

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN WORKING GROUP HELD AT COMMITTEE ROOM A - COUNTY HALL, LLANDRINDOD WELLS, POWYS ON WEDNESDAY, 19 DECEMBER 2018

PRESENT

County Councillor G I S Williams [Chair]

County Councillors D O Evans, H Hulme, M J Jones, K Laurie-Parry, H Lewis and R Williams

1.	APOLOGIES
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Apologies for absence were received from County Councillors J Evans and M Weale.

2.	MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING
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The Chair was authorised to sign the minutes of the meeting held on 7 September, 2018 as a correct record.

3.	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
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There were no declarations of interest in respect of items on the agenda.

4.	DRAFT SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING GUIDANCE [SPG]
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The Senior Planning Officer - Planning Policy advised that Planning Policy Wales edition 9 had recently been replaced by Planning Policy Wales 10. The Working Group was advised that there were some significant changes in this new version, in respect of landscape and renewable energy, which had been reflected in the draft Supplementary Planning Guidance [SPG].

It was agreed that a link to the Planning Policy Wales edition 10 would be emailed to the Working Group and the Planning, Taxi Licensing & Rights of Way Committee.

The Working Group noted that the two draft SPGs would be published on 14 January, 2019 for a six-week consultation and it was planned that the SPGs would be adopted by April 2019.

4.1. Draft Landscape SPG

The Working Group considered the draft document. The purpose of the SPG was to assist developers to consider landscape issues when considering their developments.

The Working Group agreed the draft, with the three appendices added, for consultation.

4.2. Draft renewable energy SPG

The Working Group considered the draft document. It was noted that the Welsh Government had committed Wales to generate 70% of all electricity consumption

from renewable and low-carbon energy sources by 2030. Currently, 48% of all electricity consumed, was from renewable and low-carbon energy.

The Working Group was advised that the lower threshold for the identification of Local Authority-wide scale renewable energy schemes had been removed from Planning Policy Wales edition 10 and clarification was being sought on the implications of this change for local authorities. The Welsh Government had commissioned work for the spatial identification of search areas for onshore wind and solar PV schemes considered to be Developments of National Significance [greater than 10MW]. The report on this work would be published next year as evidence to support the draft National Development Framework, which is anticipated to be published for consultation in summer 2019.

The value of using farm land to produce crops for anaerobic digesters was questioned and officers agreed to look at whether the SPG should make greater emphasis on the use of waste products, with crops then providing a balance to produce energy from such a system.

The Working Group agreed to the draft SPG for consultation.

The Working Group noted that all Local Development Plan consultees would be advised of the consultation and it was agreed copies of the SPG would be placed in all libraries.

In response to a question the Senior Planning Officer - Planning Policy advised that the Authority would have to consider and respond to all comments received during the consultation. However, it was not bound to change the SPG to reflect any views, if the change was not considered necessary and there would be no public inquiry.

5.	NEWTOWN PLACE PLAN
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The Working Group was advised that Newtown Town Council was considering the development of a Place Plan. The Policy Team were supporting them in this. The Town Council had commissioned Planning Aid Wales and Place Studio to undertake a scoping study. It was noted that the Place Plan could be adopted as a SPG if the decision was made by the Town Council to align the Place Plan with the LDP.

County Councillor G Williams
Chair