



**Abbots Bromley Parish Neighbourhood
Development Plan**

Abbots Bromley Parish Neighbourhood Development Plan Working Group (ABPNDPWG)

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 5th October 2017 - Church House

Present: (BW) Bryn Walters* (Group Chair), (TW) Tom Wheeldon (GH) Greg Hall** (SP) Stephen Perrins, (PM) Peter Male, (RR) Ros Robb* (PR) Phil Ryan* (SA) Stuart Appleby

* Parish Councillors.

** East Staffordshire Borough Councillor

1. Apologies for absence

(NH) Neal Haywood, (AB) Anna Bebbington

2. Declarations of Interest

None

3. Review and agree minutes of the last meeting (21st September 2017)

The group discussed the draft minutes. It was agreed that e-mailed track changes as suggested by both TW and PM should be accepted. Subject to the amendments the minutes were agreed as an accurate record of the meeting. The agreed minutes will now be added to the website.

4. Correspondence

BW raised a letter received from David Austin following the Horn Dance Day consultation regarding Crown Bank. The group discussion agreed that Mr Austin has misrepresented the purpose and nature of the consultation, which is unfortunate given that he spoke to GH on Horn Dance Day who clearly set out that the process was merely fact finding at this stage, all part of a conversation on public realm and that no fixed proposal has been put forward.

As the letter covers aspects as relevant to East Staffordshire Borough Council & Staffordshire County Council as well as the Neighbourhood Development Plan, it was agreed that a letter of response should be coordinated with those other relevant organisations.

The group also agreed that a response should be sent quickly in order to set the record straight, especially given that Mr Austin has given incorrect information to his immediate neighbours.

A full copy of the letter received from Mr Austin is appended to these minutes (Appendix A)

ACTION: BW to action letter of response & liaise with SCC and ESBC regarding the process.

5. Determination of housing need identified from consultation with the community

The group discussed the local housing need as identified by the community in the previous consultation stage. Group members are keen that as we move towards the draft plan consultation stage we give the community as much information as possible in which to consider in order to fully inform their responses. Part of this involves being clear on the number and type of houses to be provided through the NDP.

The group agreed that an estimation of housing numbers and type will be required in order that we can inform the land owners of sites identified through the site assessment process. This estimation will be subject to full consultation with the community at the draft plan stage and could therefore be subject to change.

The group agreed that site 3 (AB School - Equestrian/Anglesey) should look to provide 30 new build homes to satisfy local need. This figure will include 2 proposed gifted Almshouses, a figure derived from previous discussion with representatives of the Almshouse committee. The safeguarding of a significant proportion of the site from development will also be key to any agreement.

ACTION: The group to begin drafting a letter to Abbots Bromley School to clearly set out our position. Group members to comment on the draft.

6. Mapping of the proposed Local Housing Need

The group carried out a short mapping exercise. It was agreed that those members wishing to look in more detail at this process should do so and then advise the group at a future meeting.

7. Update on the draft plan process & agree re-drafted NDP timetable

The group discussed the draft plan. PM has added suggested parking and traffic policies to Drop Box. SP agreed to add in those policies on rural Parish issues that he has been considering. RR agreed to add in the build design and heritage work that she has been leading on with AB once they have discussed.

ACTION: All group members to continue draft plan work on Dropbox. Review of draft plan progress will now become a regular agenda item for discussion.

BW outlined that the new NDP timetable has been discussed with the Parish Council at their meeting of 27th September. Subject to a couple of amendments the PC is happy with the re-draft as proposed (a copy of which is appended to these minutes at Appendix B)

ACTION: BW to arrange for the re-drafted timetable to be added to the website. ESBC also to be advised of the new schedule.

8. Date and time of next meeting

The next meeting will be:

Thursday 19th October – 19:00, Church House (upstairs room)

ACTION: TW to action room booking

Appendix A - Letter to Councillor Phillip Atkins from Mr D.J. Austin, 1st October 2017.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Tel: - [REDACTED]. Mobile: - [REDACTED] Email: - [REDACTED]

1st October 2017.

Dear Councillor Atkins,

Abbots Bromley Village Green – Crown Bank Conservation Area

I am writing to you as my County Councillor with copies to Greg Hall as my ESBC Councillor and also to the Parish Council about the frivolous Neighbourhood Consultation Committee Plans and drawings prepared and funded by the County Council (in supposed times of cutbacks and hardship) for a proposed alteration to Crown Bank, Market Place on Abbots Bromley Village Green right in the middle of The Award-Winning Conservation Area.

My first enquiry is who initiated and who ordered the preparation of these plans and who bore that expense and also sanctioned a stand on Horn Dance Day exhibiting plans and drawings with a printed questionnaire and comment form? This is purely a neighbourhood Plan but the views from the General Public at large (who attended the Horn Dance) were sought alongside residents. Obviously, a biased non-local view could well have been gained on the questionnaires completed and deposited anonymously?

The Village Green is the Centre of the Abbots Bromley Conservation Area, surrounded by Grade 1 and mainly Grade 2 Listed Buildings under the added jurisdiction of English Heritage in addition to the County and District Councils. Any denigration of this area in the way

proposed by the County Council's three published options will be strongly contested, if necessary, at a Public Planning Inquiry. I believe from all my neighbours who surround this area that these proposals trigger their opposition – and are already supported by the signatures of some 22 immediate neighbours. This is without any promotion but with genuine anger at the scurrilous scheme being expensively toyed with.

