

Berkswell Parish Council – Extraordinary Meeting 12 November 2020

Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of the Parish Council of Berkswell held virtually via Zoom on 12 November 2020 at 5:00 pm.

	Action by
<p>1. Attendance Cllrs Drake, Edwards, Burrow, Howles & Lloyd; the Clerk; SMBC Cllrs Dicicco & Howell (from 6pm) & 19 members of the public.</p> <p>2. Apologies for absence Cllr Allsopp (SMBC)</p> <p>3. Acceptance of apologies for absence</p> <p>4. Declarations of Interest</p> <p>a. To receive declarations of interest from Councillors on items on the agenda</p> <p>i. Cllr Burrow – declared an interest in item 7 as he owns land withing the area known as Barratts Farm although the submission plan does not propose it is to be developed in line with his wishes.</p> <p>b. There were no written requests disclosing pecuniary interests</p> <p>c. The Clerk had received the following request for dispensation in writing:</p> <p>i. in light of his declared interest (above) Cllr Burrow requested that he be able to take part in the discussion on item 7 on the Solihull plan response. Council agreed this dispensation.</p> <p>d. Councillors were reminded to update their Notice of Registrable Interests’. It is a requirement that councillors update the Register within 28 days of a change to any Disclosable Pecuniary Interest. Councillors to note that the current register is available via the following link http://eservices.solihull.gov.uk/mgInternet/mgParishCouncilDetails.aspx?ID=235&LS=3</p> <p>5. New Parish Council Laptop – Council approved the recommendations in the paper circulated by the Clerk (available on the website) to purchase a replacement laptop due to the current laptop being damaged beyond economic repair. Council agreed to authorise the Clerk to obtain the best value deal and to spend up to £2,500 on a new lap top and cover for accidental damage.</p> <p>6. Public Opinion – The following representations were made to the Clerk prior to the meeting:</p> <p>a. Cllr Allsopp – <i>“I do agree with not objecting to the overall Plan. It is more important getting the best infrastructure for Balsall Common/Berkswell, I believe that this is the correct way forward”</i></p> <p>b. Wendy Wilson – submitted an objection report re site BC3</p> <p>c. Jeanette McGarry – <i>“I duly request that Berkswell Parish Council writes to SMBC asking that Site BC3 is removed from SMBC’s Draft Local Plan. This is on grounds of the justification and soundness of the proposed allocation of site BC3 within the Solihull Draft Local Plan Review”</i>. (Full details, including a comprehensive evidence base was shared on the 9th November with this Parish Council by BARRAGE)”</p> <p>7. Parish Council Response to the Solihull Local Plan</p> <p>a. Council noted the recommendations of the Working Group (circulated with the agenda and available on the Council’s website) and thanked Jane Edwards and Geoff Wheeler for their assistance.</p>	Clerk

<p>b. Council agreed the following in respect to the Council’s response to the latest draft plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Not to object to the overall plan because this is not considered to be in the best interests of the Berkswell Parish residents of Balsall Common and its near environs. ii. To make detailed observations on the plan based on the recommendations to seek improvements and/or mitigations because this is seen as having the best chance of success in alleviating residents' concerns and building the best community for the future. iii. Councillors Burrow and Drake to draft the detailed objections based on the report of the working group, with consideration of three additional points, for approval at a further Extraordinary Meeting on or about 3rd December, including coordinating with Balsall Parish Council to ensure the most effective response on areas of common interest such as school provision. iv. The three additional points to be included in the response to the Local Plan are as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mitigation of noise from HS2 on housing in the proposed allocation BC1 - <i>“all properties within the HS2 noise affected areas should comply with appropriate standards to ensure these homes are attractive places to live”</i>. 2. The protection of land between Old Waste Lane and Waste Lane which is designated as local green space – <i>“the amount of Public Open Space in Balsall Common will still fall short of that elsewhere in SMBC”</i>. 3. The protection of land taken out of Greenbelt but not allocated for housing - <i>“need to consider how best to protect this from future development”</i>. <p>c. Expert Advice on a Wildlife Corridor</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Council agreed to commission expert advice in support of a wild life corridor between existing homes along part of Meeting House Lane/Kelsey Lane and any new development on Barratts farm. Council agreed to delegate to the Clerk, in consultation with Councillors Drake and Burrow, authority to finalise a detailed specification and price for the provision of technical support and a report on the development of a planting/management plan for a wildlife corridor to connect ecologically significant areas of the proposed housing development ii. As the amount of a budget for Item 7c i above is commercially sensitive the public were asked to leave the meeting for this item. The minute for this item will be marked Private. <p>8. Next Meeting The next scheduled meeting of the Council will be held on 19 November 2020 commencing at 7:00pm.</p>	<p>AB/RD</p> <p>AB/RD</p> <p>Clerk/RD/ AB</p>
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