because someone has made a claim. How would Headingley support their claim? We should be commenting on why ours is more positive. IM: Everyone here objects to the proposed boundary. It's unlikely that anything new could be said. We need to come up with an alternative boundary and the most important consideration is that it has to make sense on the ground and there needs to be a relationship to the local community so that people will become involved. There needs to be clarity for when the referendum comes. What is the vision for Hyde Park over the next ten or fifteen years?

MJ: Reading the Headingley Plan, the vision for Headingley entirely misses Hyde Park Corner. The fact that HPC comes down as far as the former Leeds Girls' High School means that it would be natural for our plan to take in the Buckingham's but not suggesting we do that.

Cllr Walshaw: Having been at most of the Headingley Neighbourhood Plan meetings, the Becketts Park representatives definitely saw themselves as living in Headingley though I can certainly see why DCJ wrote what she did. SB: How about deleting "Beckett Park" and also adding "or worked" to the "If someone who lived..." part? [*the consensus of the meeting was that those changes worked.*]

IM: Had a number of meetings with Richard Tyler before the Headingley application was submitted but personal involvement limited although there was lots of discussion over the course of a year. The length of time its taking to form these plans is understandable because it's a non-parished area. Talking to Richard Tyler it was decided it was good for Headingley to submit an application and force the issue. It may or may not change.

MC: Having been at those meetings its clear that most people saw Headingley as their shopping area. Also interested in the Cardigan

HE: Last meeting I asked who decides the boundary. There's been a gold rush to grab territory. We now have to justify why we want Hyde Park Corner when it's been grabbed by someone else. If as the Hyde Park Plan we are to become the guardians of Woodhouse Moor for other areas, the boundary of the Moor flows into three corners of Hyde Park Corner so in geographical terms our area has claim to it. Hyde Park Corner is an important part of the vision and identity of Hyde Park. Hyde Park is central to the quality and essence of our area. In terms of regeneration Hyde Park Corner should be a centre for our regeneration. IM: What HE just said is brilliant. This is what the Hyde Park representation to Headingley should say. MC: Yes, that's what was missing. DCJ: Shall we add what HE said to the end of what we've already agreed then? [*the consensus of the meeting was, "yes."*]

MC: Used to see Hyde Park Corner as key shopping area and would love to see it regenerated. HE: The name was originally changed from Raghorn to Hyde Park Corner as a desire for gentrification. Would like to see a re-invocation of the gentrification (without the gentrification) as regeneration. BM: When was younger the shops were great. DCJ: There's a comment on a website about people decades ago getting the bus specifically to Hyde Park Corner because of the shops. BM: Hyde Park started at Hyde Park Corner. Cllr Walshaw: There is natural justice to having it in the Hyde Park Plan.

DCJ: We need it in our plan and all of it so that we can try and protect it. Cllr Walshaw: The Hyde Park Plan could neither make nor prevent major transport projects. PA: Shops at Hyde Park Corner couldn't be developed or let because of the threat of major road schemes. Cllr Walshaw: NGT will either get the go-ahead or it won't. If it doesn't the blight will be lifted and re-generation can start. MJ: The planning blight has contributed to the long term nature of lack of investment in Hyde park Corner. The scrapyard opposite the Royal Park pub, the Victoria Road sports site, nowhere can we talk objectively about developing.

MJ: The children's play area on Little Moor is an eye sore. Someone needs to own it and look after it. It's dangerous. BM: That's part of Woodhouse Moor and as Friends of Woodhouse Moor we want all the Moor to stay together. The old post office at Hyde Park Corner owned by Samara Properties – they were trying to appropriate parts of Woodhouse Moor. We need to keep it as one part so that bits can't be chipped off it.

MC: Where does City of Leeds School land belong? It's important that it's protected. MJ: It's likely to become an Academy and the land will belong to the Academy. MC: Was told the land would be leased. It should not be built on. Who is going to fight the corner for this land? SS: Hartley Avenue and Melville Place fall into the Hyde Park and Woodhouse ward boundary. Cllr Walshaw: Oblong might develop something for Woodhouse. MJ: DCJ put a suggestion to me after last meeting but she was reluctant to include City of Leeds School because it looked like land grabbing. BM: City of Leeds School should be in a Woodhouse Plan. MJ: For what we're trying to achieve, we don't want to contest more and more. Cllr Walshaw: At the moment we've got a boundary that takes in green areas, Hyde Park Corner, Victoria Road and then down to Burley Road. MC: Headingley doesn't want the Co-Op in its plan. BM: We've got all of the Moor, The Crescent, Hyde Park Pub, the Regent Parks, that's Hyde Park Corner.

DCJ: When a road is a boundary does the boundary go down the middle of the road or take in the properties on both sides of the road? BM: In terms of the lower part of Hyde Park Road, if the boundary goes down the middle of the road, what happens with parking? This road should all be in one plan and given its name: Hyde Park Road – it should be in the Hyde Park Plan. Also the junction with Moorland Road. HE: Surely the boundary road would have consensual responsibility? Both sides are important to both plans. Would be happy to accept joint responsibility for road. FO: Can't imagine with roads that there would be anything

polarising from each side that couldn't be sorted out with dialogue.

