

# BURNTWOOD ACTION GROUP



NEWSLETTER No 2

MARCH 2009

**Good News:** You may have read in the local press that the meeting of Lichfield District Council's Environmental and Development (oversight and scrutiny) Committee on 18<sup>th</sup> March adopted the Planning Officer's report which stated that:

- "We see no benefit ... in any easterly growth direction in Burntwood."
- Re-designation of some industrial land for housing development could make the use of green belt land in Hammerwich unnecessary.
- Other brownfield sites may become available.

This effectively rules out any development on green belt east of Farewell Lane and makes it clear that the majority of any housing development in Burntwood is likely to be on brownfield sites. Full details of the planners report are now posted on our website.

This is exactly what we had hoped for. The report now goes to the Council Executive Committee Meeting on April 7<sup>th</sup>. If they ratify it then it will form the basis of the revised Lichfield District Council's response to the Government (due in September 2009). To guarantee that this happens a group of people will be attending this Council Meeting on your behalf, thus ensuring our ongoing commitment to protecting our green belt.

A great big **thank you** to all those who helped to generate the 2000 plus letters of objection and to those who attended the meeting on March 18<sup>th</sup>. The impressive volume of support for protecting our green belt was referred to by many of the councillors and it undoubtedly influenced the revisions to the plan. Without this level of opposition we could have faced a very different outcome, which would have changed our local environment irrevocably.

Whilst we appear to have achieved our initial objectives, we must continue to monitor the final submission to government and subsequent decisions. To provide you with more details on the planning officer's report and an update from the Council Executive Meeting we are organising an "open meeting" for all our supporters on April 29<sup>th</sup> (full details at the end of this newsletter).

## Other updates

1. Following a meeting with representatives of six other residents groups from Lichfield and Hammerwich a joint letter was sent to Michael Fabricant and all LDC councillors informing them that we had formed an alliance to protect green belt throughout the LDC area.
2. Drop off points for our newsletters and boxes for responses and any communications to our committee are now available at the Spires Doctors' Surgery, the Swan Island Post Office and the "Wild Orchid" flower shop (thanks to them all for this help). New supporters can register or existing supporters can update their details via our website or by completing the attached tear-off slip. Place it in one of the drop off boxes or directly to 37 Farewell Lane. Don't worry if you don't have email as we will continue to keep you informed by newsletter.
3. "Save our Green Belt" signs for windows, gardens or cars are still available for purchase and can also be ordered via the drop-off boxes. Thank you to all who are already flying the flag!
4. With the help of local schools we are hoping to organise a competition for children to design a "logo" for our group. More details will be provided later at the open meeting and via the website.

5. We are also monitoring any other issues, which may impact, on our green belt so please let us know if you have any issues or concerns. At the moment we are gathering information on the proposed wind turbine on Peters Lane.
6. Thank you to all those who have made donations towards our running costs. Further donations can be made through PayPal on our website or by cheque to Burntwood Action Group and posted to 37 Farewell Lane.
7. The Open Meeting referred to earlier is to be held on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> April at St Mathew's Social Club 7.00 – 7.45 p.m. All are welcome (including children) but please let us know if you plan to attend so we have some idea of numbers. We look forward to seeing you all there. Please use the enclosed tear-off slip and return it to us via a drop-off box or to 37 Farewell Lane.
8. The Open meeting will be followed by a meal and an entertaining insight into the area by a local historian. For those who would like to stay for food, learn more about their area and socialise the cost will be £7.50 per person. The supper will include a chicken or vegetarian basket meal. Tickets will be issued in advance and can be ordered by completing the slip below and placing in one of the drop off boxes or directly from 37 Farewell Lane. The event will end before 10.00 p.m. so don't rule it out if you have to get up early the next day. Hopefully this event will update the community on the planning issues and give you the opportunity to learn more about the area we are trying to protect.

**Tear off** .....

Please complete the following and return to **37 Farewell Lane, Burntwood** or to a designated drop off box

Name:	Tel no.	
Address:	Post code	
Email address:		
Please register me as a supporter of The Burntwood Action Group	Yes	No
Please keep me informed by hand delivery or email of Newsletters	Yes	No
I am willing to help please contact me	Yes	No
I would like to purchase a window / car / garden sign	Yes	No
I am willing to donate please contact me / accept enclosed cheque	Yes	No

<b>Burntwood Action Group Open Meeting</b>		
Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> April	St Mathews Social Club	7.00 – 7.45 p.m.
Name		
Address		
Email address		
I / we wish to attend this meeting and will require _____ seats.		
Please respond via drop off box or to 37 Farewell Lane		

<b>Burntwood Action Group – Meal and entertainment</b>		
Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> April	St Mathews Social Club	8.00 – 10.00 p.m.
Name		
Address		
Email address		
I / we wish to attend this meeting and will require;		
_____	Adult tickets at £7.50 each. Please indicate Chicken or Vegetarian Meal.	
_____	Childs tickets at £6.00 each. Please indicate Chicken or Vegetarian Meal.	
Payment by cheque payable to <b>Burntwood Action Group</b> should be included with your order and delivered to 37 Farewell Lane.		
<b>(Tickets will be issued prior to event)</b>		