

## **Berkswell Parish Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP)**

### **Minutes of the meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> July 2017 at the Jubilee Centre, Balsall Common at 1.30PM.**

- 1) **Evacuation procedures** – Fire exits were advised
- 2) **Open Forum** – No Comments from the public
- 3) **Geoff Wheeler** was welcomed to the committee. Geoff gave a brief background. He has lived in Berkswell Parish for over 40 years. Now retired after a long career in the motor industry.
- 4) **Attendance**
  - Andrew Burrow (AB) Chairman
  - Kay Howles (KH)
  - Jane Edwards (JE)
  - Vince Ritters (VR) Vice Chairman
  - Keith Tindall (KT)
  - Richard Drake (RD) Secretary
  - Malcolm Hickin (MH)
  - Geoff Wheeler (GW)
- 5) **Apologies for absence**
  - Louise Kirkup (LK) Consultant from Kirkwells was not required to attend this meeting.
- 6) **Declaration of interest**
  - AB advised that he owned a property on Old Waste Lane which included a field that could be removed from the greenbelt in the current SMBC Draft Local Plan. He will not take part in any discussions where he could compromise our discussions.
- 7) **Confirmation of minutes of 12<sup>th</sup> June 2017**
  - The minutes were approved and signed. Draft minutes are on the Berkswell PC website.
  - The signed copy will be held by the Berkswell Parish Clerk.

**Approved:**

**8) Matters arising (actions) from meeting of 12<sup>th</sup> June 2017**

**8.1 – Terms of Reference** – have been agreed by Parish Council

**8.2 – Vision Statement** – the draft that had been circulated was discussed. JE & VR were congratulated and thanked for their contribution to this. After extensive discussion two amendments were made and the resultant “final” draft version is attached.

**8.3 – Grant Application** – this has been submitted to “Locality” and acknowledged

**8.4 – Local Business Survey**

**8.4.1** – JE presented a copy of the Knowle local business survey with some suggested tailoring for Berkswell. AB to circulate.

**8.4.2** – AB/MH presented a list of local businesses. A number of suggestions were made for additions which AB/MH will adopt. It was noted that the final “leaflet drop” will act as a backstop on this.

**8.5 – Review consultation data from previous NDP Process that might be of use to this NDP (VR/RD)**

**8.5.1** – Surveys from site exhibition. RD has met with the Balsall Parish Clerk and separated the original forms to identify the Berkswell Parish residents’ responses. Needs to arrange to revisit to photocopy. Also to follow-up if Richard Lloyd has an electronic version we could sort.

**8.5.2** – RD/VR have reviewed the other survey data. It was agreed this could be used to inform “options and issues” themes.

**9) Other matters arising not covered in the agenda**

None identified

**10) Establish a working group to develop the format for community consultation on the Issues and Options for the NDP; &**

**11) Establish a working group to develop the (first) business consultation**

It was agreed that AB would chair the working parties with the support of other committee members and any residents willing to help.

It was suggested that it would be ideal if leaflet drop could be done alongside the Bugle delivery at the end of August with the aim of a Consultation Event at the end of September.

AB to confirm dates, timings and venues.

**12) Area designation update**

This was agreed by SMBC on 18<sup>th</sup> July 2017

**13) Establish a Communications Working Group to provide broader communication about the NDP utilising existing community communication vehicles such as:**

AB to chair this group. First meeting to be arranged.

**14) Dates of next meeting:**

**Steering Group:** Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> September 1.30PM Venue TBC

Approved:

## Draft Vision and Objectives for consultation with residents

### Draft Vision for Berkswell NDP

Our Vision is that Berkswell is and will remain a pleasant and safe place in which to live and bring up families; it will continue to be a supportive and inclusive society; it will remain sheltered from the neighbouring conurbations by protecting the rural environment within the Meriden gap but have good transport links and modern and enhanced communications.

The many historic features that emphasise the rural character of Berkswell, whether in the countryside or built environment will be protected, and new development will be designed to be sensitive to our local heritage.

### NDP Draft Objectives

In order to deliver the Vision the NDP has the following objectives:

#### Housing Objectives

1. To provide the types of property to attract young people to live and work here.
2. To promote high quality housing designs that allow for space, privacy and visual amenity.

#### Landscape Character and the Rural Area Objectives

3. To support the continued protection of Berkswell village as a conservation area.
4. To ensure development incorporates high quality green landscaping schemes to integrate the built environment with the rural **and the existing built environment**
5. **To retain wildlife habitat within the developed, to be developed, and rural areas of the Parish**

#### Accessibility and Infrastructure Objectives

6. To promote improved and safe accessibility and public transport links including walking, cycling, horse riding and public rights of way.

- 7. To improve vehicular traffic flows throughout the Parish.**
- 8. To provide adequate space for off road parking in residential areas and for businesses.**
- 9. To support improved community spaces such as meeting halls and public open space for purposes of enjoyment.**
- 10. To enhance communications in terms of telephony and broadband.**

**Business Objectives**

- 11. to support investment in local economic development to meet local businesses' needs in the Parish including farming that are not met more appropriately by the Solihull Plan**
- 12. To work with Balsall Parish Council to jointly improve the shopping area.**