

**Minutes of the Parish Council
Extra Meeting of
Heywood Parish Council at 19.00,
Monday 3rd March 2021**

Members present: Cllr J Masson Cllr K Youngs
 Cllr E Lock Cllr S Heron
 Cllr F Morland Cllr J Clack
 Wiltshire Unitary Cllr C King
 Wiltshire Unitary Cllr S Wickham
Clerk: Richard Culverhouse and 3 members of the public

174. **Apologies for absence:** Cllr Thompson

175. **Declarations of interest:** Cllr Morland (As member of Westbury Town Council)

176. **Wiltshire Local Plan**

Cllr Masson outlined there were two areas of interest to the Parish. The first, Planning for Westbury and the second deals with rural villages. The Westbury Plan identifies sites for house building development. There are 12 sites, 2 of which are in Hawkeridge Parish and within the Hawkeridge designated neighbourhood area but do not feature in Heywood Neighbourhood Plan. One of the sites has had two previous planning applications. This one, to the north of Storridge Road/Hawkeridge Park was refused permission twice mainly due to it not in keeping with the Wiltshire Core Strategy.

The other at Glenmore Farm had already been refused after going to a Planning Inspector citing rural nature of the farm.

Much discussion arose and Cllr Masson suggested a reply should be submitted outlining that both sites are outside the Westbury Settlement Area, are in the Heywood Neighbourhood Designated area but not included in Heywood emerging Neighbourhood Plan and one of the areas had already been refused planning permission twice. In addition he suggested that the Council write a letter of complaint to the leader of Wiltshire Council stating that there no information had been given to Heywood Parish Council despite the two areas being in their Parish boundary. The other note to be made was that if these two sites were adopted it would have a major effect on the Parish as the Westbury settlement boundary may well move to include those sites which may well lead to the demise of the Parish of Heywood.

Cllr Masson suggested that the Council write to the leader of Wiltshire Council expressing our concerns with lack to consultation and there was no hidden agenda to break up the Parish. Copy to be sent Mr Fox, White Horse News and Wiltshire Times. Cllr Morland made comments on Core Strategy being changed by this new Local Plan. He also mentioned the archaeology of the sites rural buffer zone and ransom strips.

Cllr Masson outlined the response that he suggests the Parish Council should make. He would draft a response and circulate the Councillors after which the Clerk would write accordingly.

The following reply was submitted:

Dear Sirs,

Heywood Parish Council has considered the Wiltshire Council document "Local Plan Looking to the Future – Planning for Westbury", in particular, the section dealing with potential development sites (pages 5-7) and would comment as follows:

Site 1: Land north of Shallow Wagon Lane (SHELAA site 3445) – This site is in open countryside outside of the Westbury settlement boundary in the Parish of Heywood and as such is part of the Heywood Designated Area. The Parish Council is at present preparing a Neighbourhood Plan through consultation with the residents and which includes data from a Rural Housing Needs Survey undertaken by Wiltshire Council on behalf of the Parish Council and which shows that there is no demand for housing in the Parish.

It should be noted that the site includes a possible Romano/British settlement and relics have been found in the past.

Site 2: Land south-east of the West Wilts Trading Estate, land at Glenmore Farm and Land off Storridge Road (SHELAA sites 742, 1014, 883375) – As with Site 1 above the site is in open countryside outside of the Westbury settlement boundary in the Parish of Heywood and as such is part of the Heywood Designated Area. As previously stated the Parish Council is at present preparing a Neighbourhood Plan which includes data from a Rural Housing Needs Survey undertaken by Wiltshire Council on behalf of the Parish Council and which shows that there is no demand for housing in the Parish.

Development of this site would remove the rural buffer zone between the West Wilts Trading Estate and the existing residential areas on Storridge road, The Ham and Hawkeridge Park. There is an existing Section 52 agreement in place preventing development of part of the site abutting Storridge Road and The Ham which should be taken into account in any consideration of the sites.

The inclusion of the two sites as potential development areas does raise the question as to whether any houses built on both or either of those sites, if adopted, would be deducted from the 710 houses that are to be provided in Westbury as part of the Local Plan or as they would be built outside the existing settlement boundary would Westbury still have to provide 710 houses.

At present, the only new housing allowed in open countryside has to be linked to agricultural or forestry employment so development of either or both sites would lead to a revision of the Westbury settlement boundary to include them and their annexation by Westbury in a future boundary review and the associated demise of the Parish of Heywood.

In conclusion, Heywood Parish Council objects to the inclusion of the Sites 1 and 2 and requests that the sites are omitted from the Local Plan.

Many thanks,

Richard Culverhouse

177. **Glenmore Farm**

Correspondence had been received with regard to a proposed future development at Glenmore Farm and looking for comments. Similar views on this as in Local Plan but also commenting on access difficulties. However no direct approach been made to Heywood PC. It is in open countryside, outside settlement. Response should be made to the effect that it is not in Westbury, in our designated neighbourhood area, we have an emerging Neighbourhood Plan which does not include development in this area. It was agreed to reply to the article in the White Horse News.

178. **Neighbourhood Plan**

Cllr Masson stated that in February 2020 presentations were made at Heywood Village Hall and Club Ice of the draft Neighbourhood Plan. Good attendance and feedback which would have been incorporated in an update and intended to do a second presentation in August 2020. Now added factor of Wiltshire Local Plan. A lot of emphasis on

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Neighbourhood plans. Wiltshire Council had carried out a Rural Housing Needs Survey in February 2020 which showed no need for new houses in Heywood Parish. So there are two alternatives, the first to hold our Neighbourhood Plan in abeyance until seeing a draft of the Wiltshire Local Plan or proceed with our Neighbourhood Plan and alter when the Wiltshire Local Plan is known.

Cllr Masson suggested that the Council move forward with the existing document and the steering group have a virtual meeting in next few weeks. All agreed.

179. **Matters for future consideration**

The Clerk asked for thoughts on having an Annual Parish Meeting. It was decided to wait for future guidance from the government and NALC.

DRAFT