The proposals consider a reduction of the parking availability on Crown Bank in a Village where parking availability has become critical. Perhaps if this scheme is to be further considered the Crown Public House Car Park in Schoolhouse Lane could be Compulsorily Purchased to provide a much-needed Village Car Park for residents and visitors alike?

Having seen the 3 various options I write to point out that this scheme in any of its alternatives merely enhances the trade and business of The Crown Public House, whilst creating a possible late hour “raucous boozers’ paradise”, attracting not only locals but also additional young boisterous drinkers from the adjacent towns of Rugeley, Uttoxeter and Burton on Trent. Certainly, it would further increase the existing nuisance to adjacent properties surrounding the current (illegal) drinking area on the Village Green which are already contrary to the ESBC bye laws on drinking in the street.

The proposals do not fairly take into account the equality of business interests enjoyed by the other Public Houses – namely: -

- The Bagot's,
- The Royal Oak (Ruchi),
- The Goats Head
- The Coach and Horses

who are all likely to be prejudiced commercially and similarly object to these proposals.

To my knowledge Councillor Hall who manned the Horn Day Stand is a regular customer of the Crown Inn but also has a daughter who is also employed there – I trust that he had already declared his appropriate pecuniary interest under the relevant Local Government Acts?

The plans to enhance drinking outside The Crown currently contravene Section 3(1) ESBC's licensing Policy under the Licensing Act 2003. In carrying out its duties under the Act, the Licensing Authority as you know should actively promote the licensing objectives, specifically:

- The prevention of crime and disorder
- Public safety
- The prevention of public nuisance, and
- The protection of children from harm

The Crown has a rear garden for drinkers and smokers to use which with a little work could be reinstated to its former glory and would prevent the current nuisance. Instead the licensees encourage drinking outside the front of Crown Inn with a failure to use non-plastic safety glasses. Customers spill onto the road and sometimes tables and chairs occupy and illegally obstruct the highway. The use of the pavement is sometimes impossible. Many noisy nights have been experienced and at least two cars have been damaged outside the Crown by “drunken customers” leaving the premises. All these acts are in contravention of the Licensing Acts, Local Bye Laws and the Highways Acts. This of course should all be enforced by the Local Licensing Authority.

I write now to give advance warning of my own objections to this bizarre idea and on behalf of the persons named (who have all read this letter and agree with it) If this scheme is advanced further.

Yours sincerely,

David J Austin on behalf of 22 immediate neighbours.

- Councillor Phillip Atkins OBE, Staffordshire County Council.
- Councillor Greg Hall, ESBC Borough Council.
- Sarah Meads Clerk to Abbots Bromley Parish Council.
- Residents around the Village Green for information.

The undersigned have all read this letter and agree with its contents. They have signed the following declaration: -

“I wish to object to the application to pedestrianise Crown Bank, Market Place, Abbots Bromley and wish it to remain exactly as it is:”

[Redacted signature area containing 14 horizontal black bars of varying lengths]



SAVE CROWN BANK – KEEP IT AS IT IS!

Appendix B – Agreed re-draft Plan Timetable

PROPOSED SCHEDULE (TIMETABLE) FOR ABBOTS BROMLEY
PARISH
NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN

1. Amendments to be agreed by the NDP Group at meeting on 5th October 2017 to reflect comments made by Abbots Bromley Parish Council at their meeting on 27th September 2017
2. To be published

STAGE (Ticked if already completed)		ORIGINAL MILESTONE	NEW MILESTONE
INITIAL COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT	✓	MEETING HELD 18/12/15	
FORMATION OF WORKING GROUP AND PARISH COUNCIL AGREEMENT OF GROUP TERMS OF REFERENCE:	✓	NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2015	
INAUGURAL MEETING OF WORKING GROUP	✓	JAN 2016	
EVIDENCE GATHERING	✓	FEB 2016 - SEPT 2016	
GATHERING AND ANALYSIS OF DATA	✓	SEPT 2016 - DEC 2016	
COMPLETION OF EVIDENCE GATHERING	✓	DEC 2016 - FEB 2017	
PREPARATION OF FIRST DRAFT OF NP		FEB 2017 - JUNE 2017	FEB 2017 - JAN 2018
STATUTORY CONSULTATION: 6 WEEKS		MID JUNE - END OF JULY 2017	MAR 2018 – MAY 2018 (EXPANDED BEYOND 6 WKS)

			AT REQUEST OF PC)
REVIEW/AMENDMENT OF DRAFT NP		JULY - SEPT 2017	MAY – JUNE 2018
AGREEMENT OF FINAL DRAFT— ABBOTS BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL		OCT 2017	JULY 2018
SUBMISSION TO EAST STAFFS BOROUGH COUNCIL		NOV 2017	AUGUST 2018
INDEPENDENT EXAMINATION		DATE TO BE CONFIRMED	
REFERENDUM		DATE TO BE CONFIRMED	
PLAN ADOPTION		DATE TO BE CONFIRMED	