

## East Yorkshire Planners User Group

### Minutes of Meeting via MS Teams on 21<sup>st</sup> May 2021 at 3pm.

**Present:** Stephen Hunt and Stephen Cook (ERYC) Killian Gallagher, Gemma Owston, Nik Wilson and Jo Wright (Agents)

**1 Apologies:** Owen Robinson

**2 Matters arising from previous minutes:** None

**3. Covid 19 ERYC performance:** ERYC staff still mainly working from home. A phased introduction to a hybrid working arrangement is likely in the coming months. There have been instances recently whereby responses from officers to queries from agents have been slower than would have been typical. The reason for this was largely due to a large increase in applications over the last few months. Staff will be reminded about responding as quickly as they can.

**4. Policy update:** Local Plan Review consultation to commence on 28<sup>th</sup> May for a 10 week period. The Council has recently published a new 5 year supply figure of 10.4 years.

**5. Validations Update:** Validations are now taking c. 19 working days. The Council acknowledges this is an issue. Terraquest has been appointed by ERYC to assist with the validations of applications as a short term measure to help clear the backlog. ERYC validation staff are working overtime and a new staff member has been recruited.

A new approach will be adopted with any applications invalidated only for minor issues – a letter will be sent to agents asking for documentation/changes to be submitted within 24 hours. If responses are received within that 24 hour period the application will be validated from the day the letter was issued.

**6. Committee Meetings, Site Visits and Procedures:** Committee meetings are now held using a hybrid system whereby members and officers meet at County Hall and speakers call in via teams/zoom. Members are also undertaking committee site visits if one is considered necessary.

Outdoor and unaccompanied site visits are preferred but in limited circumstances some internal site visits will be carried out if necessary, e.g listed buildings. The Council's preference remains that meetings are held via zoom or teams where required rather than face to face.

**7. AOB:** An agent queried consistency of approach with regard to conservation rooflights.

There have been two new starters in the planning team at DSA level.

**Date of Next Meeting:** The next meeting will be held on Friday 3 September 2021 via MS teams

**Agents wishing to place agenda items please contact Killian Gallagher on [killian@gallagherplanning.co.uk](mailto:killian@gallagherplanning.co.uk) or call Killian on 07392415369.**