



## COLLINGHAM VILLAGE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

### Report on meeting with Year 3 – 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2013

The Year 3 students at Collingham Lady Elizabeth Hastings Primary schools have been learning about places and in particular have been running an exercise to compare Collingham with Bridlington. This exercise has allowed the children to think about the environment they live in and identify what makes places unique.

Many of the children and their parents have become aware of the Leeds Site Allocations process and also the Neighbourhood Planning process. It was recognised by the Neighbourhood Planning Committee that there was an excellent opportunity to obtain the opinion of 8 and 9 year olds by running an exercise in class. Mrs Hughes the Year 3 teacher agreed, and committee members Julian Holmes and Angela Beaumont visited class on 3<sup>rd</sup> July to carry out the exercise.

The Powerpoint Presentation 2013-07-03 School Presentation 2, was used to direct discussions.

Angela introduced the concept of change by referring back to a number of historic photographs. These included historic floods, pictures of the old railway line and Angela horse riding in open fields. She pointed out that the school used to be located on School Lane. A class photograph from the old school demonstrated how people change as well as places!

Julian then introduced how Town Planning and Localism work together to provide everybody the opportunity to influence how the places where they live can be changed through Neighbourhood Planning. Today was the opportunity for Year 3 to advise the Neighbourhood Planning Committee what they think should be included in the Plan for the next 15 years. What do Year 3 want to see in Collingham when they are 23 or 24 years old?

The exercise was split into four tasks, each task in turn leading on to the next and influencing the decisions made in the next. The class was divided into their literacy groups so that they could work together to deliver the tasks. The output from each group was captured on paper.

#### **Task 1: What do you like about Collingham?**

The response to this task was similar to that provided by adults in the September 2012 survey. Year 3 appreciate the fields, river and woodland environment surrounding Collingham. There was a greater recognition of the sports and playing fields on offer in Collingham and the shops and restaurants were very much appreciated.

Action 1: make sure protection of the retail area and sports facilities is adequately covered in the Neighbourhood Plan.

## **Task 2: What does Collingham need to make it a better place? What could be improved?**

Similar to the first task the boys and girls placed much greater emphasis on improving sports and retail facilities than their adult counterparts. Most popular seem to be more pubs, restaurants and fish and chip shops, then afterwards more places to relax and play sport. Specific examples included a skate park and a water park. Suggestions also included places to work such as chocolate factories, museum and a hospital.

There is clearly a concern about traffic amongst Year 3. Many comments were related to improving transport and making roads safer. There was a suggestion that the railway should be opened up again.

The children want to keep Collingham a village and want to make sure no flooding occurs.

These last two points are fully supported by adults and will be appropriately covered in the Neighbourhood Plan.

Action 2: make sure improvements to Collingham adequately cover places to exercise and relax.

Action 3: The committee should consider whether it should be proactive in identifying opportunities for employment sites. A chocolate factory may be beyond the appropriate scale, but additional shops in keeping with a rural community might be appropriate.

## **Task 3: What should we consider when trying to decide the best place for housing?**

Year 3 identified a long list of things that should be considered when deciding where housing should be located in Collingham. In summary housing should be located in the most sustainable locations. This is exactly in line with the National Planning Policy Framework, and also in line with the Leeds emerging Local development Framework.

For Collingham this means:

1. Make sure houses are close to the shops.
2. Make sure houses have good access to school.
3. Make sure houses have good access to roads and buses.
4. Do not build houses where it floods.
5. Avoid the risk of polluting the river.
6. Any development must not disturb wildlife, and trees should be protected.
7. Use land that farmers no longer need.
8. Build houses with good access to the countryside.
9. Make sure people can live close to friends and houses are in calm settings.

Action 4. The Neighbourhood Planning Committee will consider the list above when comparing the possibilities for housing.

**Task 4: There are six possible housing plots in Collingham. What do you like about each? What do you dislike? Which plot would be the best for housing?**

Each group was provided with a map of Collingham marked up with the six possible sites for housing included in the Leeds Site Allocations proposals. The location of the school was pointed out and the main roads, and then the children were asked to find where they live in Collingham. Most achieved this task.

Comments provided about each site showed a great understanding of the issues being considered by the Neighbourhood Planning Committee, for example the possibility of relocating Lilac Farm to avoid the last remaining farm in Collingham being lost. Many of the children must have been enjoying conversations with their parents about this.

