

Statement of Community Involvement Tidbury Green Farm, Fulford Hall Road, Earlswood

January 2018

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Prepared By: Bartholomew Shirm, Graduate Planner

Checked By: Rob Gardner, Director

Date: January 2018

For and on behalf of GVA Grimley Limited

1. Introduction

- 1.1 This Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) has been prepared by GVA in support of proposals for the change of use, alteration and construction of extensions, required to convert Tidbury Green Farmhouse into a pub/restaurant (Use Class A3/A4). Tidbury Green Farm is a listed building located at the northern corridor of the village of Tidbury Green.
- 1.2 The proposed pub/restaurant would be developed and run by Brunning and Price. Brunning and Price has grown, from its founding in 1989 with a small collection of pubs in the north west of England, to a portfolio of pubs spanning the country. Brunning and Price operate its premises on a "location specific" basis rather than the 'chain' model. The company prides itself on establishing community-centred pubs in buildings of historic and architectural merit. Brunning and Price operate nine pubs across the West Midlands including the Physician in Edgbaston.
- 1.3 The works required to create the pub/restaurant require planning permission and listed building consent.
- 1.4 The description of development for the planning application is:
 - "Change of use of the existing farmhouse, associated buildings and land from residential use (use class C3) to a pub/restaurant (use class A3/A4) with ancillary manager's accommodation, and construction of extensions and associated works, including: creation of access and car parking; and hard and soft landscaping."
- 1.5 The description of works to the listed building for which listed building consent is sought is:
 - "Works to listed buildings including: internal refurbishment of the farm house and associated buildings; partial demolition of a listed building; side and rear extension to the listed farmhouse and large barn; and external works to the listed buildings to replace modern additions with traditional features, including windows."
- 1.6 Brunning and Price has undertaken a thorough consultation process with interested parties in respect of its proposals and this SCI summarises the consultation undertaken. This document:
 - sets out details of the consultation undertaken;
 - summarises the representations received; and
 - provides Brunning and Price's feedback to the responses received.

Importance and Purpose of Effective Consultation

- 1.7 Effective community engagement lies at the heart of the planning system. There is, at present, no statutory requirement to undertake public consultation. Nevertheless consultation enables applicants to explain their proposals to interested parties so that the community and other stakeholders have the best possible information available to them, on which they may base their views. Consultation may also identify local issues that the applicant is not aware of but which may have an influence on the detail of an applicant's proposals.
- In line with its business model of establishing individual, community-centred, pubs, Brunning and Price must ensure that it is a 'good neighbour'. Its proposals for the site must meet the needs of the local community. Therefore, in accordance with the adopted Solihull Local Development Framework Statement of Community.

Involvement (2007), the National Planning Policy Framework (2012) and various good practice guidance documents, Brunning and Price has sought to engage and consult with relevant parties in respect of its proposals.

- 1.9 The objectives of the community consultation undertaken have been to:
 - ensure that the local community is aware of the proposals;
 - seek comments, views and feedback from the community and highlight any areas of concern;
 and
 - respond, if necessary and as appropriate, to any issues raised by the local community.

2. Scope of Community Involvement

Notifying the Public

- 2.1 Brunning and Price has ensured that the public consultation process has been well advertised. As many people as possible with a potential interest in the development have been made aware of the proposals and of the opportunity to engage in the planning application process.
- 2.2 The consultation process has been advertised using a variety of methods, namely:
 - the Parish Council Newsletter;
 - a large scale postal letter distribution; and
 - a dedicated website.
- 2.3 A public consultation event was held on 11 October 2017, further details of which are provided in **Section**4.

Parish Council Newsletter

- 2.4 An article which explained Brunning and Price's proposals at Tidbury Green Farm was included in the August 2017 edition of the Parish Council Newsletter.
- 2.5 The article gave a brief overview of Brunning and Price's intentions to develop the house and barns, including some extensions, into a licensed eatery.
- 2.6 The article provided a link to the dedicated website created by Brunning and Price for the scheme.
- The Parish Council Newsletter is published every three months and is available to download as a PDF at the URL address: http://www.tidburygreen-pc.org.uk/newsletters/.

