

**Minutes of Barkway Parish Council Extraordinary Meeting
Held in the Community Room, Barkway on Tuesday 30th January 2020 at 7.30pm.**

- 1. In attendance:** Cllrs:
Mr W Dennis (Chair)
Dr J Magill
Mr N Stuart
Mrs J Connolly

Also present: Mrs C Toms (Clerk/RFO)
Dist. Cllr. G Morris

Members of the Public: Manager from Newsells Park Stud

- 2. To receive and accept apologies for absence:** Cllr. Cox, Cllr. Baker and County Cllr. Hill, Dist Cllr. T Hunter

- 3. To receive Councillor's Declarations of Pecuniary Interest and to remind Councillors of their requirement to update register of interests under change of circumstances – None**

- 4. To discuss and agree whether to make a representation regarding matters at further hearing sessions for the North Hertfordshire Local Plan Examination in March 2020**

An invitation had been received from Knebworth Parish Council to participate in another joint representation of behalf of the 5 'Growth Villages'.

After some discussion it was proposed, seconded and agreed by all that Barkway Parish Council should not participate but make an individual representation. The Clerk to respond to Knebworth Parish Council. **Action: Clerk**

The reason for this decision was that it was considered that right from the outset Barkway had been wrongly categorised as a 'Category A' village and this had consequently lead to Barkway being grouped with the other 4 villages as being deemed suitable for significant growth. Barkway was in fact totally different from the other 4 villages, being much smaller, with therefore different particular interests that attention needed to be directed to.

It was considered that since the outset of the NHDC Local Plan many things had happened/changed which could in the case of Barkway (and inclusion of Site BK3) now demonstrate that the emerging Plan was not sound.

It was proposed, seconded and agreed by all to ask GovResources, as local planning experts, if they would be able to make a representation of behalf of Barkway Parish Council. The Clerk to make contact with GovResources the following day. **Action: Clerk**

Standing Orders were suspended to allow the Manager of Newsells Park Stud to update the Council on where they were with their objection to the inclusion of site BK3 within the NHDC Local Plan.

It was reported that having had a disastrous representation at the previous round of hearings, they had since engaged a new Planning Consultant who would be acting on their behalf and making a representation at the forthcoming hearings.

It was proposed, seconded and agreed that a meeting should take place between GovResources, the Newsells Park Stud Planning Consultant, Cllr. Magill and Dist Cllr. Morris as soon as possible to ensure consistency and strength of representation. The Clerk to forward contact details to Newsells Stud. **Action: Clerk**

Standing Orders were then resumed.

It was proposed and agreed to book to take part in the following hearing sessions:

Monday 16th March – Matter 21 – the objective assessment of housing need.

Tuesday 17th March – Matter 22 – the five year housing land supply.

Wednesday 25th March – Matter 25 – new land proposed for site allocation (Site BK3)

Thursday 26th March – Matter 26 – villages for ‘growth’

In addition, to provide a written submission on Matter 23 – the Green Belt Review work and the site selection process. (Wednesday 18th March).

The Clerk to contact PO Services by deadline of 3rd February to book into hearing sessions. **Action: Clerk**

There being no further business, the meeting ended at 8.30pm