

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE
HELD AT BURNTWOOD LIBRARY, SANKEYS CORNER
ON THURSDAY 05 JUNE 2014 COMMENCING AT 7.00 P.M.**

PRESENT

Councillor Drinkwater (in the Chair)
Councillors Bradbury, Ms Brettell, Brown, Campbell, Mrs Evans, Humphreys, Isaacs, Norman,
Taylor, Mrs Tranter, Walker MBE, Willis-Croft and Mrs Woodward

In attendance

Ms J Minor, Administrative Assistant
4 members of the public

**LICHFIELD DISTRICT LOCAL PLAN STRATEGY GREEN BELT REVIEW
(CONSULTATION)
RE: LAND PARCEL REFERENCE E1 (BURNTWOOD EAST)**

Councillor Drinkwater welcomed members of the public to the meeting.

Councillor Drinkwater stated that Burntwood Town Councillors, who are also District Councillors, have successfully argued the case against development of the Green Belt within the Burntwood boundaries through the scrutiny process. This had been done while the Local Plan had been put together.

Unfortunately the Inspector whilst acknowledging that most of the Plan was sound had found that it was unsound in the number of houses proposed to be built up to 2029 and Officers of the District Council were told to find sites to accommodate a further 900 houses.

This had led to a modification document being produced which through a scoring methodology had downgraded some of the Green Belt sites from 'important' to 'moderate'.

One of these sites known as E1 in Burntwood has been challenged by the Burntwood Action Group (BAG) and they were asking for support from the Town Council. A copy of the deliberations from BAG had been circulated at the meeting and prior to the meeting, justifying their objection to the re-designation.

However, Councillor Drinkwater further stated that a document had been received from the Development Officer of Lichfield District Council in which she assures the Town Council that there is no intention whatsoever to develop Green Belt sites within Burntwood during the current Plan period (up to 2029).

Councillor Norman reiterated his objection to any changes to the Green Belt and explained that Burntwood should be protected.

Councillor Isaacs said that it was the wrong time to give an inch on the Green Belt.

Councillor Mrs Woodward confirmed that planning history had blighted Burntwood in the past, however, the Town Council's strength was that many Members are also District Councillors. Councillor Mrs Woodward asked what the Local Members views were at the District Council, as it was noted that the Local Members were absent from this meeting.

Councillor Willis-Croft agreed that the Local Plan needed to be in place and stated that brownfield sites are more expensive to development than the Green Belt.

Councillor Mrs Evans stated that 'our' hands are tied until the Local Plan is adopted but the Town Council also needed to proceed with the Neighbourhood Plan.

Councillor Humphreys confirmed cross party support.

RESOLVED That the Town Council supports the principle of the submission by the Burntwood Action Group but that the Town Council needed to submit its own objections.

PARKING AND ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR ISSUES

The Chairman welcomed Sergeant Caroline Bailey to the meeting. Sergeant Bailey distributed the June edition of the Neighbourhood Watch Newsletter to all Members for information.

Sergeant Bailey explained that the roads/estates that have been built within the Town did not take into account the volume of traffic which had been generated. A balance between the needs of the residents and motorists needed to be reached.

Sergeant Bailey confirmed that some parking issues, for example stopping of vehicles, vehicles causing an obstruction, dangerous driving were the responsibility of the Police, however, parking on double yellow lines etc were the responsibility of Civic Enforcement Officers.

Sergeant Bailey confirmed that local PCSOs had been issuing fixed penalty notices for blue badge holders, however, a reasonable compromise between blue badge holders and causing an obstruction needed to be reached.

Sergeant Bailey stated that parking outside schools was always a problem resulting in short term gains.

Sergeant Bailey confirmed that Section 59 Notices (covered under Anti-Social Behaviour) had been issued to boy/girl racers driving in a careless manner. Sundays were of particular issue on the Bypass.

Sergeant Bailey confirmed that 13 (12 male, 1 female) Acceptable Behaviour Contracts were in place at the present time (the next step is Anti-Social Behaviour Orders) which restricted the youths from entering certain shops.

Sergeant Bailey confirmed that anti-social behaviour was down 23% (not including neighbourhood disputes, noisy neighbours and parking).

Sergeant Bailey confirmed that PC Ed Ford had been appointed to the Burntwood team, that other officers had been redeployed from other areas to cover 'hot' spots and 8 PCSOs were also covering the area.

Councillor Mrs Woodward said that it was useful to have a strong relationship with PCSOs, however, it would be helpful to be kept in the 'loop' regarding issues of off-street parking, blue badge holders etc. Councillor Mrs Woodward stated that Holly Grove Primary School had adopted the Cone Zone Scheme. Sergeant Bailey confirmed that the Ziggy Zaggy Scheme may work in one area but not another.

Councillor Humphreys stated that the parking by the Ridgeway School (Warren Road) was terrible, however, it was good to see more PCSOs around the Town.

Councillor Taylor, on behalf of the Crime Prevention Panel thanked Sergeant Bailey for the Neighbourhood Watch Letter. Councillor Taylor highlighted a problem of parking on a piece of land in Highfield Road. Sergeant Bailey confirmed that she would 'feed it back' to the Road Safety Partnership.

Councillor Norman asked whether blocking of a footpath by a vehicle was 'wilful'. Sergeant Bailey confirmed that it was more of an 'unnecessary' obstruction than wilful (is more intent).