Letter Distribution

- 2.8 In order to engage as many people as possible in the consultation process, a letter was distributed to properties in and around Tidbury Green. A total of 1051 letters were delivered. A map showing the distribution can be found at **Appendix 1**.
- 2.9 The letter gave details of:
 - the date, time and locations of the public consultation event;
 - the evolution of the proposals at Tidbury Green Farm so far; and
 - the approach taken by Brunning and Price towards managing its pubs.
- 2.10 A copy of the A5 letter can be found at **Appendix 2**
- 2.11 Following the public consultation event on the 11 October 2017, there was concern that a small number of properties had been missed on the original mail-out of letters. A letter to potentially missed houses was posted to 60 properties in and around Tidbury Green. The second letter gave details of:
 - the past public consultation event; and

- the dedicated website created by Brunning and Price for the Tidbury Green Farm proposal.
- 2.12 A copy of the letter distributed to houses that may have been missed off the original circulation can be found at **Appendix 3**.

Website

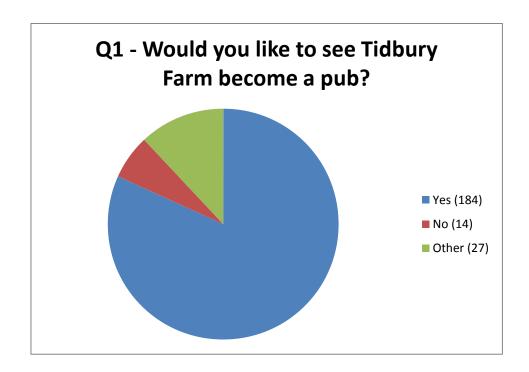
- 2.13 Brunning and Price created a website dedicated to their proposals at Tidbury Green Farm. The website can be accessed at the URL: http://www.brunningandprice.co.uk/tidburygreenfarm/.
- 2.14 The website provides an overview of Brunning and Price's intentions to develop the house and barn at Tidbury Green Farm. It provides a brief synopsis of the history and managerial approach of Brunning and Price. It also gives relevant information on the stage in the planning process that the proposals have reached, including the status of the planning application.
- 2.15 The website provides links to:
 - a sample menu for the proposed pub;
 - a gallery of photos from other Brunning and Price pubs; and
 - the main Brunning and Price website.
- 2.16 The website provided a link to an online survey. The results of the survey were published on the website following the deadline for comments, which was on 9 October 2017. Results were displayed as percentages with a list of additional positive comments and points of concern raised by respondents. **Section 3** provides information on the online survey and a presentation of its results.
- 2.17 For the most detailed and up-to-date news on the proposals, interested individuals are able to subscribe to a mailing list via the website.

3. Online Survey and Feedback

- 3.1 The online survey was created by Brunning &Price to capture the views of the community regarding the proposed development at Tidbury Green Farm prior to the public consultation event.
- 3.2 The survey was noted in the August 2017 Tidbury Green Parish Council Newsletter and was accessible by a link on the dedicated proposals website.
- 3.3 The survey was set up on "SurveyMonkey.com" and asked respondents 4 questions. These questions were:
 - 1. Would you like to see Tidbury Farm become a pub?
 - 2. Do you think your community would benefit from having a pub at the centre of it?
 - 3. Do you have any worries about the plans that you have seen?
 - 4. Do you have any suggestions that we should incorporate?
- On the 9 October 2017, prior to the public consultation event, 229 people had responded to the survey. Responses to the survey are set out in this section.

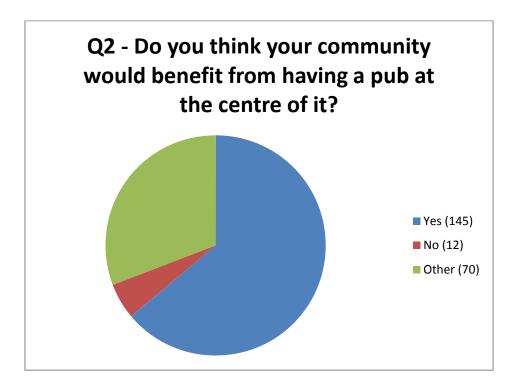
Question 1 - Would you like to see Tidbury Farm become a pub?

