

## MINUTES FROM NDP MEETING – 7pm CHURCH HOUSE – 28<sup>th</sup> February 2019

Attendance: Peter Male **PM**; Keith Baker **KB**; Georgina Kelly **GK**; Julie Wheeldon **JW**;

Apologies: Mike Hobbs **MH**; Greg Hall **GH**; Rob Humphries **RH**;

Volunteer Secretary: Tom Wheeldon **TW**;

Other attendees: NIL

In the absence of **MH** the meeting was opened by **PM**

### 1. Apologies

As indicated above.

### 2. Update of NDPG brief to the PC - Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2019

**PM** invited **JW** to present a report from the PC meeting of Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2019.

- a) Ahead of briefing on the PC meeting **JW** outlined the need to brief the group on a private meeting that **MH** attended with the PC Chairman **Cllr P Charles** on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> February 2019. The details/observations of this meeting as identified by **MH** are as follows:
  - i. The PC has a lack of confidence in the NDPG and is concerned about the group's ability to bring forward an NDP.
  - ii. The PC is concerned about the time it is taking to move forward with the NDP.
  - iii. The PC is waiting for 'you to resign' (it wasn't clear whether this was directed at **MH**, or the whole group).
  - iv. If necessary, the PC would give the production of a NDP 'one more shot' through the establishment of a third group.

**MH**'s understanding from the meeting was that it had been agreed with Cllr Charles that the PC would arrange to meet with **MH** (and potentially the rest of the group) on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2019 (**MH** recalls proposing his home as a venue if required).

**MH** resolved to await the outcome of this second meeting before deciding how to proceed, but undertook to ensure that the NDPG continued with its planned programme of work.

To date 27<sup>th</sup> February 2019, there had been no second meeting called.

- b) When **MH** was subsequently invited to present the NDPG update brief to the PC on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2019, he first requested clarification from Cllr Charles as to whether the PC had confidence in the NDPG. He referred to the above meeting of the 14<sup>th</sup> February 2019 between himself and Cllr Charles; and his understanding of those discussions.
- c) Cllr Charles indicated that he didn't recall agreeing to meet again following their meeting on the 14<sup>th</sup> February 2019.

- d) Following a short exchange of conversation, Cllr Appleby commented that there appeared to be some confusion but the PC were keen to hear what **MH** had to brief on; and that the PC were intending to meet some time later to discuss **MH's** earlier meeting with Cllr Charles.
- e) **MH** pressed for an answer to his question. Cllr Charles and Cllr Appleby were both unable to confirm to **MH** whether the PC had confidence in the group.
- f) In view of this, and despite being fully prepared to provide an NDPG update brief to the PC, **MH** declared that he felt unable to provide the brief because of the unresolved question of PC confidence in the work of the NDPG.

(The NDPG have been working hard to provide details to support a 'Locality' funding application; and formulation of a technical brief to forward to identified Independent Consultants. Hard copies of this work were available for presentation to the PC on the evening).

- g) **MH** felt that there was no point in proceeding with his brief if the PC were going to ultimately decide that they have no confidence in the work of the group. This considered position was reiterated by **MH** when Cllr Appleby requested that the minutes should reflect that he was "*not willing to provide a brief*". **MH** specifically requested that there was a 'bigger picture' to consider, and that the PC minutes should accurately reflect the fundamental reason for his comments in context to the discussion.

At this point the meeting proceeded to the next Agenda item.

### 3. Other Matters Arising from the PC meeting

**JW** provided an overview of other PC meeting Agenda items that are of particular interest to the current work of the NDPG as follows:

- a) Village Gateways and Traffic and Parking:
  - **Cllr Appleby** advised that the PC has available funding 'which they have to spend before the end of the financial year'.  
The PC has decided on 'country look' gateways to be placed on Ashbrook Lane and Uttoxeter Road (sufficient funding only for two gateways at this time). Speed limiters can be incorporated.
  - There was also discussion on the painting of large white 30mph markings on the roads; as well as provision of additional street signage.
  - There was no mention of the successful Traffic and Parking NDPG (public) meeting on Thursday 7th February 2019 that **Cllr Charles** attended. The approved minutes of the 7<sup>th</sup> February appear on the NDP website, and a copy was also forwarded to the PC on the 17<sup>th</sup> February.

**ACTION:** **TW** to forward separate details of the NDPG T&P (public) meeting to the PC, to ensure that they have been received by the PC Traffic & Parking sub group.

b) Planning:

(Planning Application **P/2019/00121** Coach and Horses car park site)

- Taking on board the earlier public session comments, the PC agreed the need for certainty as to what is actually being proposed for in the Planning Application. Depending on which supporting document is being read, the Planning Application has no consistency throughout; referring to different sizes of dwellings, number of car parking spaces, garages etc.
- It was considered difficult to understand what is being proposed by the application.
- The clerk confirmed that clarity could be requested, and time for the PC to respond can be extended.
- In the interim, the following PC Councillors provided comment:-

**Cllr Ryan** – Highways do not appear to have raised any concerns but the “footway is missing” instead there are shrubs. He asked that the plans be amended to put in a footway in front of the dwellings.

