

## Neighbourhood Plan

### 1. Introduction

In January 2014 the administrative area of Stirchley and Brookside Parish was designated a Neighbourhood plan area. Throughout 2014 – 2015 the parish council held a series of consultation events and began work on a draft plan.

Due to changes in staffing and the priorities of the Council; purchase and refurbishment of the Sambrook Centre, becoming leaseholders for Brookside Central and the development of extended Youth Services, work on the Neighbourhood Plan stalled.

Stirchley and Brookside Parish Council has now developed a Parish Plan which identifies the '*protection of open spaces, areas of natural habitat and rights of way*' as one of the Council's priorities. It has been agreed that to achieve this the Parish Council should resume work on the Neighbourhood Plan.

### 2. Progress to date

The steering group developed the following objectives:

- Limit future development, encouraging lower density housing which is attractive and affordable
- Protect and enhance existing open spaces and encourage the growth of the green network
- Encourage good urban design
- Ensure walkways, paths and rights of way are safe and accessible to everyone
- Encourage adequate provision of access to education to all age groups
- Encourage suitable employment opportunities
- Increase opportunities to access community facilities

Since 2016 there have been a number of changes which affect the Neighbourhood plan these include:

- Two new schools built
- Parish Council purchase and refurbishment of The Sambrook Centre
- Refurbished Brookside Central
- Green guarantee sites

Telford and Wrekin Council has now completed their Local Plan (the Neighbourhood Plan must be in line with the local plan).

### 3. Moving the plan forward

#### Consultation

Although a significant amount of consultation work has already been undertaken; this information will need 'refreshing' to ensure that it is still relevant, further consultation and engagement sessions will be required to produce an 'evidence review' as part of the plan.

## **Funding**

Funding will be required for:

- Consultation events
- Promotional Material
- Technical and writing support (planning)

The parish council has set a budget of £5,000 for developing the Neighbourhood plan. We would also be eligible to apply for a grant from Locality for up to £9,000.

To date we have one costing for technical planning support at £10,000.

## **Administration**

Previously the work on the Neighbourhood plan was directed by a steering group, whilst an opportunity to engage with other stakeholders Councillors should be mindful of administrative burden Members may wish to review how to proceed with this next phase:

- Steering group
- Through committee
- Delegated to officers
- A combination of the above

## **4. Draft Project Plan**

Some of the steps for preparing a neighbourhood plan have already been completed; however this is still a significant piece of work for the parish council to undertake. Appendix one sets out a draft project plan. Estimated timescale for completion if work starts in August would be April / May 2020.

## **5. Recommendation**

- a) That the first phase of the Neighbourhood Plan commence August 2019
- b) Members consider the most effective way to oversee the development of the Neighbourhood Plan and how they might support the process.

Gillian Bailey  
July 2019

	Timescale	Tasks	Resources
<b>1. Getting Started</b>	<b>Complete: Neighbourhood Plan Area designated January 2014</b>		
<b>2. Identifying the Issues</b> <b>3. Develop a vision and objectives</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> August to 31<sup>st</sup> September 2019</b>	<b>Check issues identified in 2014 consultation are still relevant</b>  <b>Check vision and objectives from 2014 consultation</b>  <b>Building the Evidence Base:</b> <b>Consultation:</b> on line questionnaires, questionnaires available in SC and BC. Consultation events: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Family Fun Day</li> <li>• Sambrook Centre</li> <li>• Brookside Central</li> </ul> <b>Parish Profile:</b> mostly achieved – needs updating and consultation with TWC planning	<b>Officer Time</b> Designing and printing information / questionnaires  Writing and liaison work  <b>Funding</b> Budget £1,000 to support event costs and printing
		<b>Project planning</b> Develop action / project plan / communication plan Apply for funding	<b>Officer Time</b>
<b>Consultation / Review by Full Council September or C&amp;E October</b>			
<b>4. Generate options</b>	<b>By end 2019</b>	<b>Sustainability Appraisal</b> Checking how far options deliver the objectives identified.	<b>Expert Advice</b> TWC ? Planning consultant
<b>5. Draft Plan</b>		<b>Drafting the Plan</b>	<b>Planning Consultant</b> Funding

	Timescale	Tasks	Resources
<b>Consultation / Review by Full Council December or C&amp;E January</b>			
<b>6. Consultation on draft plan Submission to LA</b>	<b>6 weeks duration (statutory)</b>	<b>Consultation on draft plan</b> Publicity Engagement sessions Statutory engagement required	<b>Officer Time</b>
	<b>As required</b>	<b>Review</b> Consider representations and modify	
<b>7. Independent Examination</b>	<b>At least 6 weeks, more if public hearing required</b> Next steps are dependent on outcome of independent examination: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proceed to referendum</li> <li>• Proceed to referendum subject to conditions</li> <li>• Plan should not proceed.</li> </ul>		
<b>8. Referendum</b>	If the plan proceeds to referendum – the local authority will arrange this. Straightforward majority vote required		
<b>Adoption</b>	If a majority in favour is achieved the plan will be adopted by the local authority		
<b>Implementation and Monitoring</b>	Policies within the Neighbourhood Plan will be taken into consideration by the local planning authority when determining planning applications Consider monitoring (add to Parish Plan?)		