Cllr Walshaw: Regarding the Cardigan Road / Victoria Road boundary area of both plans - Headingley proposes having the bit between the wall and Cardigan Road in their plan but Hyde Park has suggested going all the way to the road with its boundary. Will ask residents in this area which plan they'd like to be in. After this, we come down the railway line to Burley Road, to Woodsley Road to Hyde Park Road to Moorland Road and Woodhouse Moor.

Cllr Walshaw: Is everyone happy with what was drafted for our representation to the council about the Headingley Plan: DCJ's draft from the back of the agenda, with the amendments we made earlier, plus the bit from HE's speech? The meeting voted unanimously (fifteen in favour) to say that the representation was good to go (apart from officers who abstained). *[See the end of these notes for the final version.]*

IM: Headingley have said they might be happy to have half of Hyde Park Corner. They are aware of the issue. They have option one: boundaries as stated in their application; and option two: splitting Hyde Park Corner between Headingley Plan and Hyde Park Plan. HE: It's easier for Headingley to give up half because they've got so much already. We should not say we would accept half. DCJ: Headingley's statement in support of their application doesn't mention Hyde Park Corner except in passing. It says that community groups in the Headingley Plan look to Headingley as their shopping centre. Hyde Park Corner is our historical and geographical origin and we want to regenerate it because it means so much to us. If we split it in two it becomes nothing. We cannot put an option B because then that is likely to happen and we will be left with half of Hyde Park Corner which is nothing. SS: Hyde Park Corner is important to us. Headingley has so much. In Hyde Park it's spread thin. BM: The Headingley area is vast. I have a story from when I was at school from the Old Testament. People went to King Solomon because he was so wise. Two women were fighting over a baby and went to Solomon to ask him to decide whose baby it was. Solomon said they should cut it in half and have half each. The real mother said no, give it to the other woman. The woman who's baby it wasn't said, yes, cut it in half. PA: We have the same story in the Koran. SB: Hyde Park Corner is historical and commercial and is balanced by the bottom of Hyde Park Road. Cllr Walshaw: With linkage at Brudenell. We are not going to offer a second option and the Cardigan Road / Victoria Road boundary has to be the road not the wall. Most residents there will think of themselves as living in Hyde Park.

IM: Monday morning would be OK for receipt of the forms in response to the Headingley Plan.

NW asked DCJ to email him the agreed representation about the Headingley Plan so that he could send it in for us.

Any Other Business: The meeting room cost £15. South Headingley Community Association to pay up front and then Cllr Walshaw will repay from MICE money. LB offered a room at the Students Union FOC.

Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 12th June, 7pm, Cardigan Centre

Draft Response to Headingley Plan: (written by DCJ and included on back of agenda)

Neighbourhood Plans are plans for neighbourhoods, hence the name. They're intended to cover distinctive areas that people identify with and which have an historical basis.

The proposed Hyde Park Neighbourhood Plan, stretching from Hyde Park Corner to Burley Road covers a well-defined area that people identify with and which has a strong historical basis. In

this it contrasts with the proposed Headingley Neighbourhood Plan which it's proposed in addition to Headingley would include Beckett Park, Woodhouse Ridge and Hyde Park Corner, areas which have almost no links or connection to Headingley. If someone who lived in the Beckett Park area or at Hyde Park Corner were asked where they lived, they would almost certainly not reply, "Headingley."

The Hyde Park Interim Forum asks that Hyde Park Corner is not included within the Headingley Neighbourhood Plan boundary seeing as it is the historical and geographical origin of the Hyde Park residential district. At the meeting where our interim forum was established, 15th May 2014, it was proposed that all of Hyde Park Corner be included in the Hyde Park Plan. There was a vote on this proposal. 16 people voted to include all of Hyde Park Corner with one person voting against.

The Hyde Park Interim Forum is aware that the Headingley Interim Forum has proposed to include Hyde Park Corner within its boundaries but we feel strongly that the Headingley Plan is Headingley focused and therefore it makes far more sense for Hyde Park Corner to be included within a Hyde Park Plan, focused on Hyde Park. When Hyde Park Corner was created in the 19th century from the area that used to be known as Raghorn, the Regent Parks were included in it. They were part of the attempt to gentrify the area using names borrowed from London such as Regent Park, Hyde Park, Kensington etc.

Actual Response to Headingley Plan: (Unanimously Agreed By Meeting)

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If through the Hyde Park Neighbourhood Forum we are to be guardians of Woodhouse Moor for other areas, the boundary of the Moor flows into three corners of Hyde Park Corner so in geographical terms our area has claim to Hyde Park Corner. Hyde Park Corner is an important part of the vision and identity of Hyde Park. Hyde Park is central to the quality and essence of our area. In terms of regeneration Hyde Park Corner should be a centre for our regeneration.