



Public Meeting Minutes

Date: 19th April 2023
Time: 19:00 to 20:40
Location: Stafford Golf Club, Spike Room

1	The Chair welcomed all and opened the meeting.
2	<p>Stafford Regeneration Scheme</p> <p>There was a discussion on the Stafford Regeneration scheme, focussing particularly on the Gateway element. Key points included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Plan was created as a vision and it is important to keep the whole plan in mind as the overall context. [https://www.staffordbc.gov.uk/local-plan].- The consultation period was short, with little notice, and most of it was over the summer holiday period.- The whole Gateway development will likely be sold off in small areas, to different developers. From the point of view of quality of life for residents and for the local biodiversity, each site does need to be considered in its own context. E.g., Some of the brownfield sites have been there for a long time, and each now has its own ecosystem.- It is clear that the local community really cares about our green spaces. Residents are not opposed to development but to the broader concept of the type of development (high density) as well as specifics such as the removal of all TPOs (tree preservation orders). Residents feel that their voices are not being heard.- Within the plan there were several areas which could be reconsidered and developed differently for the benefit of residents and in fact to respond to SBC's own climate change agenda (https://www.staffordbc.gov.uk/Climate-Change-and-Green-Recovery). A green wildlife corridor, most of which already exists, from the Castle to Doxey Marshes would only take a small change. There are other existing areas of biodiversity where small changes would make a big difference.- Residents were encouraged to keep working with SBC to make the development one that was right for us, as well as for Stafford in a wider sense. £20 million SBC was promised is not there currently; it was on the back of HS2, which is delayed.- It was recommended that residents approach people in SBC through our councillors. The Local Plan is not fixed/sealed so we do have opportunity to be listened to and our community and the wildlife need to be considered in any discussions and planning activities. Residents were encouraged to submit questions to our councillors. The concept of the Balancing Pond being identified as a local asset was discussed as well as the importance of having a group voice in challenging the developers and the plans.



3	<p>Working together with Newport Road RA NRA and CRA holding joint discussions about lack of transparency and communication on central developments e.g. town centre. It was recommended that we read the list of applications on SBC site. Residents can sign up for it by going into the portal: there is only six weeks between appearance and decision on applications.</p> <p>Common issues of RAC and CRA: noise, speed, fundraising; sharing knowledge, dialogue on potholes, litter, etc. Residents were advised that there is a 'My Staffs' app that can be used to report potholes, etc.</p>
4	<p>Burleyfields It was recognised that we offer mutual support. Burleyfields is experiencing lots of issues with Taylor Wimpey, e.g. dead trees, lack of schools although there are places in Doxey and Castle Church Schools currently. New schools will take six years minimum to be completely open.</p>
5	<p>Speeding Initiative update 12-15 local residents have been on Speedwatch training. More training coming up. Residents were advised to let the committee know if interested. The teams will be out on the streets very soon. Purpose is to capture data, count vehicles, count how many are speeding, and to act as a general deterrent by being visible. Letters will be sent. 3 letters, from whichever area, will result in a fine. A feasibility study is being done in our area and in Newport Road.</p> <p>Question were raised about what can be done about noisy and dangerous night traffic. Residents were advised that data needs to be collected on these vehicles e.g. keep a diary to note patterns and present this information to PCSOs.</p> <p>Action: Invite PCSOs to next meeting</p>
6	<p>Events coming up: Next litter pick date 20th May 11am to 12; Woodland work continues; Next public meeting – provisionally 13th September 2023</p>
7	<p>Contacting the committee Residents were advised to email committee@castlefields.org. Those residents who wished to be added to CRA communication emails gave their email address.</p>
8	<p>Any Other Business Graffiti on electric box on Redgrave Drive will be reported to Cadet. Wall at roundabout at Redgrave Drive/Kingsway, where there is some personal abuse written, is private, so nothing can be done in that regard.</p>
8	<p>Close of meeting - Chair. Meeting closed at 20.40 with the raffle, which the Treasurer had organised with prizes donated by committee members.</p>