

# Barton in Fabis Parish Council



## Newsletter OCTOBER 2020

### PLEASE READ: IMPORTANT PLANNING ISSUES

A number of very important planning issues have emerged during the Covid 'lockdown' period. The Parish Council apologises for the fact that it has not been able to hold Public Meetings to bring the village up to date or issue a newsletter until now.

#### Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan – Growth Options Consultation

The Greater Nottingham Councils comprising the Borough Councils of Rushcliffe, Broxtowe, Gedling and Erewash together with Nottingham City Council and Nottingham County Council have issued a consultation paper on the Strategic Plan for the Greater Nottingham area up until 2038. This covers a range of issues such as infrastructure and the design of the places in which we live but the main focus is on where housing development should take place. For example in Rushcliffe, the previous plan resulted in the large allocations of housing at Bingham, Tollerton and of course Clifton (Fairham Pastures).

There are a large number of sites for housing identified across the Greater Nottingham area, but **in Rushcliffe 3 potential sites have been identified which would impact our area. These would cover the Ratcliffe on Soar power station area and large tracts of land around Kingston as well as all the land on the opposite side of the A453 from Kingston back towards Nottingham to join up with the planned Fairham Pastures site.**

The Greater Nottingham Councils have commissioned a report from a planning consultancy (AECOM) who have already concluded that the area outlined above is "suitable for growth". In particular, the report excluded the impact on the Green Belt as a consideration in selecting sites.

**Further details about the Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan can be found at [gnplan.org.uk](http://gnplan.org.uk)**

#### **What has happened since then?**

The Parish Council has joined forces with Gotham, Thrumpton, Kingston and Ratcliffe have joined forces with the support of Rex Walker and submitted a detailed response to the Growth Options Consultation. This identifies factual errors in the report from AECOM and proposes that development should be focused within the City.

We submitted a joint proposal that the whole process should be suspended until the full impacts of Covid are known on such things as the need for housing / employment and retail space in the future. This was considered by the group overseeing the process on 22<sup>nd</sup> September and was rejected as the National Government has specifically asked Councils to continue to follow their planning activities despite the impact of Covid.

## **What happens next?**

In due course the Strategic Plan will propose preferred areas for development and we will keep you up to date on progress.

### **Minerals Local Plan / Quarry Update**

**The Public Examination of the Minerals Local plan will now take place 'online' via Microsoft Teams from Monday 26<sup>th</sup> to Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> October.**

Barton in Fabis will be represented together with Thrumpton, Clifton Village and Lark Hill.

The event will be live streamed and a link will appear on the County Council's website at:

<https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/planning-and-environment/minerals-local-plan/examination>

We reported last time that the Inspector had issued what are called 'Matters, Issues and Questions' – that is the parts of the plan that he wishes to examine in detail. This included several aspects of the proposed quarry at Barton / Mill Hill.

Since then the Parish Council has made detailed 'submissions' in response to these questions on behalf of Barton, Thrumpton and residents of Clifton and Lark Hill impacted by the proposals. We have also received excellent support in the form of supporting submissions from Lilian Greenwood the MP for Clifton South.

We have clearly been able to raise the profile of the site, and the problems associated with it, in the Inspector's mind and he has issued a further list of 58 (!) questions to be considered many of which relate to examining the reasons why the Barton / Mill Hill site has been selected. This is an encouraging development.

### **Redevelopment of Ratcliffe on Soar**

As we reported in previous newsletters, Uniper the company running Ratcliffe on Soar power station have recently announced that it will close in 2025 and as part of the redevelopment of the site a new incinerator is planned on the site to open in 2024 to burn household waste which would otherwise go to landfill. This will use similar technology to the Eastcroft incinerator in Nottingham. To get some idea of the scale, the new plant whilst significant, will produce only about 3% of the power of the current power station. The company plan to attract high tech industries to the remainder of the site and there are no plans for housing or large warehouses – "no sheds, no beds" as they term it. Emissions are claimed to be strictly controlled and the additional lorry traffic along the A453 relatively insignificant.

An application for outline planning permission has been submitted which has resulted in a large number of objections from people in surrounding villages. Whilst we do not have the space to outline the complex arguments for and against the plan for the incinerator, these mainly revolve around the environmental issues. Although incineration reduces the amount of landfill required, there are concerns about the control of emissions and arguments that increased recycling and separating out food waste for bio-mass energy generation should be higher priorities. The Parish Council has resolved to object and has submitted comments as a result.

