

**Transcript of speech** made by Clifford Taylor on May 9, 2023 at the Public Inquiry into the Planning Application known as SIX:56

My name is Clifford Taylor. I am a Parish Councillor for Grappenhall and Thelwall and I am Chairman of the South Warrington Parishes Local Plan Working Group (SWP).

Grappenhall and Thelwall Parish Council (G&TPC) has long been concerned about the fate of the Green Belt in South Warrington – it is an issue that members of the public repeatedly raise. They frequently express concern about the scale and visual impact of housing and warehousing, highways issues, infrastructure and air quality.

About 6 years ago in the context of the emerging Local Plan, G&TPC proposed to neighbouring Parish Councils that there might be room for cooperation on major common planning issues – particularly the Green Belt in South Warrington. As a result, SWP was formed with representatives from participating Parish Councils as a vehicle for like-minded Parish Councils to act together to obtain professional advice and representation and to share costs.

It may not be unique for Parish Councils to cooperate in this way in the long term, but it is highly unusual. I believe that the emergence and continuation of SWP over an extended period of time and its engagement with the Green Belt issue reflects the deep public concern that I just described; it is a genuine expression of extent of public feeling on the matter.

The substance of what SWP has to say about the 6/56 application rests with Mr Groves of Groves Town Planning.