

BARNWELL NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN WORKING PARTY

Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 31ST July 2018 in The Village Hall Barnwell at 8.00pm

Present: H Hanlon (Chair), G Wise, C Wilkinson (Consultant), T Herring, H Grant, J Croser, S Utley, M Utley

In attendance: Mrs N Phillips (Clerk)

Apologies: J de Bock, R Pallash

Declarations of interest: None.

Items not on Agenda:

Resignation: Geoff Shacklock has resigned from working party due to a possible conflict of interests but is willing to attend if invited to share his expertise on planning matters.

Terms of Reference: In need of updating. Working Party to revise and then send to Barnwell Parish Council (BWPC) for approval.

NBRC Data Search: Referred under item 7.6 of the Working Party Terms of Reference to BWPC for approval and authorisation.

Results of Survey: Copies distributed and results explained by CW. No personal details or answers to open questions included in this version, full version to be circulated once all personal details are redacted. CW led meeting through the most important points.

Top three issues: Conserving local heritage and village identity, protecting green areas in village, improving or retaining local services and facilities.

Green Spaces: Concerns expressed as to how a private dwelling surrounded by a wall could be included as a local green space. CW explained that there are criteria to apply that will refine important green spaces, also some areas are already sufficiently protected under other designations i.e. All Saints Church.

Design of new buildings: No Conservation Area Appraisal or other guidance in place, these would usually form an appendix to the plan. Grant money available for such appraisals/guidance to be completed. BWPC to be requested to apply for funding grant.

Housing needs: The survey showed a need for between 1 – 10 houses with an average response of 5 – 6 needed up to the year 2031. Most respondents indicated a need for 2 to 3 bedroom properties.

Changes to Settlement Boundary: 20 of the 74 responses to this question indicated a wish to see changes to the Settlement Boundary for a variety of reasons.

Protection of existing service and facilities: The response to this question could be used in circumstances such as the closure of a village shop for conversion into a house.

Additional service and facilities: The top two issues to emerge from the survey results are improved mobile phone signal and a better bus service.

Response to Survey: 80 replies from approximately 300 residents

Housing issues: because of restraints on sufficient space in the main settlement for housing it is suggested by CW that the Plan looks to designate preferred sites for development. CW also pointed out that the Working Party can choose to disregard or ignore survey results but this is not recommended. Final responsibility for producing the Plan lies with BWPC.

SU had spoken with the Head of Planning at ENC and information acquired indicates that large scale housing development is considered inappropriate at present as there is no demonstrable need for such housing, but that small scale development of around 5 houses scattered throughout the village would be more appropriate.

Thought needs to be given to where the Plan designates building to be allowed and checks on suitable sites need to be carried out. The Working Party can define how many and what size of house, and ask for expressions of interest from landowners for consideration before inclusion in the Plan although the Working Party needs to decide on criteria before issuing a call for land.

Once the Plan is approved and accepted it cannot be overturned and will also take priority over ARNOT and other plans already in place.

Other issues: CW requested photos for inclusion in the Plan

SU proposed, seconded and appointed as Vice Chair

Action to be taken: HH to apply for grant to cover additional costs.

Working Party to decide criteria for development before call for land is issued.

Conservation Area/Guidance and NRBC Survey to be referred to BWPC for completion/authorisation.

Terms of Reference to be reviewed by BWPC

CW to send HH information of Conservation Area Appraisal/Guidance

Date of next meeting: HH to circulate dates for approval and arrange the meeting to take place after the BWPC September meeting.

Meeting closed at 9.45pm