

## BROWN EDGE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Special Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 10<sup>th</sup>. June 2019 at Brown Edge Village Hall, School Bank, Brown Edge, Stoke on Trent.

Present: Councillor A. Basnett, (Chair)

Councillors: R. Corbett, N. Hargreaves, N. Owen, J. Sherratt, J. Shufflebotham, D. Spooner, P. Turner, S. Turner & P. Woodward.

Thirty + Members of the Public.

49:19. Apologies for Absence.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor L. Lea (Meeting at SMDC)

50:19. Adjournment of Meeting for Public Participation.

Members of the public raised numerous points regarding the approved outline application for housing on land at Sytch Road, Brown Edge.

These included:

The site was designated as an Open Space.

It should be protected as a public open space.

Too many houses would result in no green space left.

What was there for younger /older people in the village.

Would there be problems with the school.

Position of the access to the proposed site.

Had the total number of houses required for the village been achieved.

Reports that notification letters of the Planning Committee meeting had not been sent out and that those that had were not giving sufficient notice of the chance to address the meeting.

The main points were noted and various questions answered.

The Chairman thanked the public for their input.

51:19. Discussion on a Recent Planning Decision.

The planning approval in question was outline permission for housing on land at Sytch Road, Brown Edge.

It was pointed out to Councillors that there may have been several miscarriages of justice. One was that the restriction on building on the land had been removed without notification to the Council. It was protected and this was confirmed by the head of the legal department at Staffs Moorlands District Council but what he said was not done.

When the playing field was bought by Norton Parish Council, the predecessor of Brown Edge Parish Council, this land was earmarked as a possible extension to the said playing field. In 1986 it was agreed with the Moorlands Council the land would be bought and maintained by the Councils but the Moorlands state that they have no record of this.

The biological survey on the land was undertaken in November (winter months) which gave incorrect facts. The site is inappropriate for development.

It was pointed out that it was imperative that the best advice is obtained and clear direction given to this Council so that it can act with confidence on whether to challenge the decision.

It was proposed and seconded that a small working group, consisting of the Chair, Councillor P. Turner and one other be set up to:

1. seek advice from whatever source possible to ascertain if there are grounds to proceed further for a judicial review so that the application decision can be overturned, and that if that advice is positive the Chair obtain a quote from No 5 Chambers, Fountain Court, Birmingham and this is presented to a full Council meeting for a decision.

2. seek advice and to prepare for the forthcoming full application from the best specialist advice available so that the impact upon our Neighbourhood Plan can be minimised. Again a quote should be obtained for presentation to full Council at the earliest opportunity.

This was agreed UNANIMOUSLY.

It was agreed that Councillor Woodward should be the third member of the working group.