

# BARFORD SHERBOURNE AND WASPERTON JOINT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the special meeting of the Joint Parish Council held at Sherbourne Village Hall on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> August 2006

**Present:** Cllr J V Murphy (Chairman)  
Cllr R Clay, Cllr Mrs A Gordon, Cllr G P Grima, Cllr Mrs M A Hayward, Cllr Mrs J A Jackson, Cllr Dr M J Metcalfe, Cllr E G Scrannage, Cllr S G Starkey, Cllr N J F Thurley, Cllr W Worrall, Cllr L Caborn

**Apologies:** Cllr Mrs W Barlow, Cllr R G Mulgrue, Cllr J T Wright

## Opening

- 121 The meeting opened at 7:30 pm
- 122 Apologies for absence were noted.
- 123 Twenty members of the public were present.

## A46/M40 Junction 15 (Longbridge) Bypass

- 124 Members were reminded of a previous JPC resolution (JPC Special Meeting, Mon 27<sup>th</sup> February 2006, Minute 304). This stated:

“The JPC rejects the Highways Agency’s preferred alignment (option 11) in favour of a route with the same or similar design on an alignment to the west of the A3 proposal, taking fully into account the impact of noise and traffic-generated pollution on the health and well-being of Sherbourne residents and the visual impact of the works in this sensitive area”

- 125 An alternative proposal [the “ Sherbourne Public Alternative”, developed by Cllr Scrannage in liaison with Mr Pizey with the drawing prepared by the Highways Agency] was described Cllr Scrannage. This would have less noise, pollution and visual impact than the HA scheme, but would probably be more expensive.
- 126 The HA had indicated in correspondence that the public alternative proposal could be technically acceptable if certain conditions were met.
- 127 A discussion on the form and merits of the public alternative followed. Points raised included:
- The line of the public alternative was further from the bat colony than that of the HA proposal.
  - A public health consultant with the South Warwickshire Primary health Trust had indicated a willingness to conduct a formal review if requested by the JPC.
  - Risks from flooding appeared not to have been adequately addressed.
  - In particular, the EA does not normally approve of culverting water courses.
- 127 In addition to the public alternative described in detail by Sherbourne Councillors, four further options were being developed by Sherbourne residents. It was suggested that these might be presented at the Public Inquiry (currently scheduled for next spring) to refute the HA’s assertion that there is no viable alternative to its scheme.

128 There was a short discussion on whether the JPC should reaffirm its previous resolution to reject the HA scheme, and if so whether it should express its special support for any one proposal – in particular the public alternative. The arguments in favour of identifying the public alternative included:

- The danger of diluting effort and impact
- Proposing more than one scheme at the Public Inquiry would be difficult
- The other schemes tended to be more radical, significantly more expensive and less well aligned with the wording of the previous JPC resolution.

129 The main argument against identifying the public alternative was the risk of discouraging potentially beneficial developments.

130 A motion (the “first motion”) that the JPC continue its objection to the HA scheme by reiterating the resolution contained in Minute 304 was put.

131 Before voting on the first motion a motion was put to amend the resolution contained in Minute 304 by the addition of the words:

“In particular the JPC would give special support to the Sherbourne Public Alternative scheme described by Sherbourne Councillors at the JPC meeting of 7<sup>th</sup> August 2006.”

The amendment was carried by 7 votes to 2, with 1 abstention.

132 The first motion, as amended, was put and carried by 9 votes to 0, with 1 abstention.

### **Closure**

133 There being no other business, the meeting was closed at 9:00 pm.

### **Date of Next Meeting**

134 The next meeting of Council is on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2006 at 7:30 pm in Barford Memorial Hall.