

BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL

MEETING OF THE LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK WORKING PARTY

THURSDAY, 23RD OCTOBER 2008, AT 4.00 P.M.

PRESENT: Councillors Mrs. J. Dyer M.B.E. (Chairman), Mrs. M. Bunker,
S. R. Colella, Mrs. R. L. Dent, E. J. Murray, S. R. Peters,
Mrs. M. A. Sherrey JP and C. J. K. Wilson

Officers: Mr. D. Hammond, Mr. M. Dunphy, Mrs. R. Williams, Mr. A.
Fulford, Ms. S. Lai, Mr. A. Harvey and Ms. R. Cole.

22/08 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors G. N. Denaro, R.
Hollingworth, Mrs. J. D. Luck, E. C. Tibby and P. J. Whittaker.

23/08 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of interest were received.

24/08 **MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting of the Local Development Framework Working
Party held on 17th September 2008 were submitted.

RESOLVED that the minutes be approved as a correct record.

25/08 **DEVELOPMENT OF OPTIONS FOR THE WEST MIDLANDS REGIONAL
STRATEGY IN RESPONSE TO THE NATIONAL HOUSING AND
PLANNING ADVICE UNIT REPORT**

The Working Party considered a report which summarised the findings of a
study prepared by Nathaniel Lichfield and Partners (NLP). The study, which
had been commissioned by Government Office West Midlands (GOWM), had
been prepared in response to concerns expressed by central government that
the submitted preferred option Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) review did not
deliver the required amounts of housing as reported by the National Housing
and Planning Advice Unit.

It was reported that GOWM would be using the findings of the study as a basis
of their response to the RSS revision. The results of the study were not formal
policy or proposals but solely independent evidence, setting out alternative
choices for how the region might deliver additional housing to inform the
Examination in Public on the Phase 2 RSS revision.

It was intended that this Authority's submissions on the RSS preferred option and possibly a separate submission on the NLP study would be submitted for approval by Members in accordance with the deadline for submission to the West Midlands Regional Assembly by 8th December 2008.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

26/08 **REGIONAL SPATIAL STRATEGY SECOND STAGE REPORT**

Consideration was given to a report on the findings of the second stage "Study into the Future Growth Implications of Redditch".

Members were reminded that Worcestershire County Council, Bromsgrove District Council, Redditch Borough Council and Stratford District Council had originally commissioned consultants to undertake a "Joint Study into the Future Growth of Redditch Town to 2026" to support the preparation of the RSS. This study had been completed in December 2007.

It had subsequently been agreed by the Authorities involved that the Joint Study was insufficiently detailed to allow district level splits of Redditch Borough related housing growth to be identified. The same consultants had therefore been commissioned by the Authorities concerned and the West Midlands Regional Assembly to undertake the additional work required in order to augment the broad findings of the study.

The stage 2 study had been completed on 10th October 2008 and the general findings were set out in section 3.9 of the report. During the discussion on this item the Chairman referred to an invitation to the Working Party Members to attend a meeting of Redditch Borough Council's Planning Policy Advisory Group on 10th November 2008. This would enable an informal discussion to take place in relation to the issues contained in the study. It was also felt it would be helpful for Bromsgrove members to have the opportunity, prior to that meeting, to visit the sites close to the boundary of Redditch and Bromsgrove identified in the study as possible housing development sites.

It was reported that the study, together with the feedback from public consultation would be inform the responses to the West Midlands RSS and the NLP study referred to in the previous item.

RESOLVED that the conclusions of the study and the implications for Bromsgrove be noted at this stage.

27/08 **DRAFT CORE STRATEGY**

The Working Party considered a report on the final draft of the Core Strategy to be submitted for public consultation together with the associated documents. It was noted that changes had been made to reflect Members' previous comments. Following discussion it was

RESOLVED:

- (a) that the draft Core Strategy as set out in Appendix A to the report and the associated Sustainability Appraisal contained in Appendix C be approved for public consultation; and
- (b) that authority be delegated to the Head of Planning and Environment and the Portfolio Holder for Planning to approve any further essential revisions to the draft prior to publication.

The meeting closed at 5.15 p.m.

Chairman