

## **Thorpebury Liaison Group**

**18<sup>th</sup> April 2024**

**49th meeting**

**Teams Meeting**

### **Attendees**

- Councillor Brenda Seaton (BS) – Charnwood Borough Council, Leicestershire County Council and Thurmaston Parish Council
- Councillor Owen Bentley (OB) – Barkby & Barkby Thorpe Parish Council and BABTAG
- Councillor Lynn Westwood (LW) - Thurmaston Parish Council
- Mark Pickrell (MP) – Charnwood Borough Council
- Geoff Mee (GM) – Leicester City Council
- Joshua Dollin (JD) – DWH
- Helen Bareford (HB) – DWH
- Tom Nightingale (TN) - DWH
- Will Martin (WM) – CEG
- Victoria Walker (VW) - CEG

### **Apologies**

- Maggie Shutt – Duck Pond Residents
- Richard Wain (RW) - Hawksmoor

### **Introductions and welcome**

Introductions were made and TN was welcomed to the liaison group. He will take over from HB who is due to commence maternity leave.

### **Action points arising from last meeting**

#### **Project and Transport update**

##### **Southern Link Road**

WM explained that CEG continues to engage with the City Council and once agreement is secured for the delivery of the link road we will go out to the market regarding the next phase which will be to the west of Barkby Thorpe Road. We don't yet have a timeline or confirmed number of homes and details of the facilities that will come forwards as part of this, but will share this with the group when available.

WM explained that the Southern Link Road will be in place before the link to Barkby Thorpe Lane and the Southern Link road will be the main route through. A section of Barkby Thorpe Road also gets stopped up to limit the numbers using the northern route.

##### **Progress on site**

JD explained that the housebuilders have been doing more landscaping work at the front of the site and finishing the entrance walls.

In terms of housing numbers, DWH has 94 completed plots and, while we haven't had updated numbers yet from William Davis, Davidsons has completed 15 units. Probably circa 150 in total which MP confirmed is along the lines of the housing trajectory. He explained the Council is putting together an annual monitoring report in terms of Local Plan delivery which will provide more details.

OB queried if the future prediction of 200 homes per year is achievable. WM felt that this was achievable and said it includes starting the future phases which is dependent on concluding the Southern Link Road agreement. Some of these homes could be delivered swiftly, and others would be dependent on further earthworks and site preparation.

### **Hamilton Lane Update**

JD confirmed that the Hamilton Lane works are now expected to start on the 3<sup>rd</sup> June, pending final agreements. This relates to the 12-week programme that was previously shared, but it is hoped this can be shortened as some of the works not within the highway land could be completed in May.

### **Barkby Thorpe Road Remedial Works**

JD explained that there has been further discussions with LCC regarding various remedial works and the community concerns raised. He is awaiting highways engineers signing off but there is tentative agreement to put the bollards on the width restrictor and additional speed controls such as speed cushions near the chicane.

LW explained that the Parish Council has written to highways and are encouraging residents to also write to highways about the lack of visibility as you are driving north and come to the chicane.

WM said that the speed cushions and expanded signage (which requires agreement from County and City) will help the visibility issue as it will slow the speeds of the traffic coming down the hill.

BS said that it is likely the chicane will eventually have to be moved as you can't see and predict the speeds of the traffic coming down the hill. OB thanked JD regarding the bollards and speed cushions but does feel it will still be a problem. He queried if the bumps will be either side of the chicane?

JD said they are looking at two options, one mimicking the Barkby Thorpe Road ones, but the southbound approach is what we are seeking to slow down.

LW queried if the chicane could be moved to the south without it having an impact on the farm gate as the dip is the issue? JD explained this would mean removing a third-party owned hedgerow in order to have the width to do this and we can't put forward proposals where we don't have the authority to deliver them. By putting the speed cushions/additional signage early enough on the south bound side it will dramatically slow the vehicles down as they come down the hill towards the chicane. Timescales for the speed bumps is in the hands of the authorities as we will need their approval and the agreements in place first.

### **Village Mitigation Measures**

As of a meeting on Thursday last week, it is our understanding that County is now aiming to deliver the consultation in circa four weeks' time. However, we haven't received confirmation on the actual date yet. As soon as we have the date we will be in touch to arrange a meeting at the village. Not sure how long the consultation will last. OB said he would assist in organising this at the village hall.

### **Any other business**

OB queried progress on the bus negotiations. WM explained that he is expecting something back from the bus operators this month and hopes to get that in place swiftly once the routes and stops

are agreed with the aim of making this a sustainable service. He advised that Leicester City Council only allows new services to start twice a year so we've asked what the lead-in time is.

**Date of next meeting**

3<sup>rd</sup> July 2024