

Public Document Pack

SOLIHULL METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

CPH Children, Education and Skills Decision Session

**Monday 11 January 2021 at
6.00pm**

ARRANGEMENTS FOR PUBLIC ACCESS TO REMOTE MEETINGS

During the Covid 19 pandemic virtual meetings are taking place.

PLEASE NOTE that any member of the press and public may listen to proceedings at this virtual meeting via a weblink which will be publicised on the Council website at least 24hrs before the meeting.

To view live paste this link into your browser:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC7DDSVoAlqTnwgp0Ku8iFLQ>

Members of the press and public may tweet, blog etc. during the live broadcast, as they would be able to during a regular Committee meeting in the Council Offices. It is important, however, that Councillors can discuss and take decisions without disruption, so the only participants in this virtual meeting will be the Councillors concerned and the officers advising the Committee.

Disclosing Pecuniary Interests - What Must You Do?

(a) You must complete a declaration of your disclosable pecuniary interests, including those of your spouse/civil partner (or someone with whom you are living as such) and send it to the Monitoring Officer within 28 days of your election or appointment to the Council.

(b) When you attend a meeting of the Council, Cabinet, Scrutiny Board, Committee, Sub-Committee or Joint Committee etc, and a matter arises in which you have a disclosable pecuniary interest, unless you have been granted a dispensation, **you must:**

- Declare the interest if you have not already registered it
- Not participate in any discussion or vote
- Leave the meeting room until the matter has been dealt with
- Give written notice of any unregistered interest to the Monitoring Officer within 28 days of the meeting

(c) If you are the Leader or a Cabinet Portfolio Holder you may not exercise any of your delegated powers as a single member in relation to a matter in which you have a disclosable pecuniary interest or take any other step except to give written notice of any unregistered interest to the Monitoring Officer within 28 days of your becoming aware of the interest, or arrange for another person or body to deal with the matter.

Disclosable Interest	Description
Employment, office, trade, profession or vocation	Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain by you or your partner.
Sponsorship	Any payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than from the Council) made or provided within 12 months of your declaration of interests in respect of any expenses incurred by you in carrying out duties as a member, or towards your election expenses.
Contracts	Any contract between you or your partner (or a firm or body corporate in which you or your partner is a partner or a director, or in the securities of which you or your partner has a beneficial interest) and the Council (a) under which goods or services are to be provided or works are to be executed; and (b) which has not been fully discharged.
Land	Any beneficial interest in land which is within the area of the Council and which gives you or your partner a right to occupy the land or receive income.
Licences	Any licence held by you or your partner (alone or jointly with others) to occupy land in the area of the Council for a month or longer.
Corporate tenancies	Any tenancy where (to your knowledge)— (a) the landlord is the Council; and (b) the tenant is a body in which you or your partner has a beneficial interest i.e. a firm or body corporate in which you or your partner is a partner or a director, or in the securities of which you or your partner has a beneficial interest.
Securities	Any beneficial interest held by you or your partner in securities of a body where— (a) that body (to your knowledge) has a place of business or land in the area of the Council; and (b) either— (i) the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body; or (ii) if the share capital of that body is of more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which you or your partner has a beneficial interest exceeds one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that class. “securities” means shares, debentures, debenture stock, loan stock, bonds, units of a collective investment scheme within the meaning of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 and other securities of any description, other than money deposited with a building society.

SOLIHULL METROPOLITAN
BOROUGH COUNCIL

To:
Councillors K Meeson, L McCarthy, M Brain
and J Hamilton

NICK PAGE
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Council House, Manor Square
Solihull, West Midlands. B91 3QB
Tel. 0121-704 6000

Jane Game
Tel: 0121 704 6051
Email: jgame@solihull.gov.uk

Date Monday 4 January 2021

**CPH CHILDREN, EDUCATION AND SKILLS DECISION SESSION - Monday
11 January 2021**

AGENDA

Mayor/Chairman of the meeting to announce:

'May I remind everyone present that this meeting will be broadcast live via the internet.'

6. **PROPOSAL TO EXPAND CHESWICK GREEN PRIMARY SCHOOL** (Pages 5 - 10)

To update Cabinet Member on the outcome of the consultation process with parents, residents and the wider education community on the proposal to expand Cheswick Green Primary School.

This page is intentionally left blank

Appendix B

Key issues raised on the proposal to expand Cheswick Green Primary School

Consultation Key Issue	Consultation Feedback and Officer Response
<p>Traffic and Parking</p>	<p>Current traffic and parking is intolerable for residents during the ‘school run’. To expand Cheswick Green Primary School will double the number of cars, increasing the problem further.</p> <p>Impact of school traffic on local bus service.</p> <p>Parents park and drive inconsiderately, blocking resident’s driveways and ignoring current parking restrictions.</p> <p>Road infrastructure is already at capacity and cannot manage a further increase in traffic.</p> <p>There is insufficient parking already, so any increase is unacceptable.</p> <p>Staff park in the road all day as there is insufficient parking on the school site.</p> <p>Officer response – Parking around school sites is always an issue. The local community has expressed a clear view that they feel very strongly about the existing problems of car congestion and how the expansion proposal will seriously exacerbate the situation. Traffic and parking has come forward as the most significant concern from this consultation. The design team for this proposal has commissioned an independent transport assessment as part of this proposal. If the proposal moves to the next stage of the process the independent transport assessment and the feedback from the community about the parking and traffic issues will be submitted as part of the planning application so that traffic and parking can be given full consideration by the Planning Committee when considering whether to allow expansion of the buildings on the school site.</p> <p>The national Policy Planning Framework (NPPF) 2019, paragraph 94 states:-</p>

It is important that sufficient choice of school places is available to meet the needs of existing and new communities. Local planning authorities should take a proactive, positive and collaborative approach to meeting this requirement, and to development that will widen choice in education.

