

NORTH SOMERSET COUNCIL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING, WEDNESDAY, 23RD JUNE 2021, AGENDA ITEM 9 - THE ABBOTS LEIGH, HAM GREEN, PILL AND EASTON-IN-GORDANO NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2020-26: A SUBMISSION MADE ON BEHALF OF HAM GREEN RESIDENTS AND THEIR SUPPORTERS

With only a limited range of options available to committee members, to approve the plan with modifications to put to a referendum, or to come to a different view or conclusion that would require a further period of consultation with the possibility of holding another Examination, then the residents wish to place on record their endorsement of:

- the Independent Examiner's recommendations and modifications in his report on the Neighbourhood Plan; and
- the Planning Officer's/Executive Member's recommendation that the revised Plan as modified by the Examiner's report should proceed to a referendum in September 2021.

In coming to this view the residents have noted the very great number of policy deletions and other modifications in the Examiner's report on the Neighbourhood Plan. Particularly those concerned with the deletion and modification of Policy HOU1 Site A, imposing criteria-based policy constraints on the proposed redevelopment of Orchard View House, and the deletion without replacement of Policy HOU2 Site B, that it was inappropriate for the Neighbourhood Plan to allocate a specific rural exception site to national Green Belt policy.

Under different circumstances the Executive Committee may have questioned what of value is left of the NDP and the time remaining in which it can be delivered, to justify the expense of conducting a public referendum on a Neighbourhood Plan that will be superseded by the Local Plan 2038 when this is adopted in 2023.

However, it is recognised that it is not an option for the members to decide not to proceed with the Neighbourhood Plan at this point, unless both parish councils voluntarily agree to withdraw it from further consideration, so residents are content to see the Plan put to a public referendum for any residual added-value benefit that might be derived from this process that otherwise might not be obtained.

Submitted of behalf of:

Ham Green Residents and their Supporters

(Name and address supplied)

21st June 2021

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Executive 23 June 2021 – Supplementary Papers

Agenda Item 5: Non-Executive Councillors' Addresses

Question from Cllr Haverson to Cllr Bridger:

"I am very concerned that the big infrastructure projects such as the Banwell bypass as well as the A38 improvement plans are aligned with existing NSC policies.

With regards to the Banwell bypass, there are major issues:

1. An increase in biodiversity of 10%. This is now a statutory requirement as well as NS policy. This needs to be on site, benefitting the local community, as a green space between the existing village and the new road. It is vitally important that this is planned before land acquisition decisions are made. Renaturing sections of the Banwell river should also be considered, as the Banwell River is prioritised as a 'green highway' in our draft Green Infrastructure Strategy.
2. This project needs to be seen as an opportunity to create an active travel network, in line with emerging NSC policy. The three villages downstream of the bypass Sandford, Churchill and Winscombe need to be linked to the bypass by cycle lanes. I welcome the preliminary plan to make Wolverhill Road into a quiet lane.
3. The Summer Lane Park Homes site needs to be protected visually and from road noise. It is the home of large numbers of elderly residents and very close to the proposed route.

I am also concerned that the proposed improvement plans for the A38 seem to be predominantly designed to speed car traffic. NSC policy is to prioritise active travel. As a minimum, there should be a cycle link between the villages with two large secondary schools, Churchill and Sidcot. But ideally, we should aim for an eventual safe cycle lane along the full length of the road."

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