3.5 Question 1 could be answered as either 'yes', 'no' or 'other'. 81.7% of respondents answered 'yes' to this question. A handful of additional comments were given, highlighting the current lack of a quality pub in the area. A chart which displays the survey results for question 1 is below.



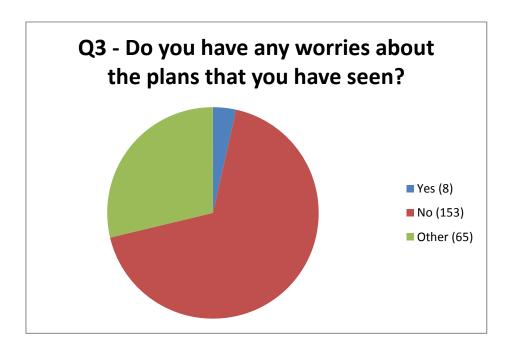
Question 2 - Do you think your community would benefit from having a pub at the centre of it?

3.6 Question 2 could be answered as either 'yes', 'no' or 'other'. 63.9% of respondents answered 'yes' to this question and 30.8% answered 'other'. A handful of additional comments were given highlighting a general desire for a proposed pub to be of high quality and welcoming to young children and dogs. A chart which displays the survey results for question 2 is below.



Question 3 - Do you have any worries about the plans that you have seen?

3.7 Question 3 could be answered as either 'yes', 'no' or 'other'. 67.7% of respondents answered 'no' to this question and 28.8% answered 'other'. A handful of additional comments were given praising the quality of the proposed design and raising concern over the impact of the development on the highway network. A chart which displays the survey results for question 3 is below.



Question 4 - Do you have any suggestions that we should incorporate?

3.8 Question 4 received 121 individual comments. These have been grouped under similar themes in the table below. Some of the comments received were not relevant to the application under consideration and so are not mentioned in the table. Feedback is provided in response to the comments.

Q4 - Do you have any	suggestions that we s	should incorporate?
Comment	Number of	Feedback
	respondents	
Please include a play area for kids	17	The Proposed Ground Floor Plan illustrates a range of seating options within the pub suitable for people of all ages and a games table. The Proposed Site Plan shows extensive lawn, extending from the patio, on which is a set of swings which would be used by children.
Please include outside seating/beer garden	11	The Proposed Site Plan shows a large gravel courtyard, paved terrace and extensive lawn suitable for outdoor seating. These areas are easily accessible from the pub via the main entrance and the terrace entrance.
Potential to become a quality 'real local'	9	Brunning and Price have an established ethos for imagining unique "one off" pubs situated at the heart of communities. They have won The Good Pub Guide: Pub Group of the Year four times and always seek to create quality establishments suitable for all.
No comments - existing plans are good	7	Noted
"Can't wait" for the pub to be created	6	Noted
Good design	5	Noted
Please include a quiet area	3	The Proposed Ground Floor Plan illustrates that the pub interior will be structured as a collection of distinct spaces, utilizing the existing room layout of the farmhouse and main barn. This will provide a choice of atmosphere to suit customers.
Please include secure cycle parking	3	Secure cycle parking will be provided as part of the proposals. The appropriate level will be agreed with the LPA during the determination of the planning application.
Please make the most of the grounds/pond through landscaping	3	The Proposed Site Plan shows the retention of many mature trees on site. The hedge to the south of the vehicle entrance will be removed creating an area which will be 'set aside for village use'. The area will enhance the setting and views of the pond. The proposal has been designed with the intention of respecting the listed farmhouse and its surrounding landscape.
Please include more parking	2	The proposed car parking provision is for a total of 58 spaces, including 3 disabled spaces and 8 for staff. This provision is within the maximum parking standards set out in the Council's Vehicle Parking Standards and Green Travel Plans (June 2006). The Transport Statement submitted with the application anticipates the weekend peak parking requirements to be for 49 spaces. This can be met within a car park with capacity of 58 spaces
The implications for increasing highway traffic make the development inappropriate	2	The Transport Statement concludes that the proposals would make no material difference to the operation of the adjacent Tilehouse Lane/Fulford Hall Road/Dickens Heath Road/Lowbrook Lane junction during the peak periods, which would continue to operate satisfactorily.
Request for a discount for locals	2	Noted
More noise mitigation methods	2	The Noise Report concludes that noise from external seating areas and noise levels generated by delivery vehicle and general customer vehicle

