



CLERK'S REPORT NO. 2022- 089
Informal Meeting with NDP Consultants
Heritage Centre
Tuesday 22nd November 2022

Apologies: Cllrs Bainbridge and Turner

JPC & Advisors: Cllrs R Clark and W Andrews, Mr. D Broadbent & Mr D Tomlinson and the Clerk

Interviewees: Mr Jon Sawyer & Mr Gary Kirk [Data on both circulated earlier]

The JPC agreed [Minute **M4.5** EGM 14.11.2022] that it would be prudent to seek independent advice on what Henley should be planning in order to meet the challenges of the SDC's South Warwickshire Local Plan, in terms of forward development of our town. And that the JPC provide adequate provision for protecting the town's interests, within an updated Neighbourhood Development Plan, which clearly defines the communities' right to retain full control in the decision making process.

To this end, three invitations were sent out to appropriate candidates, to which only two responded positively. Two interviews were arranged with said consultants, as listing above, a copy of the letter inviting these people was circulated to all members but in the event of this not reaching members, the brief given to the consultants was as follows:

STAGE 1

The first stage would be for an advisor to assess the current situation. The work would involve discussions with the Chair and Clerk of the JPC, local councillors and the local landowner to establish their current understanding. It will include a review of the key documents and briefings given by the various parties and if necessary discussions with SWLP to clarify the situation. The work should be carried out over a 4 week period with an interim report and presentation including recommendations on the best way forward. The recommendations should include suggestions about public consultation and involvement.

STAGE 2

The second stage of the commission would be made if the work at stage one is satisfactorily carried out and the JPC agrees with the advisor and believes the approach recommended is appropriate and affordable. The second stage would be to develop the new Neighbourhood Plan including the best way of ensuring the local community support both the process and the findings.

Both interviews were duly conducted and the JPC Planning Committee, using their delegated powers, recommend the immediate engagement of Mr. Gary Kirk, and request that he proceeds with his advice and guidance in preparation of the needs provided in Stage 1 and further prepares and presents the actions covered under Stage 2 above, in full consultation with the JPC Planning Committee and thus the JPC full body. *[See voting rights]*

In order to provide adequate coverage of the expected volume and content which will be generated as this programme proceeds, the Clerk recommends that the Planning Committee are given the power to convene their own public meetings as appropriate, with an agenda and minutes, in accordance with the existing Terms of Reference, and further, that they have the power to enlist and engage with members of the public, District and County Councillors and others that may prove essential or supportive in ensuring that the interests of the whole community are safeguarded at every stage of

the programme, in establishing an updated NDP and more specifically, a body able to interact with SDC and WCC as appropriate.

The JPC are advised that **the costs associated with this programme**, designed to finalise the adoption of the revised NDP, **will be covered by funding** made available through a national funding agency, namely, Locality <https://locality.org.uk/>

More information will be forthcoming as progress is made.

TO COUNCILLOR'S [Voting Rights]

The Clerk will proceed with the forgoing actions at 09:00 hours tomorrow unless there are any objections raised. In the event of any objections, the actions will be suspended and the matter taken to full Council at their Ordinary Meeting on the 5th of December next.



Ray Evans

Parish Clerk & Proper Officer - Date 22nd of November 2022