

**WESTON AND BASFORD NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN  
STEERING GROUP  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
HELD 11th FEBRUARY 2016**

**PRESENT** Councillor J Cornell (Chairman)  
Councillors J Chambers, J Densem,  
Mr D Fanstone

**APOLOGIES** Councillor T Gill

**IN ATTENDANCE** Mr A Thomson

**LOCAL PLAN**

The Chairman updated the Group on the next stages of the Local Plan. The Cheshire East Strategic Planning Board would meet on 18<sup>th</sup> February and Mr A Thomson would represent the Parish Council with particular reference to the South Cheshire Growth Village and speak on behalf of CHALC regarding Green Gap issues.

Copies of Cheshire East Local Plan Strategy – Proposed Changes report would be available shortly and would be purchased for the use of both the Parish Council and Mr Thomson.

The Examination in Public was scheduled to resume on 12<sup>th</sup> September 2016.

**LOCAL HOUSING NEED**

The Group considered the report of Cheshire East Officers and Mr Thomson explained the methodology employed in its preparation.

A global figure of 36000 dwellings was currently considered as appropriate but, given the delay in finalising the Plan developers were seeking to increase this figure to 40000.

Proposed changes in legislation sought to favour potential developers making planning applications more difficult to resist.

The report indicated that a minimum of 53 dwellings were required over the remainder of the Plan period.

The characteristics of the housing need were now required and this evidence would be obtained through the second questionnaire.

Minor amendments to the report were required and these would be drafted by Mr Thomson.

The report would be presented to the Parish Council on 10<sup>th</sup> March as a confidential agenda item.

A copy of the analysis of the questionnaire results would be made available to all Members of the Parish Council.

#### **LANDSCAPE ASSESSMENT APPRAISAL**

Cheshire East were in the process of producing a 'Tool Kit' for Neighbourhood Plan Steering Groups. This could be used as appropriate to complement the work undertaken by Cheshire Wildlife Trust.

Dr. Rachel Giles of Cheshire Wildlife Trust was to be invited to meet with the Steering Group. The preparation of her appraisal would take 6 – 8 weeks and would provide evidence based material to support the requirement for Green Gaps.

The invoice for this work would be presented as soon as possible.

#### **MEETING WITH CO-OPERATIVE ESTATES**

The Chairman reported on a meeting with representatives of the Co-Operative Estates held 4<sup>th</sup> February 2016. The Co-op's interest seemed to be primarily related to the development of Brown Field land within the Neighbourhood Plan Area, despite a very large landholding. The notes of this meeting had been circulated.

#### **PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT EXERCISE**

The Group considered the arrangements for the next stage of public engagement which will take the form of a manned walk in exhibition along with feedback sheets.

Sessions were proposed as follows:-

Weston Church Hall  
Wychwood Village Hall  
Englesea Brook Chapel

Dates to be agreed

Each session to be held from 4pm to 7pm

The same display material to be used for each session with hand-outs to be available.

The dates, venue and times of sessions to be notified to all households in the Parish in a letter to be delivered over the Easter weekend.

#### **FINANCIAL MATTERS**

The Steering Group considered a report of Mr D Fanstone setting out the current income and expenditure.

Members were reminded of the time constraints and the need to proceed with arrangements to avoid the loss of Locality grant monies before 31<sup>st</sup> March.

Andrew Thomson will advise Cheshire Community Action to issue forward payment invoices to help avert any shortfall.

Where possible invoices would be paid early and orders placed and paid for to ensure the most efficient use of the available funds.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

To be advised