The comments received are captured below:

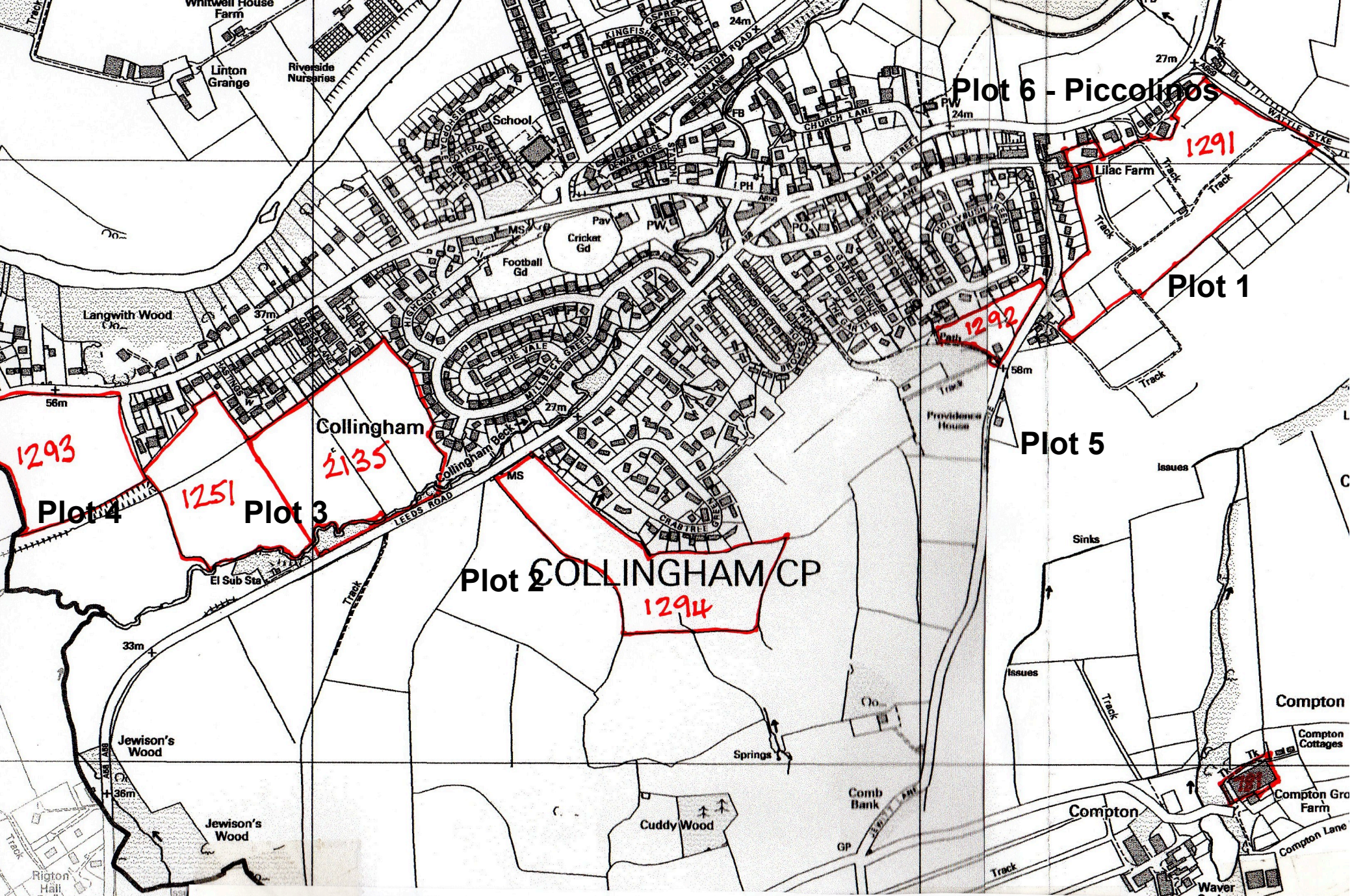
	Comment for	Comment against
Plot 1 Lilac Farm	Farm might be in a different place	Small, and a farm Ages from school Near a wood
Plot 2, south of Leeds Road		Long way to school Near a river We would not have anywhere to sledge when it snows. Wild life Good views No because it will break the childrens hearts.
Plot 3, north of Leeds Road	Big and near the school. It looks peaceful Easy to get to school and parks	Near beck No it can flood the houses Wild life Good views
Plot 4, Harewood Road	Near to school Not near a river It is a spare place. Ground is flat.	Long way to school

	No people against.	
Plot 5, Jewitt Lane		Not near school Near a wood
Plot 6, Piccolinos		NO ITS PICCOLINOS!

The exercise was concluded by holding a poll. The children were asked which site was most suitable for housing. The results are:

Plot 1 Lilac Farm	4
Plot 2, south of Leeds Road	6
Plot 3, north of Leeds Road	7
Plot 4, Harewood Road	18
Plot 5, Jewitt Lane	0
Plot 6, Piccolinos	0

**The Neighbourhood Planning Committee thanks all the children in Year 3 for working so hard and providing their excellent ideas.**



# Collingham with Linton Parish Council

