

## Community Engagement – consultation summary

<b>Event (eg name of group / event) :</b>	Baslall Common Lions (Service Committee)
<b>Nature of consultation (eg Community event; focus group; questionnaire) :</b>	Focus Group
<b>Date :</b>  21/06/2016	<b>Venue :</b>  Royal British Legion Club, Station Road Balsall Common
<b>NDP lead :</b> Andrew Livingstone	<b>Key contact (if applicable) :</b> Steve Meakin
<b>Participant details (eg approximate number; attach register if available) :</b>	7 committee members were present during the meeting:  Stan Shakeshaft Paul Coldicutt Mike Lawrence Brian Hornsby George Dandy Dave Blakeman Steve Meakin
<b>Purpose of consultation (ie nature of data to be collected incl. housing, education, traffic, public transport, retail, amenities and utilities. Focus on BC and/or rural areas incl. Berkswell) :</b>	
<b>Description of consultation (incl. photos; material presented / on display/ handouts) :</b>  Brief context for discussion was established at the start of proceeding by NDP lead, copies of introductory letter, call for sites plan and the outline of identified themes from village plan were all disseminated.	
<b>Data collected (eg lists) :</b>  Single group discussion held to clarify those themes which the individuals present felt were of most significance and to offer potential solutions.  <b>Housing</b>  In terms of housing there was discussion that the Cornets End site would prove less impactful on Village life and with the added benefit that such a development might serve to provide a link between the conurbations of Meriden and Balsall Common. Such a development might encourage the re-establishment of public transport services as currently there is no service between the two villages other than that provided during term time for school children.  There was a general agreement that there was a need to ensure the protection of greenbelt land and Green spaces in general. It was the rural aspects of the village that attracted many of the members to the village in the first place.  <b>Education / childcare provision</b>  Members were keen to ensure that schools could cope with increased numbers of children and more than that they were also keen to ensure that some recreational provision was factored in to any plans.	

They felt that there was very little for the young people of Balsall Common to do outside of membership of the Sports Club.

### **Traffic/ Road network**

Concerns over the pressure on infrastructure were most prominent.

This included concern over the limited parking currently available increased traffic and congestion both from population increase and from construction traffic.

Fears that Balsall Common would become more of a dormitory Town compromising its rural character. Also the sense that the Village Centre had limited scope to cope with any expansion.

### **Retail**

Could a new site, if significant in size, contain plans to allow for additional high street provision with restaurant/retail facilities and additional parking.

### **Amenities**

More things for the young people of Balsall Common to do such as a youth club

In relation to healthcare, members were concerned that it already took in excess of 6 weeks to obtain a GP appointment and wanted to know if anything could be done to expand healthcare provision to meet the needs of a growing population.

### **Utilities**

Additionally members highlighted drainage issues within the Village siting that services were already under stress. They noted that existing drainage already struggles to cope during periods of sustained rainfall. It was noted that such difficulties would be exacerbated by extensive development on land that currently absorbs significant rainfall.

The members noted that the closure of the local Police Shop should be reconsidered if the population of the village were to grow.

### **Analysis of Results relating to themes and location ( eg pie charts; mindmaps):**