

Report on GNDP

During early January, this year Paul Hardiman, the TBC Planning Policy Officer asked us to attend a meeting with the NDP Inspector, Liz Beth. This was scheduled for Friday 3rd February and it was agreed that a team from our GNDP Steering Group would attend. The list of invitees included Matthew Barker, Nick Jonathan and Paul Hardiman of TBC. The meeting agenda was set by Liz Beth and was for her to investigate issues and look for guidance on possible revisions to existing site allocation boundaries and expected dwelling numbers on sites.

The Steering Group prepared for this meeting but we were informed by email today by Paul Hardiman that "Having given further consideration to representations received from respoondees to the consultation held under Regulation 16 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (as amended), Ms Liz Beth, Independent Examiner, has concluded, on the advice of Tewkesbury Borough Council, that a Public Hearing will be necessary.

This unfortunately means that **Friday's Informal Meeting will not now go ahead.**"

To our surprise the email restated the attendees invited to the meeting but now included **Mr Alastair Bird – Barton Willmore representing JJ Gallagher Ltd.**

I think it is important that this matter is brought to councillors' attention because it does appear that Barton Willmore's involvement has triggered the very late cancellation of the meeting with the Inspector.

May I remind you that Paul Hardiman informed us on 22nd November 2016 that "Last week Liz Beth carried out her first review of all key documents and confirmed that **a hearing will not be necessary.** The target for completion of the Examination will be Friday 27th January 2017."

We are concerned on how this sudden change of plan will affect the Planning Meeting to be held on 14th February and how the delays in completing the inspection and to now organise a Public Hearing "at least 28 days notice of the hearing to the Qualifying Body, Statutory Consultees and Regulation 16 Respondents as well as the general public this will be at a date to be confirmed in March." will affect any planning decisions by TBC.

David Ward
02/02/17.