

**BETLEY, BALTERLEY AND WRINEHILL PARISH COUNCIL
(EXTRAORDINARY MEETING)**

2nd October 2024

Commenced: 7.30 pm **Terminated: 8.10 pm**

Present: Councillor Bettley-Smith (Chair)
Councillors Berrisford, Drakakis-Smith, Head, Owen and Speed.

There were 2 Members of the Public in attendance

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Bullock, Daly, Ecclestone, Hales, Karling and Watkin.

At this juncture (7.35 pm) Councillor Owen arrived at the meeting.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

All Members declared a personal interest on the matter being discussed.

3. PUBLIC FORUM

There were no questions raised by Members of the Public relating to matters on this Agenda.

4. NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME BOROUGH COUNCIL LOCAL PLAN

Members considered a summary report from the Parish Council Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group on the Newcastle-under-Lyme Final Draft Local Plan 2020-2040, which was currently open to consultation. The consultation ended on 7th October 2024.

The Chair reported that as far as this Parish was concerned, there were no areas identified for development, unlike the neighbouring Parish of Madeley. He added that any sites identified for housing requirement in the Ward were proposed for the Madeley parish.

There were two developments of interest to the Parish Council which were the development at Junction16, which was primarily a warehousing site, to be serviced by Junction 16, and also the development of Keele Golf Course, where part of the land would be developed for housing and the remainder would be an additional country park. Housing on the site could have an impact on Betley Village, in terms of traffic.

The Chair clarified that the designation of a 'Rural Hub', was simply a definition of a rural area with certain facilities, rather than an indication of what was proposed in the future. However, as the Parish had a Neighbourhood Plan, the area already had a high level of protection from development, and would have further protection with an up to date Local Plan.

The Parish had been fortunate that its Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group comprised extremely knowledgeable people on the subject, including two retired Planners and the former Clerk who had been heavily involved in planning matters.

RESOLVED

That the Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer submits the following resolutions of this Parish Council to Newcastle-under-Lyme Planning Policy Department as a statutory consultee, in the consultation process:-

- (i) The Local Plan be welcomed in principle;**
- (ii) The Strategic Objectives and Policies be supported;**

- (iii) Traffic through the village on the A531 has increased significantly over the last decade or so, and has now reached the point where at peak times it is already difficult to cross the road. If there was any further development in neighbouring wards the situation would be worse. Going forward, a significant increase in the traffic may require a radical solution; (This resolution was unanimous).**
- (iv) The Neighbourhood Plan be monitored, revised against the adopted Local Plan, expected by 2026 and rolled to same end date 2040; (This resolution was unanimous).**
- (v) That the Parish Council Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group continues work on monitoring the Neighbourhood Plan to enable it to be updated and revised. (This resolution was unanimous).**

5. URGENT ITEMS

The Chair reported that there were no items which required consideration as a matter of urgency.