

## **BRINSLEY PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Extra Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> August 2014 in the Parish Hall, Cordy Lane, Brinsley.

**PRESENT:** Cllrs: C Barson, J Booth, W Holmes, V Syson, M Topliss, V Wakeling, D Woodhead.

Also present: Mrs M Frost (Clerk), Steffan Saunders BBC, 1 member of the public.

### **2672. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received and approved from Cllr White – illness.

### **2673. DECLARATIONS/DISPENSATIONS OF MEMBERS INTERESTS**

There were no declarations of interest/dispensations.

### **2674. GREENBELT ASSESSMENT CONSULTATION**

Steffan Saunders gave members the background information regarding the consultation and what is involved. At this stage BBC are seeking views of Town and Parish Councils and other groups on the way in which the assessment is being reviewed.

There followed a lengthy question and answer session with Mr Saunders and members of the Council.

Concerns and disappointment was expressed that BBC were not consulting all the community on this as local knowledge is important. Members were happy to see that the document included commented on local knowledge and wondered how and at what point BBC would engage with the community? Steffan said that the first stage was to look at the method to review first, then will consult more widely to obtain local knowledge and then the document would be finalised. Part of the reason for the review is because National Guidance states that a framework needs to be in place first and then the public can be involved.

Cllr Syson asked for assurance for definite transparency on this and that the authority steering this is not biased. Steffan said BBC will publish in full all the proposals and how it reached its decision. Cllr Syson commented that the document mentioned exceptional circumstances and asked who determined these. Steffan said that the Core Strategy deals with it in principal and in order to get the Core Strategy endorsed by the Inspector, BBC needed to demonstrate new housing was the exceptional circumstances to undertake the greenbelt reviews.

Cllr Woodhead said there was a worry that stage 1 does not properly assess sites in Brinsley in full detail, which would mean the second stage is not done properly. Cllr Syson felt very strongly that stage 2 assessments are needed for Brinsley and for engagement of local knowledge to be done at the earliest point.

Cllr Barson asked where did the authority to amend the greenbelt lie. Steffan said it was with the district authority but would have the scrutiny of the Inspector all the way through as well.

Cllr Woodhead felt the important issues of concern to raise in the response were a) consideration for individual sites in Brinsley b) input of local knowledge into assessment and c) disappointment that BBC did not make this consultation available for public consultation from the start.

Council resolved that the above points be raised in the response to BBC and for Cllr Woodhead to draft the letter and circulate to members for approval and the Clerk to submit to BBC before the deadline of 19<sup>th</sup> September.

## **2675. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

Cllr Booth had recommended that the Parish Council should consider producing a Neighbourhood Plan in light of Core Strategy Inspectors report.

Steffan gave background information on producing a Neighbourhood Plan and what is required to begin the process.

Cllr Syson asked if Council wanted to have a Neighbourhood Plan? Cllr Topliss felt that the village should be asked first before making a decision. Cllr Booth asked if any grants were available to undertake the production of a plan and Steffan said yes there was, up to £7,000.00 is available towards the consultation, preparation, printing etc. BBC can also apply for separate grants as well.

Cllr Woodhead asked if the process can be stopped at any point by the Parish Council if it was found that after consultation with the public it was not wanted. Steffan said yes as long as BBC is advised at all times. Cllr Woodhead said this would be very time consuming and did members have the time and availability to undertake this. Cllr Syson said a bigger workforce would be needed to do this. Cllr Booth said he was seriously concerned that the controlling body at BBC would force things on the Parish Council if it did not have a Neighbourhood Plan in place. Cllr Barson commented that this could take up to 2 years to produce and Cllr Wakeling asked if Council wanted to begin the process.

Cllr Booth proposed that the process begins to produce a Neighbourhood Plan, Cllr Barson seconded the proposal. Cllr Syson said that whatever decision was made at the meeting, the public is made aware of it as soon as possible.

With a vote of 5 for and 2 against Council resolved to begin the process of producing a Neighbourhood Plan. Cllr Booth agreed to put something together to publicise that the Parish Council is beginning the process of producing a Neighbourhood Plan.

**The meeting closed at 8.50 pm**

**Chairman ..**

..... **Date** ..... 3/9/14 .....