

Village Centre Working Group meeting
Monday 9th December 2019 – 10.30 to 12 am in Westlake Room

Minutes

1. **Attendance** – Andrew Burrow, Liz Macdonald, Richard Drake, Marion Keeley, Lorraine Horler, Wendy Wilson, Kay Howles, Terry Hughes and Tony Diccio
2. **Apologies** – Alison Cambage and David Bell
3. **Minutes of the working group meeting of 25th November 2019 were approved and signed** (Held by Richard Drake as secretary)
4. **The contact list for the consultation of local community organisations** was reviewed and most missing names added. The contact for Balsall Common facebook and the Balsall Common brownies are outstanding. (The list is not published for GDPR reasons)
5. It was agreed that the following items of proposed “infrastructure” that will not form part of the consultation because they are out of scope of CIL money and/or are already Section 106 (or similar) accepted issues
 - 5.1. Develop Holly Lane playing fields (not a specific proposal)
 - 5.2. Bypass (a Highways issue already within the draft Solihull plan)
 - 5.3. Improved facilities at rugby club (private members club not a local authority facility)
 - 5.4. New primary school (already in the draft Solihull plan)
 - 5.5. Enlarged medical centre (an NHS issue not a CIL issue)
 - 5.6. Police station (a Police authority issue)
 - 5.7. More litter bins (a day to day spending issue not capital infrastructure)
6. **The structure of the survey**
 - 6.1. A resident has agreed to create an online survey using “Google forms” which will also produce the report
 - 6.2. Limited paper copies would be made available for those few individuals without internet access and left in the library and other suitable locations. Such paper returns would be input into the Google forms system by working group members
 - 6.3. The following changes to the potential questions for the residents’ questionnaire were agreed.
 - 6.3.1. Many items of detail
 - 6.3.2. Add Country parks behind Meeting House Lane and between Windmill Lane/Kenilworth Road as infrastructure options
 - 6.3.3. Restructure order as follows
 - 6.3.3.1. Community centre
 - 6.3.3.2. Greenspace/ecology
 - 6.3.3.3. Balsall Common centre
 - 6.3.3.4. Options to reduce car usage within the community by increasing acceptability of alternatives
 - 6.3.3.5. Cost indications to residents to be termed High, medium and low
 - 6.3.3.6. Consider including maps to highlight the footpaths that could warrant improvement

6.4. There will be a single question for the organisation questionnaire which will be something like

“The Balsall Common community will expand by about 60% or circa 5000 extra residents over the next 15 years. In order for your organisation to flourish and grow to meet the rising demand generated by the new residents, what infrastructure should be provided by the parish/borough councils to assist you.

You might find it helpful to scan the residents’ questionnaire, particularly the first two sections on community facilities and greenspace and outdoor areas. Please just give us a list of facilities/infrastructure that will help you”

7. Next steps and other actions

Action	By whom
Redraft questionnaire	ASB
Brownies contact	AC
Balsall Common facebook contact	RD

8. Date of next meeting is Monday 6th January at 10 pm in the Westlake Room

Andrew Burrow – Working Group Chairman

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