## **Consultation on the abolition of Rushcliffe Borough Council and other Borough Councils**

The County Council have recently launched a bid to take over the activities managed by the Borough Councils to become what is described as a “Unitary Authority”. The proposal by the County Council can be found at <https://future.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/>. There is a link on this website for you to “have your say” and comments need to be made by 21st October.

Please remember that the proposal has been written by the County Council who will present the best case to you. We recognise the need to make savings in Government but the experience of the Parish Council has been that the County Council has been either uninterested in, or been willing to sacrifice, this area – for example, the Minerals Plan is a County Council Plan. Rushcliffe have been much more tuned in to our needs and concerns. If the proposal is accepted by the Government, we hope the County Councillors become more involved.

### **Other Matters**

#### **Fly tipping**

With the easing of lockdown, there has been a big increase in fly tipping across the county. There have been several instances around Barton and particularly in entrances to fields along the old A453 (Green Lane).

Following representations from the Parish Council and our Borough Councillor (Rex Walker) Rushcliffe have taken action to install new bins and other signage to deter fly tipping which so far has been successful.

We are asking all villagers to remain vigilant and see if we can catch these fly tippers. Anybody can report fly tipping to the Borough Council on 9819911 or contact a Parish Councillor.

#### **Village tidy up**

We hope you will have seen that the opportunity has been taken during the current Covid period to refurbish/ repaint the various benches around the village, as well as the planters opposite the bus stop and the bus stop itself. We would like to thank all those involved in this work. If you see any areas that you think need tidying up, please contact a member of the Parish Council – or if you wish take action yourself!

#### **Area at the Top of New Road (Barton Lodge)**

The area continues to be mown by Neil from Barton Lodge and we thank him for his help. The new finger post has been erected (thank you to all who helped).

Areas will be marked off for the planting of wildflowers and a large sack of daffodils and crocuses have been purchased and will be planted for spring flowering.

#### **Fairham development**

You will have noticed that work has started on the Fairham site. The current work is principally preparation work as the developers lay access roads and drainage in advance of building. The timing is that the first houses should start appearing next year with a section close to the Clifton the first to be erected.

We have had offers from the developers to attend a Parish Council meeting (through a

video link) so that they can present their hopes and aspirations for the site. Residents will be welcome to join us and we will let you know when it is arranged and how you can join in. (See the request for email addresses below.)

### **Planning applications**

There have been no new planning applications in the village. There have been several 'reserved matters' applications in connection with the Fairham development. These relate to the road network and drainage planned for the site. They can be viewed on the Rushcliffe Borough Council website under 'Find a planning application' and searching under 'Barton in Fabis'.

### **Request for Your Email Addresses**

The Parish Council would like to send out copies of our newsletters and other information by email and to inform you of any meetings that you might wish to attend either online (or in person once that is permitted).

If you wish to be contacted by email please send your email address to Bev Angell (Parish Council Clerk) at [Clerk@bartoninfabispc.org.uk](mailto:Clerk@bartoninfabispc.org.uk).

We would like to assure you that your email address will be kept entirely confidential at all times and used for no other reasons other than those outlined above.

## **June Newsletter**

We were only able to issue our last (June) newsletter via the Parish Council website so we repeat the notification of the Parish Council elections:

### **Parish Council Elections / Annual Parish Meeting**

Allan Kerr and Bill Harrison have been elected to remain as Chairman and Vice Chairman respectively. The Parish Council would like to thank both of them and Bev Angell (clerk to the Parish Council) for their hard work over the past year.

We have been forced to cancel the Annual Parish Meeting as a result of the Covid 19 pandemic, but provide the Chairman's report below. Details of the Parish Council's accounts are available on [bartoninfabispc.org.uk](http://bartoninfabispc.org.uk)

### **Parish Council contacts:**

<b>Julian Coles</b> ☎ 0115 983 0788	<b>Diane Harrison</b> ☎ 0115 983 0640	<b>Bill Harrison</b> Vice Chairman ☎ 0115 983 0313	<b>Allan Kerr</b> Chairman ☎ 0115 983 0596	<b>Helen Fletcher</b> ☎ 0115 983 0013
<b>Clerk to the Council: Bev Angell</b> ☎ 0115 983 1237 <a href="mailto:Clerk@bartoninfabispc.org.uk">Clerk@bartoninfabispc.org.uk</a>				

Borough Councillor: Rex Walker. Email : [cllr.rwalker@rushcliffe.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.rwalker@rushcliffe.gov.uk) Phone: 07812 146386

County Councillors: Andrew Brown. Email: [cllr.andrew1.brown@nottscc.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.andrew1.brown@nottscc.gov.uk) Phone: 0115 9775668

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