**MINUTES OF AN EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF NORMANTON TOWN COUNCIL**

**Held on Tuesday 20th August 2019 at 6.30pm at Normanton Town Hall**

**Present:** Councillor Mrs C. Appleyard

Councillor D. Appleyard – Deputy Mayor

Councillor R. Best

Councillor Miss J. Farrar - Mayor

Councillor F.D. Jones

Councillor Mrs H.W. Jones

Councillor Mrs F. Marchant

Councillor Mrs L. Masterman

Councillor B. Mayne

Councillor Mrs P. Mayne

Councillor Ms J. Medford

Councillor Mrs C. Moran, BEM

Councillor R. Seal

Councillor D. South

Councillor K. Wilson, JP

Councillor W. Wood

**Public:** There were sixteen residents present.

**Councillors Absent:** Councillor Mrs E. Blezard, Councillor J. Botterill, Councillor S. Hudson, Councillor Mrs A. Moran, Councillor A. Wassell, Councillor Mrs A. Wood

# 48. Mayors Welcome and Announcements

The Mayor welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Reverend Alan Murray led the Council in prayers.

# 49. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received and reasons approved on behalf of Councillor Mrs E. Blezard, Councillor J. Botterill, Councillor Mrs A. Moran, Councillor A. Wassell and Councillor Mrs A. Wood.

# 50. Declarations of Interest

Resolved that the following declarations be received:

Councillor B. Wood

Non-Pecuniary Interest

Relative is land owner at Pope Street

# 51. Members of the Public

Members of the public were in attendance to raise their concerns about the development at Pope Street.

There was a detailed discussion and the key points raised were:

* The 2010 report by WMDC clearly states that the development of this site cannot be supported.
* Traffic survey from June 2019 indicates 4900 vehicular movements in a 12-hour period.
* This site is not identified in the local development plan and has not been designated for housing allocation.
* The proposal is an opportunistic attempt to develop a site regardless of suitability.
* The site would be a residential island in the industrial estate.
* Altofts has lost the library, pub, post office and surgery with no replacements.
* Local infrastructure cannot cope with the additional properties.
* The traffic created from this development would be in excess of 200 vehicles.
* School zones are applying for 20mph zones which would further impact on traffic in the local area.
* Air pollution in the village from the development and prospective air pollution at the site from the M62 traffic.
* Already issues with obtaining doctors’ appointments and school places.
* Serious environmental concerns surrounding the Europort businesses including fouling and broken glass.
* Trespassers from Europort accessing private land for short cuts, thefts and break ins around Pope Street.
* Only 48 of the 161 properties are ‘affordable’.
* Promises were made when the Europort was built that there would be no development on that land.
* Parking on the pavements – concerns around road safety.
* Lorries blocking the roads, unloading, accessing the weight restricted bridge.
* Mud on roads from existing developments – WMDC not responding quickly enough.
* Asthma at a 10-year high – up 12%.
* Additional vehicles on the development will add to health issues.
* The historical agreement regarding the Europort was not backed up with a covenant so WMDC can alter the agreement.
* Traffic through Altofts has doubled in the last 10 years.
* Significant increase in HGV traffic including 44 tonne vehicles with hundreds of lorries on some days.
* Two years of small-scale development with lorries coming in and out for days on end.
* Bottles of urine being left by lorry drivers.
* Lights and noise outside residential properties at 6am.
* Bonfires, noise and disruption from existing developments.
* Lorries being unloaded with a forklift in the middle of the road.
* Lorries attempting to turn around in the road and resulting in blocking the road for up to an hour.
* Pinch points throughout the village.
* Emergency vehicles have been unable to get through due to double parking.
* Cellars have been flooded due to land heave.
* The site is the former Pope Street mine and is a high risk for development.
* Access and egress from the site is a major issue with poor sight lines and traffic parked or stood outside homes.
* Through traffic for the Europort is a 24-hour issue and a 24/7 traffic survey has been requested.
* The Ecology report was flawed as they didn’t enter the field due to livestock.
* There is evidence of Buzzards, newts, weasels which are not being properly documented.
* The infrastructure is severely lacking in the local area.

The representatives from RAIDIA offered to meet with any interested Councillors to give them further information if required.

# 52. Pope Street Planning Application

Members of Normanton Town Council, having regard for the documents available on the Planning Portal and the comments raised by residents, RESOLVED to submit an objection to the planning application for 161 dwellings at Pope Street.

This Council fully supports the community and the issues that they have raised with regard to this development.

Members of the public were urged to continue to submit individual objections through the Planning Portal.

A small group of Councillors agreed to meet with members of RAIDIA to discuss their concerns further.

In the absence of any further business, the Mayor thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting.