**Minutes of the Strategic Planning Meeting Minutes held on 25th September 2025**

**Present:** Cllr B Beeley (Chair), Cllr S Al-Hamdani,

Cllr R Blackmore, Ms G Brownridge, Mr P Clegg, Mr A Fletcher, Mr P Sykes.

**1, Apologies received:** Cllr K Barton Cllr P Gaul, Mr R Cragg, Mr A Taylor.

**2, Declarations of Interest**

**None declared.**

**3, Approval of Minutes 10 July 2025**

**The minutes were accepted as a true record and signed at the meeting by the Chair. Proposed Cllr Al-Hamdani, seconded Cllr Blackmore.**

**4, Neighbourhood Plan Submission Update**

**Cllr Al-Hamdani updated the meeting on progress to date. He advised the Consultation Statement is updated and complete. The Neighbourhood Plan (NP) amendments are also complete. The majority of the amendments to the Condition Statement have been made and he has also prepared an Equality Impact Assessment. So once Ms Brownridge has inspected and agreed the amendments to the above, it is ready to go to Cabinet; the aim is to have everything ready for the 17th November meeting.**

**After discussion it was agreed OMBC engage Mr Andrew Collison as Inspector.**

**Following inspection it will be ready to go to referendum, organised by OMBC. Ideally this will coincide with the May elections. Ms Brownridge to look at the estimated timescales and advise.**

**5, Local Green Spaces**

**Cllr Al-Hamdani advised he was ready to report these 3 areas to OMBC: Springhead, adjacent to Cross Street, Back Field at Lydgate, and Suffragette Field. Other areas were already identified in the Neighbourhood Plan or were already designated as being on green belt land.**

**After discussion it was agreed one more area would be added to the OMBC report: Wibsey Fields, Denshaw, plus Summershades would be listed as a potential site.**

**6, Grey belt and how it may affect Saddleworth**

**Ms Brownridge updated the meeting that OMBC were working on part 2 of the Local Plan to support Places for |everyone (PFE).**

**Cllr Al-Hamdani advised that conversion of greenbelt to grey belt had begun in some areas already. In an area with similar demographics to Saddleworth, a significant proportion was being converted to grey belt.**

**It was agreed that the timescale for Oldham may coincide with the revised version of the NP, within 5 years and this would form much of the discussions and revisions.**

**Cllr Al-Hamdani advised that once the process starts for conversion in Oldham, the Committee will need to consider the NP revisions. A question was asked whether the revisions would need to go to referendum. Cllr Al-Hamdani will check the process and report back.**

**7, Consultation Publicity**

This will be carried out by OMBC. Ms Brownridge will check and confirm back to the meeting the timescales involved.

**8, Items for the next agenda**

* **Local Green Spaces Report**
* **Neighbourhood Plan update and timescales.**

**Next meetings**:

Thursday 27th November 2025 at 09.30hrs

Thursday 29th January 2025 at 09.30hrs