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REGULATORY AND LICENSING COMMITTEE

28 SEPTEMBER 2022

PRESENT:

Councillors B Yeates (Chair), Checkland (Vice-Chair), Anketell, Cross, Eagland, L Ennis, Evans, Salter, Mrs Tranter and Warfield

13 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Barnett, A Little and Ray.

14 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors Anketell, Checkland, and Warfield declared a non-pecuniary interest in Item 7 as members of Lichfield City Council.

Councillor Eagland declared a non-pecuniary interest in Item 7 as a member of Lichfield City Council and as the Staffordshire County Councillor for Lichfield Rural North.

Councillor Salter declared a non-pecuniary interest in Item 7 as the Chair of Shenstone Parish Council.

Councillor Cross declared a non-pecuniary interest in Item 7 as a member of Fradley and Streethay Parish Council.

15 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the previous meeting were taken as read and approved as a correct record by the Chair.

16 WORK PROGRAMME

The committee noted the current contents of the work programme and were informed that this may be amended before the next meeting.

17 PROPOSED DIVERSION OF PUBLIC FOOTPATH NO. 0.333 (PART) IN THE PARISH OF BURNTWOOD

Robin Carr (Public Rights of Way Consultant) presented the report to the committee. Mr Carr explained that whilst there were no objections in principle to the diversion there had been one or two technical issues relating to diversion in the past. However, he confirmed that there were being addressed by new orders and changes to the alignments.

Members outlined concern at the past approach of developers; building properties and developments without seeking permission to divert any existing footpaths beforehand. It was confirmed that any potential condition put in place to mitigate this would be a matter for the Planning Committee. The Chair confirmed that the concerns expressed would be passed on.

RESOLVED: The committee approved the proposed diversion of Public Footpath No. 0.333 (part) in the Parish of Burntwood as set out in Appendix A of the report.

18 PROPOSED DIVERSION OF PUBLIC FOOTPATH NO. 6 (PART) IN THE PARISH OF ELFORD

Robin Carr (Public Rights of Way Consultant) presented the report to the committee. Mr Carr outlined that the path has historically been obstructed by the social club and housing association homes. This proposal deals with the social club element and is necessary to facilitate development to take place in the future. It was confirmed that the continuation of the footpath outside of the development site is due to be addressed by the County Council. Mr Carr informed the committee that the developers had been in discussion with the Parish Council on this matter and the Parish Council had indicated strong opposition to any proposal to extinguish the footpath entirely.

Members agreed that whilst diversion was a sensible course of action, they believed that developers should seek permission to divert footpaths before beginning any proposed developments.

RESOLVED: The committee approved the proposed diversion of Public Footpath No. 6 (part) in the Parish of Elford as set out in Appendix A of the report.

19 COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW - STAGE II CONSULTATION

Mark Hooper (Governance Manager & Monitoring Officer) presented the report to the committee. He explained that the report summarises key issues identified during the second stage consultation, with a view to agreeing final recommendations, as set out in section 3.11 of the report.

The new proposals involved revising the number of parish members to 10 for Fradley and 7 for Streethay parish councils. No objections were received in relation to the proposal to reduce Longdon from 11 to 9 members. The committee was informed that Lichfield City Council had agreed with additions to Curborough and Leomansley additions but did want to reduce the St Johns ward from 6 to 5 members, due to increased development there over coming years. The cumulative effect of all proposed changes would take the City Council from 27 to 28 members.

Mr Hooper confirmed to members that there was no need to include Shenstone parish council in the order as there is no recommendation for change on that parish.

RESOLVED: The committee gave consideration to the draft Community Governance Review recommendations as set out in section 3.11 of the report and determined these final recommendations to be submitted to Council for approval.

(The Meeting closed at 6.20 pm)

CHAIR