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First meeting of Burntwood Town Council's new Planning and Development Committee

The first Planning and Development Committee of the new Burntwood Town Council took place on Thursday 27th June with a new remit and agenda.

As well as allowing people of Burntwood to have a say on the usual planning applications, a new highways initiative was introduced by Council, Vice-Chairman and Committee Chair, Councillor Rob Birch. The new process will put the onus on Councillors to engage with members of their wards, surveying and identifying areas of the Town that need improvement. The survey results will be collated during the summer months and areas needing improvement will be prioritised. The Town Council will then work with Staffordshire County Council and landowners to bring the required improvements to fruition.

An update was also given by Councillor Steve Norman, Chairman of the Neighbourhood Plan Task and Finish Group. The Neighbourhood Plan is now also moving forward and, when complete, will ensure that future town planning has the wishes of the Burntwood townsfolk at heart. This will form the basis on which future planning decisions can be made.

Councillor Norman said: "Once the Neighbourhood Plan has been formally agreed by the Town Council next month the District Council will be responsible for arranging a six week consultation exercise. An Independent Inspector will then examine the Plan along with any comments made by the public. If that goes well there will be a referendum and if supported Burntwood residents will, in effect, have a greater say in planning issues for the Town."

Cllr Birch the Chairman of the Planning and Development Committee said "I hope that all Councillors will get behind the plans and work together in the spirit of a new and more progressive Town Council to deliver a Better Burntwood over the coming years."

Ends

Media enquiries

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