



FOR THE COMMON GOOD OF THE COMMUNITY

Minutes of the of the Noak Bridge Parish Council meeting, held in Function Room 1, Barleylands Farm on Wednesday 17th February 2016 at 7:30pm

Present

Councillors:

Peter Steggles

Les Sharrard

Valerie Bayley

Sue Sunderland

Alan Frost

Jason Rajack

16/001 Apologies for absence

No apologies for absence, all Councillors present

16/002 Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest

16/003 Minutes.

Minutes of the 18th November approved and signed as a true record of the meeting.

16/004 Local Plan – Presentation received from Matthew Winslow and Laura Bage (Planning Basildon Borough Council)

Separate appendix attached of the PowerPoint presentation, presenting the proposals for Noak Bridge within the Basildon Council Local Plan, consisting of 360 houses and Primary School

Summarised residents question and answer session:

| Resident Question | Basildon Council response |
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| Why was Noak Bridge not identified in the previous core strategy | In the previous Core Strategy there were concerns that building on the Green Belt would result in Cray's Hill and Noak Bridge merging, the new Local Plan identifies growth without merging into Cray's Hill |
| How is development on the Green Belt permitted | <p>A assessment of the Basildon Borough Green Belt was carried out in December 2015 assessing how the lands meets the criteria of Green belt as set out in the National Planning Policy Framework, as a result of this the green belt border can be redefined</p> <p>3.5 Section 9 of the <i>NPPF</i> sets out the national policy for Green Belt. It states that the fundamental aim of Green Belt policy is to prevent urban sprawl and identifies the essential characteristics of Green Belts as being their openness and permanence. National policy also establishes five purposes for including land within the Green Belt. They are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · To check the unrestricted sprawl of large built-up areas; · To prevent neighbouring towns merging into one another; · To assist in safeguarding the countryside from |

| | |
|--|---|
| | <p>encroachment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · To preserve the setting and special character of historic towns; and · To assist in urban regeneration, by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land. |
| Concerns regarding how Wash Road will manage with the increased traffic, the road does not cope with the current usage and with the increased number of events run at Barleylands and the building of the new horse riding ménage there is already increased traffic without this additional development | Traffic surveys have been carried out on this road, if the development took place there would be infrastructure improvements although it is unclear at this stage what that will be. |
| The A127 would not cope | The A127 already is struggling to cope, the road is not a trunk road and is funded by Essex County Council and not the government so at this stage there is no funds to increase from two to three lanes. If the local plan proceeds then government will fund the addition lane, as the area would be identified for growth. |
| Concerns that there should be an additional Health Centre / Doctors to cope with the increased number of residents | The Clinical Commissioning Group were consulted prior to the proposal being delivered and they stated that additional funding would be required for the Noak Bridge Medical Centre but there was not a requirement for an additional surgery. |
| How much of the development will be affordable housing | 25% of the housing will be affordable housing. |
| How will Billericay train station and buses cope with the increased number of passengers | The train service is privatised and does not fall under the remit of the neighbourhood plan. |

Borough Councillor Comments:

Councillor Steggles asked Councillor Allen and Sargent their views on the proposal, Councillor Sargent and Allen stated that they did oppose the plans but there has to be a plan and whilst they object to the proposal of the development in Noak Bridge, when it comes to agreeing the plan they may have to agree with the proposed plan.

Councillor Sargent stated that if residents were to object to the plans then it is important that alternative areas are suggested for housing. Councillor Sargent reported that the plans would also be on display at the Councillor Surgery in the Noak Bridge Village Hall on Saturday 5th March between 9:30am – 10:30am

b/ Tony Garner Treasurer of the Noak Bridge Nature Reserve presented information from the Basildon Wildlife and Countryside Forum regarding the effect of the Local Plan on wildlife, stating that the danger of building on the proposed site could result in the loss of a wildlife corridor, the benefits of the corridor prevents in breeding. On the proposed site there has been sightings of Muntjac deer, bats and foxes. An additional concern raised was that if the identified new recreational area in the proposal goes ahead this would be located near a brook, which would be a danger to children using the area.

16/005 Public Participation for the length of time determined by the Chair

Councillor Steggles reported information received from the Coppice Lane pharmacy regarding proposals for a change in the funding that local pharmacies receive from Central Government. Without this funding it would prove difficult for the local pharmacy to run his business. At this stage it is a proposal but residents are encouraged to write to their local MP to support this vital service within the Noak Bridge Community.

16/006 Local Plan

Parish Councillors object to the proposal for 360 new homes and new primary school due to the following:

- Surrounding infrastructure will not cope with the increase volume of vehicles using Wash Road.
- Existing residents within Noak Bridge struggle to obtain a secondary school place, with the proposed development of Billericay. Noak Bridge would not be a sustainable area for residents to live due to the lack of secondary school provision.
- Concerns raised regarding the area being built on land which regularly floods
- Wildlife: Muntjac deer, foxes and other wildlife have been seen on the proposed site and this area is used as a wildlife corridor from the Noak

Bridge Nature Reserve to the Barleylands site. Wildlife corridors are essential to stop inbreeding.

