



**Abbots Bromley Parish Neighbourhood
Development Plan**

Abbots Bromley Parish Neighbourhood Development Plan Working Group (ABPNDPWG)

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 8th December 2016 – Church House

Present: (BW) Bryn Walters* (Group Chair), **(RR)** Ros Robb*, **(PM)** Peter Male, **(TW)** Tom Wheeldon, **(AB)** Anna Bebbington, **(NH)** Neal Haywood (present for part of the meeting), **(SP)** Stephen Perrins, **(PR)** Phil Ryan * **(GH)** Greg Hall**

* Parish Councillors.

** East Staffordshire Borough Councillor

1. Apologies for absence

(SA) Stuart Appleby

2. Declarations of Interest

None

3. Review and agree minutes of the last meeting (26th November 2016)

No comments. The group agreed that the minutes are accurate. The agreed minutes will now be added to the NDP website.

4. Update and discussion – meeting with Abbots Bromley School

The group agreed that we should seek a further meeting with the school in early January to discuss the neighbourhood plan process. The group also agreed that they would like the school to confirm the land which they own within the Parish as there have been some changes recently.

ACTION: BW to contact the school to arrange January meeting

5. Follow up and next steps - 1st Dec event

The group agreed that it was disappointing that only 12 people attended the feedback event, however good feedback was received and the community are positive with regards to the approach the group is taking.

The group discussed in light of the feedback event and meetings held whether it is worthwhile carrying out a site assessment approach and potential call for sites. BW made the case that given the evidence that we already have we could move towards a draft plan and justify a selection process on the *local* housing need as identified through the Housing Needs Assessment (HNA). Other members of the group led by RR hold the view that all sites within the settlement boundary should be assessed using the final criteria in order to maintain a consistent approach. RR also put forward the view that a Parish wide call for sites and an affordable housing assessment should be considered. BW has concerns that the process is in danger of becoming over complicated with the potential of generating unnecessary additional work. The aim is to satisfy the local housing need identified by the HNA, not satisfy a wider market housing need which has already been settled through the ESBC local plan. There is no evidence that the community supports any additional market housing from the consultations carried out so far. The group clearly found the assessment “test” carried out on 26th November difficult to navigate and awkward in terms of its draft criteria.

TW made the point that the process was always likely to be difficult and at times emotive but that the draft criteria is close to a final version and therefore we should stick with the process.

GH and PM confirmed that it should be relatively straight forward to identify the available sites within and adjacent to the existing settlement boundary and that these could be assessed by the group individually using a desk based approach over the Christmas break.

Given iteration work already carried out on previous versions BW confirmed personal difficulty in terms of being able to take the process much further. RR confirmed that she would be happy to work on the assessment criteria using information from the previous assessment “test” as well as feedback from the 1st December event. GH made the point that as a predominately desk based exercise initially this could be done quickly to avoid unnecessary delay. RR proposed a meeting Thursday week for the group to sit down with a large plan of the village and a finalised version of the assessment criteria. The group would then identify the sites for assessment and agree the assessment criteria. This would then be circulated to all group members to carry out the desk based assessment individually over the Christmas break. The group agreed to this proposal.

ACTION: RR to circulate a re-worked version of the assessment criteria. AB to provide the large print map (A1) for the next group meeting.

BW updated the group on those groups/businesses that have been contacted as part of the NDP work. Some have as yet not responded to requests for a meeting and there are other groups who are yet to be contacted. The group agreed to share out the responsibility for following this up:

PR – To contact the Almshouses

RR – To contact ESBC Housing Dept

PM – To contact local estate agents

PM – To chase up letter sent to the medical centre

GH – To chase up letters sent to the owner of the two derelict garage sites in the village centre

GH – To contact South Staffordshire Water (Blithfield Reservoir)

PR updated the group on the latest information regarding Gallimore's field. The agreement between the village hall trustees and the field owner has now been completed; it involves a 5 year lease for community use of the field. PR confirmed that a grant had been secured with ESBC to add some gates to the adjoining access with the village hall to allow the space to be maintained.

6. Chair to update on Parish Council meeting (30th November 2016)

BW confirmed that the PC have been updated on progress with the NDP and the housing needs approach was outlined. The PC was supportive of the approach and the feedback event on 1st Dec.

7. Date and time of next meeting

The next meeting will be:

Thursday 15th December 2016 – Church House 19:00 – Upstairs room

TW to arrange booking and confirm with the group. Given the time of year and the relatively short notice between meetings the group agreed that not all members are likely to be able to attend. The group however agreed that as RR will be leading on the approach as discussed under item 5 then members will be able to carry out work individually once the issue on sites and criteria is settled.