

## **COUNCIL – 30 JANUARY 2024**

### **QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS**

#### **QUESTION FROM COUNCILLOR P MOULT TO COUNCILLOR K MERRIE**

How much has the Council spent on defending the `Area of Separation between Whitwick and Coalville, including officer resources, appeals, and the high court judgement plus the cost of the five day judicial review, which supported it`s retention recognising it`s importance?

#### **REPOSENSE FROM COUNCILLOR K MERRIE TO COUNCILLOR P MOULT**

There have been two applications in the area of separation that have successfully been defended at appeal by the Council. The Stephenson's Green proposal was also successfully defended at judicial review.

The legal cost of defending the Stephenson's Green proposal (Application No. 10/01208/OUTM) was £33,433. (Note: made up of external legal fees - £31,600 and internal officer time - £1,833).

The legal cost of defending the Jelson's proposal on land to the rear of Hall Lane (Application No. 14/00800OUTM) was £15,506. (Note: made up of external legal fees - £12,075 and internal officer time – £3,431).

I am unable to advise what the cost of the planning officer resource in dealing with these applications was, but those costs would have generally been covered by the fees received for the planning applications.

I would also advise members that the land at Broomleys Farm, agreed as a site allocation for the purposes of the Local Plan Regulation 18 consultation at Local Plan Committee on 17 January, was not part of the either the Stephenson Green and Jelson's proposals successfully defended by the Council.