

**Village Centre Working Group meeting**  
**Monday 25<sup>th</sup> November 2019 – 10 to 11.30 am in Westlake Room**

**Agenda**

**1. Purpose**

The purpose of the meeting is to develop “definitive” list of infrastructure requirements that SMBC should finance and provide to accompany the housing proposals in its draft plan for Balsall Common. Following validation by both PCs this will form the basis of the objective for the ward Borough Councillors and the parish councils to secure. It does not cover infrastructure more appropriately delivered by the parish councils using their 25% of CIL payments by developers.

**2. Introductions**

**3. Appointment of Chair and secretary**

**4. Target date for submission of “list” to SMBC (Tony Diciccio to advise)**

**5. Review of the list of infrastructure needs/suggestions within the NDPs of the two parish councils (attached)**

5.1. What of this list should be provided by SMBC

5.2. What enabling infrastructure should be provided by SMBC to facilitate PC infrastructure

**6. What is missing**

**7. Creation of two proposed lists**

7.1. Proposed infrastructure to be provided by SMBC

7.2. Proposed infrastructure to be provided by PCs

**8. How do we validate list with community for any missing major thoughts?**

**9. Date of next meeting**

Andrew Burrow  
Chairman – Balsall PC

Richard Drake  
Chairman – Berkswell PC

Note this joint working group is not a formal committee of the two councils but has been established to help the councils with infrastructure issues arising from the proposed significant expansion of Balsall Common proposed within the draft Solihull Plan. Members of the public are permitted to attend for the meeting and at the Chairman’s discretion voice opinions on items on the agenda

## **Briefing note on residents' suggestions for infrastructure improvement from Berkswell and Balsall NDPs and the NDP consultation process**

### **1. Berkswell NDP**

- 1.1. Improve Balsall Common centre holistically and not just parking
- 1.2. Sports facilities
  - 1.2.1. Gym
  - 1.2.2. Swimming pool
  - 1.2.3. Public tennis courts
  - 1.2.4. Adult outdoor gym/trim/track/petanque
- 1.3. Cyber-café where 6<sup>th</sup> formers can work
- 1.4. Multi-purpose hall covering sports., community centre, arts, business meeting rooms
- 1.5. Play areas for children on new developments
- 1.6. Communal site for village events
- 1.7. Wild areas for ecology, children's dens/camps
- 1.8. Picnic areas
- 1.9. Ponds/lakes
- 1.10. Dog walking routes
- 1.11. Cycle network connecting Balsall Common centre, the greenway, new developments. The Station, the Doctors and school(s)
- 1.12. Cycle/foot connection Balsall Common to Berkswell village and its school
- 1.13. More parking at the station

### **2. Balsall NDP**

- 2.1. Walking and cycling opportunities in new developments
- 2.2. Enclosed bus shelters where appropriate
- 2.3. Electronic bus information at bus stops
- 2.4. Gym facilities
- 2.5. Parks for children
- 2.6. Develop Holly Lane playing fields
- 2.7. Enhanced sports and recreation facilities
- 2.8. Village bypass
- 2.9. Village centre road safety and parking improvements

### **3. Suggestions made to Cabinet member at joint PC presentation on 21<sup>st</sup> October 2019**

- 3.1. A new primary school to precede development of allocated housing sites
- 3.2. Improved centre to Balsall Common including but not limited to parking.
- 3.3. Station car parking
- 3.4. Public green space between existing and new housing

### **4. Residents' ideas listed in Balsall Parish NDP consultation statement (not listed above)**

- 4.1. Much improved BC village hall (mentioned many times)
  - 4.1.1. Theatre/music venue
  - 4.1.2. Badminton/squash courts
  - 4.1.3. Community sports hall – including above and 5-a-side football
  - 4.1.4. Youth provision - snooker, badminton, gym, table tennis
- 4.2. **Sports facilities/parks/open space**
  - 4.2.1. All weather football, hockey etc pitch
  - 4.2.2. Adventure playground
  - 4.2.3. Wildlife corridors
  - 4.2.4. Nature reserves

- 4.2.5. Allotments
- 4.2.6. Public garden with flowers where you can just sit
- 4.2.7. Exercise equipment in Lavender Hall park
- 4.2.8. Café/toilets in Lavender Hall park
- 4.2.9. Improved facilities at rugby club – changing rooms etc
- 4.2.10. More litter/dog waste bins

#### **4.3. Roads**

- 4.3.1. Improved road crossings for pedestrians (various locations – Alder Lane, Shops, Shell Garage on A452, by Station on Hallmeadow/station road)
- 4.3.2. Trees on local roads (existing)
- 4.3.3. Traffic calming measures (several locations including Kemps Green Road, Needlers End)
- 4.3.4. 300-metre high chicken on central roundabout.
- 4.3.5. Footpath in Windmill Lane
- 4.3.6. Improved parking around schools
- 4.3.7. More litter/dog waste bins

#### **4.4. Station**

- 4.4.1. Improved waiting rooms at Berkswell Station
- 4.4.2. More cycle racks at Berkswell station
- 4.4.3. More parking at the station

#### **4.5. Make BC a cycle friendly village**

##### **4.6. Village Centre**

- 4.6.1. Public toilets in BC centre
- 4.6.2. Trees in village centre
- 4.7. Enlarged medical centre
- 4.8. Police station