		movements will not have a significant noise impact on existing or proposed dwellings. Mitigation methods for plant noise detailed in the Report will ensure no adverse impact.
The area doesn't need another pub	2	The response rate of the online survey and attendance at the consultation event illustrate the demand for the type of establishment proposed by Brunning and Price at Tidbury Green Farm.
More social area	1	The Proposed Ground Floor Plan illustrates that the pub interior will be structured as a collection of distinct spaces, utilizing the existing room layout of the farmhouse and main barn. This will provide a choice of atmosphere for customers.
Please retain original features of the property	1	A key part of the development brief was the retention of the original features of the property to celebrate and enhance its heritage and character. This has been incorporated into the design. More modern features which currently detract from the appearance and character of the listed buildings are proposed for removal. The Heritage Statement that supports the application sets out in detail the impact of the proposed development on the listed buildings. It concludes that the development will have "less than substantial harm" to the heritage assets, the test that is required by national planning policy.
Please make it disability friendly	1	Measures haven been taken to design for the disabled within the proposed development. The Proposed Site Plan shows three disabled parking spaces with direct paved access to the pub. The Proposed Ground Floor Plan shows an accessible WC, lots of open space within the pub and a variety of seating options for people with different needs. The scheme would comply fully with the provision of the Disability Discrimination Act and with the relevant Building Regulations.
Please include dog poo bin	1	Noted
Please move the entrance further away from the crossroads	1	During the design process, the proposal has evolved and there is now a single access point from Fulford Hall Road. The Transport Statement concludes that the proposals would make no material difference to the operation of the adjacent Tilehouse Lane/Fulford Hall Road/Dickens Heath Road/Lowbrook Lane junction during the peak periods, which would continue to operate satisfactorily.
Please hold a public consultation event	1	The public consultation event was held 11 October 2017.
Should be on a different site	1	Tidbury Green Farm is one of the oldest surviving properties in the area. Brunning and Price seek to restore and enhance elements of the property and surrounding buildings whilst bringing them into public use. The farmhouse is typical of the premises that Brunning and Price develop, establishing community-centred pubs in historic buildings. Responses to the online survey and attendance at the public consultation event demonstrate the local demand for the establishment proposed.

Summary

- 3.9 In summary, the online survey received a very positive response towards the development from local residents.
- 3.10 A number of comments were raised by respondents and relevant feedback has been given to these comments. Comments received during the online survey were used to shape the evolution of the final proposed design.

4. Public Consultation Event

- 4.1 A public consultation event in respect of the proposals was held on Wednesday 11 October 2017. The first half of the event was held between 14:30 and 16:30 at Tidbury Green Hall, Dickens Heath Road, Earlswood. The second half of the event was held between 17:00 and 20:00 at Earlswood Methodist Church, Rumbush Lane, Earlswood.
- 4.2 Tidbury Green Hall (the venue for part 1 of the event) occupies an accessible location, with parking, in Tidbury Green on the site of Tidbury Green School. It is the closest available venue to the site suitable for a consultation event. However, the hall was not available for the full duration of the event, hence the decision to use two venues. Earlswood Methodist Church is situated close to Tidbury Green, Wythall and Earlswood and has space for car parking. Both locations were considered easily accessible for most.
- 4.3 The exhibition was attended by staff from Brunning and Price and by representatives from its project team. Brunning and Price staff were on hand to answer questions on how the pub would operate. Members of the technical team were available to consider questions on town planning and listed building related matters including; heritage, design, planning policy, ecology, trees and highways/transportation. Across the day, approximately 60-80 people attended the consultation event.