**Cllr Appleby** – Reiterated a number of times, a preference for a footway rather than shrubs.

**Cllr Robb** - We can't object to the application in principle. Not happy about garages in front of the houses which looks awful. A wish to see a 'full street scene' as the current one is not representative. Gardens aren't big enough for the size of the proposed properties. It appears that the plan is trying to fit too much on to the site.

**NDPG OBSERVATIONS:**

- i. With no opportunity to comment during the PC meeting discussions, the NDPG recommend that the PC consider the NPPF (Feb 2019), and specifically the fact that there is no presumption in favour of development within designated Conservation Areas.  
Planning authorities should refuse developments unless there is 'substantial public benefit' which outweighs any harm (even less than significant harm) to the heritage asset, street scene and setting.
- ii. The Planning Application proposal is also contrary to the ESBC Local Plan (2012-2031) SP24; SP25; DP1 and DP3 which specifically refer to avoiding infilling and over intensification of the area.
- iii. There is no identified local 'need' for the proposed dwellings, or indeed any further dwellings given the fact that Abbots Bromley has exceeded its development allowance of 40 for the Local Plan period 2012-2031 (having already built or had approved 60+ dwellings to date 2019).
- iv. The 40 development allowance stipulated within the ESBC Local Plan is specifically referred to as a reason for refusing a recent Planning Application in Yoxall.

**ESBC Refusal Statement to Planning Application P/2017/01385 refers.**

#### 4. Draft Minutes NDP meeting 21<sup>st</sup> February 2019

The Draft minutes of the meeting were approved with some minor changes. The group secretary is to make the relevant changes to the Draft minutes and forward them as Approved minutes for uploading to the NDP website.

#### 5. Action Grid

The ACTION Grid was reviewed and updated to reflect recently completed ACTIONS.

#### 6. NDPG Meeting (Public Session) 7th March 2019.

Discussions were conducted in relation to the next NDPG (Public Session) meeting 7th March 2019 "**Heritage and Conservation**".

All arrangements for distribution of posters and notification on social media and other platforms have been completed.

#### 7. Locality Funding Update

a) **JW** reported that the draft Locality Funding Application had been forwarded to the Clerk to the PC on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2019. It was subsequently confirmed that the document had been circulated to the PC on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> February. **JW** reported that comments/amendments had been received from the PC on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> February. **JW** responded to some of the proposed amendments on the same day and was advised that the application would be discussed further at the PC meeting on 27<sup>th</sup> February 2019. This did not occur for the reasons outlined above.

b) **JW** confirmed that several potential Independent Consultants have been identified, and that the 'technical brief' required for costing purposes was available to hand over in hard copy form to the PC on 27<sup>th</sup> February 2019. This did not occur for the reasons outlined above.

#### 8. NDPG (Public Session) meeting Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2019

The group discussed the topic for the April NDPG (Public Session) meeting and proposed that youth groups within the village be invited to attend/contribute. This would allow an opportunity for the 'younger persons' view to be captured for consideration by the group during production of the parish NDP.

**ACTION: TW** to contact local youth organisations for attendance/contribution at the April NDPG (Public Session) meeting.

#### 9. Correspondence

A letter from the PC Chairman (dated 28<sup>th</sup> February 2019) had been received by all members of the NDPG prior to the meeting.

The contents of the letter referred to the previous evening PC meeting (27<sup>th</sup> February 2019) Agenda item 5. Neighbourhood Plan Update as reported on at Para 2 above.

The NDPG discussed the content of the letter and committed to providing a response by Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2019.

**ACTION: MH/TW** to provide and forward a response to the PC Chairman's letter (dated 28<sup>th</sup> Feb 2019) by Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2019.

8. Agenda, date and time of next meeting

These minutes will inform the items for the next Agenda.

**ACTION:** MH to produce Agenda and distribute for comment at least 48hrs before the next meeting.

All **ACTION** points to be processed. If there are any problems in completing **ACTION's** get in touch with the committee for assistance ASAP.

Next meeting: NDPG (Public Session) 7<sup>th</sup> March 2019 – 7pm – Church House

**ACTION:** TW to book the room.

**THE NEXT PUBLIC MEETING WILL BE ON THURSDAY 7<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2019  
7pm CHURCH HOUSE.**

**THE TOPIC FOR DISCUSSION WILL BE:**

**“Heritage & Conservation”**