

## **NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING MEETING**

Minutes of the meeting held on 6 November 2019 at 18:30 at the Pavilion, Meriden Sports Park

**Present:** Mrs M Lee (ML), Cllr R Weaver (RW), Mr G Russell (GR), Mr M Barlow (MB), Mrs S Edwards (SE), Mr J Edwards (JE), Mr L Edwards (LE) and Mr N Pearce (NP)

### **1. Welcome & Apologies**

ML welcomed members of the group and accepted apologies from Ms Joanne Wort (JW) and Mr D Bell (DB).

### **2. Minutes of 24-07-19**

Minutes were approved.

#### **2.1 Matters arising & actions**

Covered in agenda items below.

### **3. Regulation 14 consultation – summary of representations**

ML summarised the 14 representations received from Berkswell and Balsall Common Parish Councils, Solihull Council, Natural England, Coal Authority, Gladman, Tyler Parkes on behalf of Chief Constable of West Midlands Police, Tyler Parkes on behalf of their Client who owns land fronting Birmingham Road, part of Housing Site 10 West of Meriden, Gillings Planning on behalf of Frontier Estates Ltd, Pegasus Group on behalf of L&Q Estates and four residents. NP advised to ignore Gladman as theirs is a standard response they send to all Neighbourhood Plan consultations.

NP asked if MB had completed Solihull Council's representation to which he replied it was a joint effort right around the council, co-ordinating the views of various departments. NP asked if they had any major issues. MB stated one was parking and referred to Berkswell Parish Council's car parking policy which was not accepted by the examiner. NP stated that he has had examiners endorse his parking standards. NP asked MB an open question – Stratford has raised concerns and are not supportive. NPPF says you can apply local parking standards, so I don't see what the issue is. It is not strategic, so why oppose? MB stated that it is not the view of Solihull Council colleagues who prefer the flexibility to look at them case by case and their local plan includes a criteria-based approach. They have concerns about hard surfacing on developments with a lot of tarmac inefficient use of land. NP replied that we can adapt by saying they should all be permeable surfaces. RW stated that it is a big issue in Meriden and as we now have an enforcement officer, the number of tickets far exceeded expectations. There is a big issue with new developments especially for disabled access. MB stated that if the appointed examiner is the same as Berkswell's, we could get the same outcome. NP stated that an examiner will make recommendations e.g. typos and making policies less onerous and as for meeting basic conditions we need to know which

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basic conditions they are on about. MB stated an examiner's referral to basic conditions might be about compliance with national and local policies.

**Action: MB to check out Berkswell's examiner's report.**

After the 14 representations were summarised, NP commented that the response rate was below average. MB stated that Berkswell had over 60 with more residents responding than Meriden. NP advised that we must 'up our game' for the referendum to get people to come out and vote. RW asked where people will vote. MB offered to speak to Solihull Council's electoral staff. NP commented that it runs like a normal election including postal votes.

#### **4. Regulation 14 consultation - next steps**

NP stated that the next steps are to assess what changes we will make to our pre-submission draft for the Reg 16 submission version and that it was just a case of polishing it based on feedback. He also suggested we could get this finished in December and submit Reg 16 in January. As well, a Basic Conditions Statement is needed and an EIA screening report which is done by SMBC. MB stated that could be done within a month.

**Action: NP to work on the Basic Conditions Statement and SMBC to work on the EIA screening report.**

RW commented that SMBC has a new policy on climate change and it should be acknowledged in the plan as she is organising a Climate Change conference for Parish and Town Councils. NP suggested it could be added to policy NE6. RW confirmed that SMBC has a Climate Emergency policy but Town and Parish Councils have yet to do it.

ML asked about the tabulation spreadsheet to record responses. NP advised to take out the voluminous ones e.g. Pegasus and respond in the table only, not to individuals. The spreadsheet will form part of your Basic Conditions Statement. NP also advised to complete a timeline of what we did since Day 1. MB added that all the events you did should feature. NP recommended including photos of people attending and screenshots from our Facebook page. MB also suggested a contents page and suggested we reduce the ecological information in the Neighbourhood Plan. He also advised that the EIA screening report involves three consultees – Natural England, Historic England and the Environment Agency. He reiterated this report would take about a month and it needs to be screened out before you go to Reg 16 submission draft and to also include it in the Basic Conditions Statement. RW asked if MB could supply samples of other statements and he replied that they are not on SMBC's website, but we should check other parish councils' websites.

**Action: RW and ML to work on tabulation spreadsheet and timeline to send to NP. GR volunteered to assist**

MB added one more point that there is an additional statement to include in the Basic Considerations Statement that refers to The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations, EU directive written into UK Law. RW asked for MB to send a link to her and ML. NP added he has it in his template.

**Action: NP will send a couple of examples of both.**

**5. Any other business**

No.

**6. Date of next meeting**

Wednesday 15 January 2020 at 6.30pm in the Sports Pavilion.

DRAFT