They should:

- a) Give great weight to the need to create, expand or alter schools through the preparation of plans and decisions on applications; and*
- b) Work with schools' promoters, delivery partners and statutory bodies to identify and resolve key planning issues before applications are submitted.*

Planning committee will take into account any proposed mitigation measures as part of their assessment of the proposal. The independent transport assessment will consider potential mitigation options that could be implemented. These may include updating and implementing the School Travel Plan, use of staggered start/end times between year groups, encouraging park and stride initiatives, expanding provision of before /after school clubs, investigating the potential to increase parking and options for an alternative access to the school site.

Additional parking provision for staff has been included in the feasibility study. The existing car park will be expanded to provide an additional 14 parking places.

To address the issue of inconsiderate parking it is likely that the focus on mitigation will be around the implementation of a revised school travel plan and the school's encouragement, particularly at new parent inductions and through parent newsletters for improved behaviours.

Residents have further suggested the following possible mitigation strategies which will all be considered as part of the preparation for any future planning application:-

- Use land at the rear of the school playing fields to create a road and drop off zone or turning circle for parents.
- Stop or limit parking on Cheswick Way using double yellow lines.
- Footpath/Cycle route from Blythe Valley Park

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School Bus service. • Park and Stride using local shops/pubs. • Pedestrian Crossing.
<p>Child Safety</p>	<p>Current traffic and parking levels are dangerous for the pupils accessing the school. Increasing the traffic and parking will make matters worse and could result in a serious accident.</p> <p>Officer response – The school will be supported by the Council to develop a School Travel Plan using the nationally recognised ModeShift STARS accreditation scheme. This will help the schools identify any potential road safety issues and what measures can be put in place to mitigate them. Modeshift STARS also looks at the whole school community and sets targets and monitors initiatives to increase levels of sustainable travel and to reduce the number of cars.</p>
<p>The new build does not provide enough space for a 2 form entry school. .</p>	<p>The expansion does not provide additional space in communal areas such as the hall, library, ICT suite, food tech room.</p> <p>The art room has been removed.</p> <p>Some classrooms are undersized.</p> <p>Officer response - The proposed expansion of the school buildings has been designed in accordance with Government building guidance contained within the Department for Education’s Area Guideline for mainstream schools - Building Bulletin 103 which provides guidance on the space required for a two form entry school.</p> <p>The Hall and proposed shared library exceeds the guidance. However a Food Tech Room, ICT suite and Art room do not correlate with the BB103 requirement for a new 2FE School, however it is acknowledged as an existing specialist curriculum provision, therefore this accommodation has either been re-provided within the remodelled proposal, or included within a shared resource space thus not omitted. To supplement Art and STEM curriculum the school has agreed to include sinks within each class base, or with the shared resource space and a dedicated 5m² Art Store has been included.</p>

	<p>The reception class bases have been recently revised achieve the guidance recommendation, all other class bases meet or exceed the area requirements.</p> <p>This proposal provides significant investment in the school building.. The Head and Governing Body have been integral to the design proposal and have carefully considered the use of the school building as part of this process. The Headteacher and Governing Body are supportive of the proposal and are clear about the benefits that this expansion can provide to current and future pupils.</p>
<p>Impact on existing ethos and family feel to the school</p>	<p>Expanding the school will spoil its small family and village school ethos.</p> <p>Officer response – Cheswick Green Primary School is a good school and children do well there. This is as a consequence of the effective leadership and management of the school. By expanding and increasing the size of the school the Headteacher and Governors will extend the current family ethos at the school to a wider group of children, and ensure that all children benefit from the additional opportunities that a larger school can offer.</p> <p>The size of the school is not necessarily the issue but actually how the school is organised. Schools can operate different key stage departments and implement measures such as separate play areas and access doors which can make pupils feel part of a smaller environment whilst being part of a larger school.</p>
<p>Impact of the expansion on outdoor space such as the playing field and forest school.</p>	<p>Outdoor space has not been increased, impact on the playing field.</p> <p>Officer response - The feasibility study has shown that the school site is sufficient to meet the needs of a 2fe primary school, conforming to government guidance. An appraisal has been made of the hard and soft play provision as part of the feasibility study and does continue to comply with the areas required under government guidance.</p> <p>A small strip of grass land adjacent to the school will be utilised to support the required developable area, without compromising the sport pitch provision which is protected for the school’s curriculum requirements. The plans allow for the required outdoor play space for a two form entry school.</p>

Travelling distances of children at the school.	<p>These places are being added for children that live a long way away from the school and cannot walk to school.</p> <p>Officer response – When the planning application for the housing development was considered, in 2016, the delivery of primary school places was considered. It was acknowledged that the development would not provide sufficient pupil demand to support a new school and that an existing school would need to be expanded.</p> <p>Cheswick Green Primary School is the closest primary school to the Blythe Valley development. The development is located in the catchment area for the School and is the primary school where the families living in Blythe Valley have the highest priority for a place.</p> <p>Feasibility work has demonstrated that Hockley Heath Primary School has insufficient site capacity to accommodate a 2 form entry school and that the buildings at St Patrick’s CE Primary Academy do not lend themselves to a two form entry expansion. The issue of travelling distances for families would have been the same if either of these schools had they been proposed for expansion.</p> <p>This school expansion proposal will not be able to address the wider implications of accessibility to and from Blythe Valley Park. The proposal will, however, seek to support families with accessing a school place.</p>
--	--

This page is intentionally left blank