

# Minutes No.57: Alvechurch Parish Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group Meeting



**Date:** Wednesday 26 April 2017

**Venue:** Hopwood Community Hall 09:30 am

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**Present:** Peter Freeman, Alan Helmore, Andy Humphries, Adrian Smith (Chair), Helen Smith (BDC), Dorothy Snaddon, Marc Worrall.

**Apologies:** John Cypher

## 1. Welcome

Adrian Smith welcomed Barratt Homes to the meeting.

## 2. Barratt Homes Presentation

Mark Elliot from Barratt Homes and Simon Hawley from Harris Lamb consultancy gave a presentation for a future proposed development on land adjacent to the St Laurence Meadows area. Barretts informed the meeting that the land area could accommodate up to 180 dwellings between the M42 and the recent construction of Rectory Gardens and Old Rectory Lane, agreeing this would only be if it were in line with any future release of the site from the Green Belt through a BDC Green Belt and Local Plan review.

Access to the site would be from Birmingham Road. Marc Worrall urged Barratts to consider a ghost right turning lane to avoid congestion from cars turning into the estate if the proposal was brought forward.

The site is still within the protected Green Belt. Bromsgrove District Council has not yet determined their allocation for housing that may be allocated for Alvechurch following a Green Belt review.

The earliest start date for construction of houses on the site is likely to be post 2023.

Barratts were urged by members of the NP Steering Group Committee to consider the implications to the local medical facilities and school places. Both of which are unlikely to be able to cope with the occupants of another 180 houses.

More detailed notes of the Barratts presentation were taken by Tammy Williams, APC Parish Clerk.

Barratt Homes and the APC clerk left the meeting after their presentation.

## 3. Minutes from last meeting, Wednesday 29 March 2017:

The 29 March minutes were agreed and signed by the chairman.

## 4. Matters Arising

4 a) Policy aims and match to policies.

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Adrian Smith confirmed that Topic discussion groups should use the latest versions of the NP documents distributed by email yesterday (25th April).

4 b) Notification to outside organisations affected.

Peter Freeman agreed to look at all topic groups and prepare a list of organisations likely to be affected by the Alvechurch Parish Neighbourhood Plan.

4 c) Proof reader meeting

This item was discussed later in the meeting as Helen Smith (BDC) had to leave the meeting early.

## 5. District Level Issues

Adrian Smith expressed thanks on behalf of the group to Helen Smith who is leaving BDC shortly to take up a new position at Wyre Forest District Council. Adrian stated that she will be missed in terms of her input to the draft Neighbourhood Plan.

Helen Smith confirmed that Mike Dunphy will take over as liaison with the Steering Group and will be able to sort out any mapping requirements. Adrian Smith agreed to sort out the Steering Group mapping requirements.

Helen Smith also stated that Rosemary Williams is leaving BDC as well.

Contacts at Worcestershire County Council (WCC) were discussed. Dorothy Snaddon agreed to contact Emily Hetherington in the Historical and Environmental Department at WCC to find out the names of the relevant section heads who should be contact about the Neighbourhood Plan.

Some names were suggested as potential WCC contacts as follows:

Transport	Karen Hanchett
Ecology	Cody
Historical and Environmental	Emily Hetherington
Flood Risk and Climate Change	No name suggested
Education	No name suggested
Strategic Planning	Marta

WCC and BDC are to be contacted regarding an informal review of the NP documents before they go to pre-submission consultation.

## Matters Arising

4 c) Proof reader meeting

Adrian Smith and Marc Worrall are to hold an exploratory meeting with Keith Gabriel on either 4 or 10 May depending on Keith's availability.

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## **6. Picnic In The Park**

This year's picnic is to be held on Sunday 28 May.

Adrian Smith confirmed the Parish Council/NP Steering Group will have a stand and distributed a list of questions he thought parishioners should be asked at the Picnic.

It was suggested that members of the Steering Group(SG) who attend the picnic should wear T shirts with "*Say yes to your Neighbourhood Plan*" printed on them.

It was agreed that advice should be sought from a printer as to colours and font size.

Provisional plans are for two people to constantly be at the stand and roving questioners should move around the event.

It was agreed that questions should involve the Alvechurch Village Centre and local green spaces.

Questions should elicit opinions rather than require yes/no answers, such as "*What do you see as the main problems with Alvechurch Village Centre?*".

Topics for discussion may include:

- Parking provision
- Pedestrianisation
- One-way traffic system
- 20 is plenty
- Removal of double lines

Marc Worrall agreed to generate some questions and to circulate them to the group for comment.

## **7. Sustainability Consultant**

Gerard Couper has been commissioned to prepare a Sustainability Report but it has not yet been presented to the Parish Council. He has suggested a meeting with the SG to present a draft SA report.

Gerard is to be contacted and asked for possible dates to hold such a meeting..

## **8. Work Areas**

These were generally discussed under other items above.

## **9. NP Finances**

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It was suggested that we apply for a grant to help pay for NP costs but it was generally agreed that the Parish Council can probably provide funding.

### **10. AOB**

There was no other business.

### **Actions:**

*All APC members of the Steering Group*

**Date of next SG meeting** – Monday 24 May, 10:00 at Hopwood Community Centre.