

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WOLVEY PARISH COUNCIL**  
**HELD IN WOLVEY BAPTIST CHAPEL**  
**MONDAY 1<sup>st</sup> FEBRUARY, 2016 at 7.00pm**

**Present:** Councillor Dixon (Chairman); Councillors Kenrick, Nixon and Warwick  
J. Essex (Clerk)

**21 members of the public were present**

**Apologies:** Councillor Buswell

**149 Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**150 Public Consultation**

John Hardman asked whether it was usual practice for Rugby Borough Council to consult with, or advertise for landowners to come forward with sites for development. It was explained that landowners could submit sites for consideration at any time to Rugby Borough Council, which were then kept on a database maintained by the Borough Council.

**151 Rugby Borough Council – Preferred Options Local Plan Document**

Following the presentation by officers from Rugby Borough Council's Planning Department at the last meeting, the Chairman explained that this meeting had been convened to discuss the parish council's response to the Rugby Borough Council Preferred Options consultation.

**RESOLVED** that Wolvey Parish Council makes the following representations to Rugby Borough Council:

Wolvey Parish Council has considered carefully the development options for the Borough of Rugby, and wishes to make the following observations.

Wolvey PC objects to the extent of the Borough's housing requirements being generated by an overspill from Coventry. Wolvey Parish Council respectfully requests that all endeavours are made by Rugby Borough Council to ensure Coventry has explored all options within its own boundaries to minimise the housing burden on neighbouring authorities. We also request that any attempt by Coventry to annexe land in Rugby Borough is resisted. Whilst the Duty to Co-operate is acknowledged, the additional burden from Coventry will have an adverse impact upon Rugby's Main Rural Settlements, even more so as it is expected that each such settlement will accommodate around 100 dwellings, all of which are required to be delivered within the first 5 years post adoption of the Local Plan to meet the housing land supply obligation. It seems to the Parish Council that in Coventry's desire not to take more than 10% of its Green Belt for

housing, it is simply pushing the problem onto neighbouring authorities to give up land in their Green Belt instead, so the overall net effect is just as bad, in Green Belt terms. The impact upon the Main Rural Settlements of Rugby Borough will be further increased by the extent of development proposed, which will undoubtedly change the character of those settlements. Wolvey already struggles with limited services for its residents, which an additional 100 homes would exacerbate e.g. residents obtaining medical appointments at Wolvey Surgery and limited public transport in the area.

Whilst accepting the growth in population, the Main Rural Settlements have had little time to respond to the implications of this proposal, unlike the town of Rugby, and no preparations for development are as yet in place. Therefore Wolvey respectfully requests that for the first five year phase of development the burden is placed on the main urban proposals in place already, and attempts are made to “build out” existing sites with consent. This will give the Main Rural Settlements reasonable time to identify available and suitable sites and establish Neighbourhood Plans.

With regard to Neighbourhood Plans, it is expected by Wolvey Parish Council that proper regard and attention is given to the emerging Neighbourhood Plan, and that areas of housing need that may be identified by it are given proper consideration. These areas may include affordable, first time and retirement accommodation, and are unlikely to be dominated by solely a need for larger detached type housing.

Wolvey Parish Council intends to develop a Neighbourhood Plan, and hopes that the Borough Council will give all possible assistance to this plan’s preparation, and that Rugby BC Planners and Planning Committee will give proper attention to the needs and requirements for housing in the village of Wolvey.

## **152 Neighbourhood Plan**

Councillors considered the draft terms of reference for the Neighbourhood Plan Advisory Committee.

**RESOLVED** that the Terms of Reference for the Neighbourhood Plan Advisory Committee be adopted.

## **153 Date of Next Meeting**

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2016 in Wolvey Bowling Club

**The meeting closed at 7.25 pm.**