Exhibition Boards

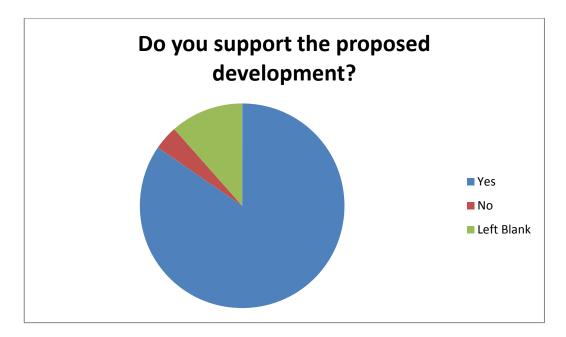
- 4.4 The purpose of the event was to set out information on the design and layout of the proposals, as well as to provide background information on Brunning and Price and its credentials as an award winning pub group. Seven exhibition boards were displayed at the event and covered the following themes:
 - Board 1: Listed Buildings;
 - Board 2: Alteration to Listed Buildings and Historic Growth of Tidbury Green;
 - Board 3: Interior Photos of the farmhouse;
 - Board 4: Existing Photos of the site;
 - Board r 5: About Our Pubs;
 - Board r 6: Proposed Ground Floor Plan; and
 - Board 7: Proposed Site Plan
- 4.5 Images of the boards are provided at **Appendix 4**.

Providing Feedback

- The key aim of consultation was to provide the community with good quality information about Brunning and Price's proposals, and to encourage feedback from those attending. Visitors were encouraged to register their views by filling out a feedback form (see **Appendix 5**). A Comments Box was available at the event for returning completed forms to the project team.
- 4.7 A letter was posted or an email was sent to 35 visitors who provided their contact details on the consultation event feedback form. The letter/email thanked visitors for attending the event and provided the URL address to the dedicated proposal website created by Brunning and Price. The email mirrored the letter, and a copy of the letter can be found at **Appendix 6**.

Event Feedback

- 4.8 A total of 27 completed feedback forms were returned at the event. These, combined with the 229 responses to the online survey, represents an excellent level of feedback overall.
- 4.9 A summary of the consultation feedback is provided below.



5. Conclusions

- 5.1 Brunning and Price intend to create a pub / restaurant which would be at the heart of the community at Tidbury Green. For this reason, Brunning and Price has sought to robustly and thoroughly canvas the opinion of local residents which, Brunning and Price hopes, will be its future customers.
- 5.2 Brunning and Price has communicated details of its proposals to the local community in several ways:
 - advertising in the parish magazine;
 - direct mailshot to the vast majority of households in the village;
 - follow up mailshot to include houses that may have been missed;
 - a dedicated website which provides full details of the proposals; and
 - a public consultation exercise at which information was provided and staff from Brunning and Price and its consultants were on hand to answer any questions the local community wished to raise.
- 5.3 We conclude that Brunning and Price has used every opportunity to ensure that the entire village community is aware of its proposals. The scheme has been advertised to a far wider audience than the statutory requirements of applications for planning permission and listed building consent.
- 5.4 Brunning and Price has captured feedback from the local community in three broad ways:
 - invitations to respond to an online questionnaire;
 - invitations to leave written comments at the consultation event; and
 - invitations to provide verbal feedback to staff from Brunning and Price and its consultants at the consultation event.
- 5.5 The level of feedback received in respect of the consultation exercises has been significant. A total of 229 people responded to the online survey and between 60 and 80 people attended the public consultation event. Some visitors chose not to sign the attendance register or leave feedback hence it is not possible to give a precise number. Of those who did attend the consultation event, 35 left email addresses and 27 completed feedback forms.
- The above confirms that approximately 300 people actively chose to engage in the consultation exercise. Tidbury Green currently has a population of approximately 1,130 people. The participation rate is therefore approximately 27%.
- 5.7 Of those who chose to comment on the proposals the vast majority was supportive of the scheme. The online survey in particular produced a majority of positive responses in respect of both the concept of a pub in the village and the details of the scheme proposed.
- 5.8 We conclude that the consultation exercise demonstrates robustly that there is strong support for both the principle and detail of the proposals amongst a significant proportion of the community at Tidbury Green.



Appendix 1

A5 Postal Letter Distribution Map





Appendix 2
A5 Postal Letter



Hello,

I hope you don't mind us dropping this letter through your door.

You may be aware that Brunning and Price are interested in purchasing Tidbury Green Farm, in order to turn the beautiful building into a food led local pub.