- Whilst the Clinical Commission Group have not stated that there is a requirement for an additional doctors / medical centre. Residents are already unable to get appointments or access medical services within the centre with the existing population of Noak Bridge.

16/007 Anti-social behaviour at Teen Shelter

Correspondence received from Gary Edwards requesting why the Parish Council want to pass responsibility of the teen shelter to Basildon Borough Council. Councillors state that as already stated in previous correspondence, it is providing difficult for the Parish Council to respond to residents concerns regarding the teen shelter when the Parish Council are not involved in the discussions taken place with the anti-social behaviour team. Clerk to request that either Basildon Council accept responsibility of the shelter or involve the Parish Council in the meetings regarding the anti-social behaviour problems.

16/008 Crime concerns

Clerk to communicate response from Sargeant Denham regarding the anti-social behaviour at the teen shelter:

“The PCSOs do undertake patrols of areas that the public report concerns about, but as you can appreciate demand outstrips the resources we have, so we have to prioritise where the team go. I’ve copied in all the PCSO’s and my neighbourhood constable PC Asa Smith, just to remind them that concerns remain”

Response to additional items raised:

Parking = is not something we would deal with – it has to be highways.

Suspect person = if your residents have the ward mobile and it doesn’t warrant a 999 call, then they can contact the PCSO’s

Vehicle damage- this is an emerging trend, an officer has been dedicated to this and if anyone has any information they should contact the PCSO’s

16/009 Parking concerns and verges in Bridgecote Lane and Bramble Tye

Councillor Steggles reported the overturned verges and deep tyre marks within the grass, which has damaged the spring bulbs, Rob Baker stated that this is a Borough wide problem. Basildon Council came and seeded some of the areas, ownership of the grass verges is the responsibility of Essex County Council it is

requested that Nigel Le Gresley visits the areas to see whether bollards could be installed to stop this on-going problem.

16/010 New tunnel proposed for Lower Thames crossing: 8-week consultation

Councillor Steggles attended the Lower Thames Crossing, the Parish Council felt that a new crossing would be a benefit to the area and could reduce hotspot traffic areas towards the Lakeside turn off on the M25.

16/011 Grant received from Noak Bridge Pre – School

Proposal: Councillors consider grant application for £493.95 for Noak Bridge Pre School for Special Need Equipment , Councillors proposal to fund a grant of £500.00

Clerk reported that there is £1000 earmarked in the 2015/2016 budget towards grant funds and to date no other applications have been received.

Proposed: Councillor Sharrard

Seconded: Councillor Frost

Vote: All in favour

16/012 Finance

Payments

| Payee | Description | Amount |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------|
| Barleylands | February Meeting | £ 100.00 |
| University of Gloucestershire (BACS) | Active Citizenship module | £ 465.00 |
| That Essex Printer (BACS) | Local Plan Flyer and distribution | Approx £120.00 |

b/ Budget and Precept

Councillors reviewed and agreed the budget for the 2016-2017 financial year, clerk explained that the pension contribution would come from reserves for the next year financial year as after the 2016/2017 financial year there will be no university costs so the pension can be funded by the training budget for 2017/2018 onwards.

Proposal: No increase to the precept figure for 2016 / 2017 = £51,300.00

Proposed : Councillor Steggles

Vote: All in favour

16/013 Planning

Planning applications for consideration, comments to be submitted to Basildon Council. Applications can be viewed at www.basildon.gov.uk/eplanning

Replacement of single glazed wooden framed windows with double glazed UPVC framed windows

187 Crouch Street Noak Bridge Basildon SS15 4BL

Ref. No: 16/00071/FULL –

no objections

Single storey rear extension 23 Kimberley Drive Noak Bridge Basildon
SS15 4DU Ref. No: 16/00047/FULL

no objections

16/014 Coppice Lane Pond

Since this agenda item was set the works have been completed to the Coppice Lane pond funded by the Noak Bridge Community Association.

15/015 Bollards for South Wash Road Playing Field

Gary Edwards is attending a meeting this evening where this item is being discussed, clerk will contact Gary Edwards for an update prior to the next meeting.

16/016 Children's Easter Hunt

Children's Easter Egg Hunt planned for Tuesday April 5th 6:30 – 8:30pm at Monkey Madness Basildon. Private hire cost of £250.00, residents' ticket price £5, which will include an egg.

16/017 Meeting Calendar

Future meeting dates 7:30pm

Wednesday 23rd March 2016

Wednesday 20th April 2016

Meeting closed 9:47pm