

Braishfield Neighbourhood Plan ("NP") Steering Group ("SG") meeting
Held on 6th August 2026 at the Church Rooms, Braishfield from 3.00pm for an hour

Attendees:

Mark Sennitt ("MS")
Peter Quarendon ("PQ")
Michael Allen ("MA")
Mark Sands ("MRS")
Brian Luff ("BL")

Apologies:

Maggie Batchelor ("MB")

1. Approval of minutes 16th June 2026:
Approved.
2. Local plan update:
Abandoned! As a result of local government reorganisation TVBC have decided to work with the Councils they will be merging with – target date April 2028 so some doubt as to whether any formal documents will be issued before then. Reg 18 draft – which included the Bargate site – what is the status of that?
3. Reaction to recent approval of Bargate scheme:
Approved at the recent planning committee meeting.
MS commented on the report put to the committee. Key issue was TVBC lack of housing land supply and a determination that the site is sustainable. All feel that stronger arguments against could have been considered by the Council.
Braishfield Parish Council are seeking funds for legal advice on whether there are grounds to challenge the decision to approve the application. If there are grounds then the Parish Council will send a letter before action to TVBC. Then TVBC can either withdraw the approval or deny the allegations in which case the next stage will be to seek a Judicial Review.
4. NP update:
 - Progress on draft NP and work required to progress: MS has completed most of a draft which BL is part way through reviewing the current draft, ahead of the draft then being open to review by all member of the Steering Group. MA and PQ have already reviewed what has been prepared to date and passed some comments to BL. Then work can be done on formatting;

- Web-site: PQ, with assistance from his son, will continue to maintain the website and to develop it to present the NP. Ask the Parish Council to ask for a volunteer to join the SG just to assist on that issue (BL);
- Yet to consider what sites the NP should allocate, if any. MS has, in the Yet to be clear how many new homes the NP should allocate.

5. Timetable and process for adoption of the NP:

Draft NP

LPA review

Statutory stages

- Reg 14 stage – 6 week consultation period (prior Reg 14 consult with relevant consultation bodies). We control this process
- Reg 16 stage – submit plan to LPA – need to comply with Reg 15 (basic conditions statement and consultation statement). LPA take over the process from now on?
- Examination
- Referendum – majority vote (typically 20% turnout)
- Publication of NDP within 8 weeks of referendum

6. AOB:

Change of national policy will remove smaller schemes from committee approval, meaning that planners at the local authority will in affect make the decision.

Parish Council remain keen for the NP to be progressed.

7. Date of next meeting:

Wednesday 27 August 2026 at 3pm – PQ to please book