If this is all new to you, there is a lot of information about us, the sort of pubs we run, and how we run them, on our website

(www.brunningandprice.co.uk). In a nutshell, over the last 30 odd years we have spent our time reconditioning, developing and running destination-led, country pubs. The good pub guide voted us "Pub Chain of the Year" on four occasions and I think this is largely because, whilst we put a lot of effort into making the buildings look good, our real focus is on making a lovely pub fit for the location it sits in and the community that it is joining.

We believe for any pub to survive these days it needs to serve good quality freshly made food, but we love proper pubs with a good-sized bar at its heart and plenty of space for those that just want to meet friends for a chat over a beer or glass of wine. We do not run functions or weddings, as we believe these wreck the atmosphere for others, so 'private hire' or late nights are not what we are about.

We have drawn up our initial thoughts on what we believe Tidbury Green Farm might look like, have circulated them to the Parish Council and posted them onto a website where we have taken feedback and made amends along the way. We are now in a position to show you these changes and would love to hear what you think ahead of applying for planning permission.

If you have the time, we shall be holding an open afternoon on Wednesday 11th October, from 2.30 until 4.30 at Tidbury Green Village Hall and then from 5pm until 8pm at the Earlswood Methodist Church Hall. We plan to set up a little display of our proposals and have people on hand to talk you through them and hear what you think.

We hope that you can make it and look forward to meeting as many members of the community as possible.

Wishing you all the best,

Nicola Stuart.



Appendix 3

Letter to Potentially Missed Households



Brunning & Price Limited

Yew Tree Farm Buildings

Saighton

Chester

Cheshire

CH3 6EG

Tel: 01244 333 100

Hello,

Please excuse the unannounced letter and do please disregard if this is old news to you.

Brunning and Price are very interested in turning Tidbury Green Farm into a pub. We held a bit of an open day last week at the village hall in order to share our ideas and listen to feedback and suggestions. It was our intention to ask everyone in the community to come along by dropping a note through their doors, however, we have been told that some houses on your street didn't receive a letter, so I wanted to personally post something to let you know of our plans, and to apologise if your house was previously missed.

We have set up a website in order to keep everyone up to date with our plans, here is a link to it http://www.brunningandprice.co.uk/tidburygreenfarm/. It is here that we will load on the revised drawings once they have been completed. There is also a section on this website where you can load in your email address and I will make sure that you then get a note to let you know when anything new arrives on the site.

Please do feel free to pass on these details to anyone that we might have missed, we really appreciate your help.

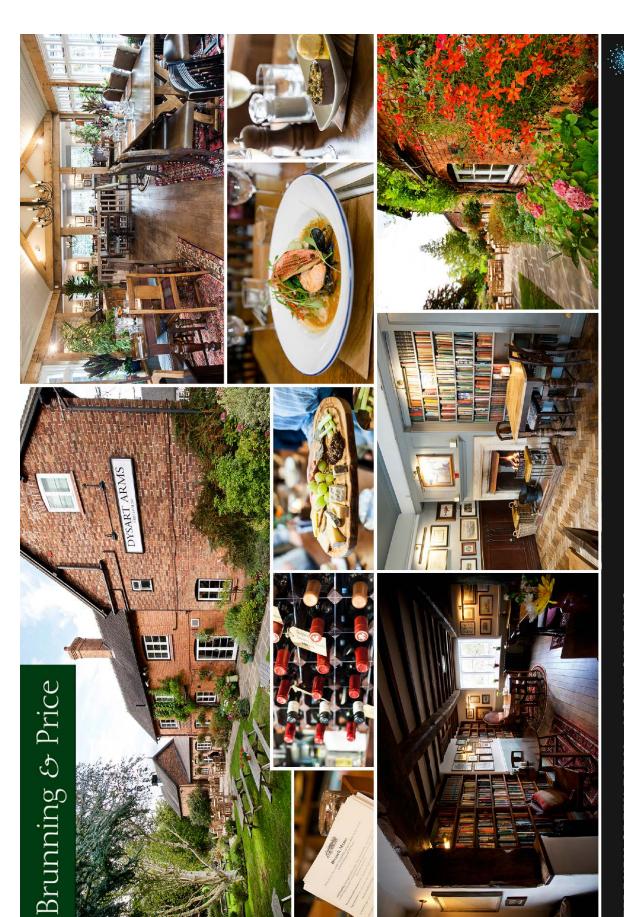
Kind regards, Nicola.