Councillor Willis-Croft asked if the Police had the powers to remove vehicles. Sergeant Bailey confirmed that under Section 59 (undue care and attention) the Police have the powers to remove vehicles.

Councillor Brown asked if Mrs Brindley, the School Crossing Patrol on Church Road/Rugeley Road could be contacted re parking of vehicles. Sergeant Bailey confirmed that a PCSO would go and see Mrs Brindley.

The Chairman thanked Sergeant Bailey for her attendance. Sergeant Bailey handed over a cheque for £100 towards the sponsorship of the Burntwood in Bloom competition.

6. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillors Mrs Banevicius, Constable, Mrs Fisher, Heath, James, Mosson, Mrs Rigby and Mrs Stokes.

AT THIS STAGE IN THE AGENDA THE CHAIRMAN SUSPENDED STANDING ORDERS TO ALLOW THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL TO SPEAK ON AN IMPORTANT ITEM FOR BURNTWOOD.

7. PROPOSED NEW HEALTH CENTRE FOR BURNTWOOD

Councillor Mrs Evans said that it was a desperate blow for Burntwood to hear from the NHS England that the proposed new Health Centre for Burntwood had been axed due to the current difficult financial situation. Work on the complex should have got under way last year after plans were agreed in 2011, but the town was left in limbo over the planned GP and nursing complex following the restructure of the NHS.

Councillor Mrs Evans stated that the current facility has 3,000 patients on its books.

Since the closure of the local hospitals, the Town Council had had repeated assurances from the NHS that they would provide new facilities to compensate for their loss.

Councillor Mrs Evans asked that the Town Council support the petition in opposing the cancellation of the proposed new Health Centre for Burntwood expressing the serious concern and disappointment that funding for the proposed Burntwood Health Centre (on the site of the Burntwood Leisure Centre), currently occupied by a temporary NHS Health and Wellbeing Centre) is not to be granted. The Town's health needs are well documented and a new primary care centre had been promised for many years, predating the closure of St Matthews and Hammerwich Hospitals. The Town Council calls upon the Secretary of State, the Rt Hon Jeremy Hunt MP to review this decision urgently and ensure that Burntwood gets the primary care facilities it needs.

RESOLVED THAT

1. the Town Council supports the petition.

2. a letter be sent to the District Council ensuring that an extension of time for the Health and Wellbeing Centre is granted.

8. GENERAL DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS

All District Councillors present wished it to be recorded that their views were a preliminary view and one they may change when they hear all the evidence at the District Council's Planning Committee.

9. MINUTES

RESOLVED That the Minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held on 08 May 2014 (Minute Nos. 1 - 5) be approved as a correct record.

10. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

RESOLVED That the following comments be submitted to the Local Planning Authority:

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| (a) | 14/00416/FUL | Highfield | Mrs T Symons
67 Rake Hill
Burntwood | Single storey side extension to form conservatory |
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No objection.

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| (b) | 14/00426/FUL | Boney Hay | Mr D Miller
51 Spinney Lane
Burntwood | Conversion of loft and raising of ridge height to form two bedrooms with en-suite and rear extension to existing garage to form store |
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Concerns were expressed by Members regarding the conversion of a bungalow to a house, however, should planning permission be granted then conditions restricting the use of the store to domestic only and opaque glazing (to avoid the potential for overlooking) be imposed.

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| (c) | 14/00450/FUL | Chasetown | Mrs S Sanders
82 Bridge Cross Road
Burntwood | Two storey side extension to form car port and two bedrooms |
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Concerns were expressed by Members regarding the terracing effect the proposed development would create. The Local Planning Authority to evaluate the potential for overlooking and loss of amenity.

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| (d) | 14/00460/ADV | | Skoda Autosales Limited
Unit 1, Zone 1
Attwood Road
Burntwood Business Park
Burntwood | Installation of various illuminated and non-illuminated signs including fascia, pylon and directional |
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Concerns were expressed by Members relating to the number of signs. Clarity was needed regarding what are existing signs and what are planned signage. Should the Local Planning Authority be mindful to grant permission then the signage must be in line with the policy document in place for the erection of illuminated and non-illuminated signage.

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| (e) | 14/00461/FUL | Boney Hay | Mr and Mrs Pemberton
1 Thornfield Crescent
Burntwood | Single storey side extension to form kitchen, dining room, bathroom, bedroom and new vehicular access |
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Concerns were expressed by Members as to why two accesses were needed to the property and both accesses are close to the bend.

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| (f) | 14/00497/FUL | Boney Hay | Mr and Mrs P Richardson
16 Birch Terrace
Burntwood | Increase height of porch |
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No objection.

**11. ITEM FOR INFORMATION
THE NEW MINERALS LOCAL PLAN FOR STAFFORDSHIRE (2015-2030) DRAFT FOR CONSULTATION – REGULATION 18 OF THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (LOCAL PLANNING) (ENGLAND) REGULATIONS 2012**

Members were informed that the Town Council had been advised of the above consultation which was being undertaken by Staffordshire County Council. Councillor Norman confirmed that the Minerals Local Plan does not affect Burntwood, the nearest was Hammerwich.

RESOLVED That the information be received and noted.

12. ENFORCEMENT ISSUES

No enforcement issues were raised.

(The Meeting closed at 8.00 p.m.)

Signed

Date