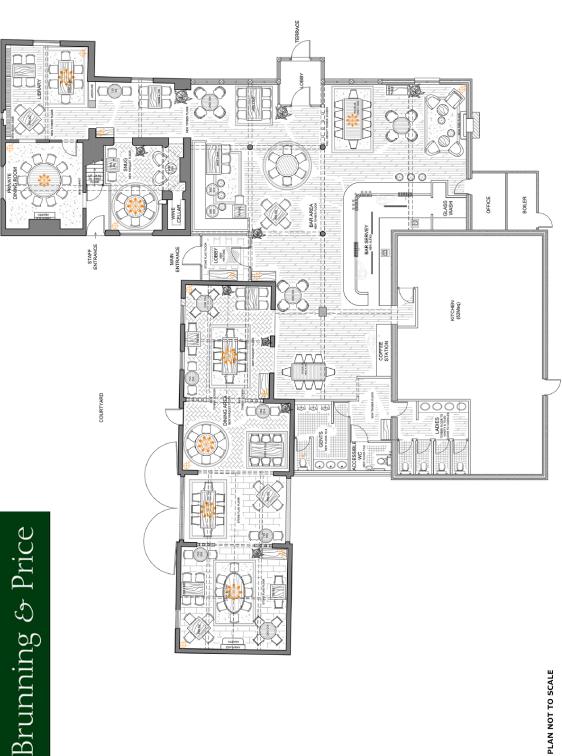


Appendix 4

Consultation Event Banners







TIDBURY GREEN FARM - PROPOSED GROUND FLOOR PLAN







Listed Builings

The group of farmhouse and farmbuildings at Tidbury Green were added to the Statutory List of Buildings of Architectural or Historic Interest on 14th July 2016. All are included within Grade II, and 14th Aweb been recognised for the evidence they provide of an agricultural grouping which pre-dates the Industrial Revolution and the changes to the landscape which have occurred subsequently.

The individual buildings listed at the farm are as follows:

Tidbury Green Farmhouse - A farmhouse, dating originally from the C17, with alterations and remodelling in the C18 and C19; with attached outbuildings.

Barn and stables - A threshing barn with attached stable, dating from the first half of the C19.

Cowhouse - A cowhouse, dating from the C18 with remodelling in the C19, used latterly as a milking shed.

Pigsties - Pigsties, with pens, dating from the late C19.































Appendix 5

Consultation Event Feedback Form



COMMENTS FORM

Brunning and Price Public House at Tidbury Green, Community Chat, 11 October 2017

Name
Address
Destroyle
Postcode
Thank you for taking the time to look at our proposals. We would welcome any comments that you may have and will give them consideration as the scheme progresses.
Proposed Development
Do you support the proposed development?
Y L N L
Comments and Suggestions.
We would love to keep you up to date with our progress. If you are interested, please let us know an email address we can contact you on:
Thank you.



Appendix 6

Letter sent to Consultation Attendees



Brunning & Price Limited Yew Tree Farm Buildings Saighton

Cheshire CH3 6EG

Tel: 01244 333 100

Hello,

Thank you so much for coming along to our open afternoon last week. We really appreciate you taking the time to hear about our proposals.

Please excuse the letter but I'm having difficulty deciphering some of the email addresses that were given, so I thought I would send a little note too.

We have set up a website in order to keep everyone up to date with our plans, here is a link to it http://www.brunningandprice.co.uk/tidburygreenfarm/. It is here that we will load on the revised drawings once they have been completed. There is also a section on this website where you can load in your email address and I will make sure that you then get a note to let you know when anything new arrives on the site.

Please do feel free to pass on these details to anyone that we might have missed, we really appreciate your help.

Kind regards, Nicola.

Contact Details

Enquiries Name "Direct Dial" Email

Visit us online

gva.co.uk

Our offices

Manchester Newcastle