



**MINUTES**

**Meeting:** EXTRAORDINARY      **Date:** 29<sup>th</sup> September 2016      **Time:** 7.30 PM

**Venue:** North Weald Library, High Road, North Weald.

---

**PRESENT:**

**Councillors :(12)** C Hawkins, Chairman, B Clegg, B Bartram, R Spearman, T Blanks, A Tyler, Mrs S Jackman, MBE, A Buckley, N Bedford, B Eldridge, D Stallan, Mrs E Godwin Brown

Also Present: District Cllr: Chris Whitbread (1)

**Officers in Attendance (2)**

Susan De Luca – Clerk to the Council

Adriana Jones – Principal Financial & Administrative Officer

**Members of the Public (14)**

**Members of the Press (1)**

**P16.ES1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (2)**

**NOTED** that apologies for absence had been received from Cllr Mrs A Grigg, G Mulliner

**P16.ES2 OTHER ABSENCES (0)**

No Other Apologies necessary,

**P16.ES3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Cllr R Spearman Declared an Interest in the Local Plan

**P16.ES4 WELCOME**

The Chairman welcomed Members and introduced Cllr Whitbread, and Members of Staff to those present. He advised that it would be a busy evening and asked if Members would please listen carefully to the presentation, and he advised Members that this initial meeting was looking at the plan initially, now that it had been issued in its draft format. The Clerk advised this would be the first of many meetings, both she and Adriana the Admin and Financial Officer had found many errors regarding the Parish of North Weald Bassett in the first draft of the local plan and these needed to be addressed as a matter of urgency, and before the draft was agreed by EFDC Cabinet.

She further advised that he more robust work on looking at figures and areas would soon start in earnest and this presentation was the first step.

**P16.ES5 PRESENTATION ON THE EPPING FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL LOCAL PLAN;**

Adriana continued with the presentation.

**P16.ES6 DISTRICT COUNCILLOR CHRIS WHITBREAD**

- Spoke on proportionality
- Some parts of the District have constraints where it is almost impossible to build, ie the Forest, Buckhurst Hill, - this has led to difficult choices having to be made
- There has been a need to protect the Green Belt
- They have looked at higher Density housing in urban areas, lower density in rural

- The important thing in responding to the consultation is to give ‘true’ planning arguments
- Main population is in 50% of the District
- 1000 of the homes are on one site within the District – Latton Priory

#### **P16.ES7 COUNCILLORS WERE ASKED FOR THEIR COMMENTS**

- Remember Developers can ask for sites which have been rejected to be put back in (Cllr Dave Stallan)
- You need Development to get Services (Adriana)
- When will we know about what Infrastructure is needed (Brian Eldridge)
- Concerned that Infrastructure will be very slow to come (Elaine Godwin Brown)
- Gypsy & Travellers Site – Is it in the correct place as they usually tend to stick together in the same area (Nigel Bedford)
- Latton Priory – Could they double the amount of homes – ie 1000 to 2000 – (Elaine Godwin Brown)
- Concern at roads, infrastructure etc general concern at no satisfactory answers (Elaine Godwin Brown)
- Developers will be responsible for infrastructure (Adriana)
- Junction 7a has to be supported by Harlow Council, this is what site owners/developers have put forward. (Dave Stallan)
- This is not all happening tomorrow – it is happening up to 2033, we have to look at what we want to happen in phases, also where and how (Nigel Bedford)
- It is a bit of worry about call for sites and land owners, concern if it is controlled by 2 or 3 landowners, what most people are worried about is proportionality (Nigel Bedford)
- Doctor Surgeries, Hospitals, Health Services this sort of infrastructure is important and should be in place (Sheila Jackman, MBE)
- Police, Fire Services, Schools – how would they cope – we need infrastructure (Andy Tyler)
- Do the latest figures take account of Brexit, are figures right for the time, proportionality is the key – this plan is not proportionate
- Don’t know if I am disappointed with the plan or just totally flummoxed with the proportionality argument (Cllr Clegg)
- On pages 76 and 77, great emphasis has been placed on looking after G&T's throughout the District (A Buckley).
- On the précis for each parish in chapter 5 there is a paragraph regarding Sites for traveller accommodation. (A Buckley)
- Every parish ,with the exception of North Weald,Waltham Abbey,Roydon and Nazeing has been excused the requirement to provide such sites!!(A Buckley) The simple question is - why? ) A Buckley)
- It also seems Roydon and Nazeing are now being excused also due to the number they currently entertain is there a valid reason for this (A Buckley)

#### **P16.ES8 GENERAL COMMENTS**

- 11,290 Dwellings up to 2033
- Concern that North Weald get 3135 dwellings
- Equates to 28% - Not proportionate
- Latton Priory originally put forward 2 years 2250 homes now 1000 therefore there is flexibility
- We have put in representation re the Ridge Line in Latton Priory – it seems like EFDC have listened to this
- Instead of all the sites around the village could we increase the density at Latton Priory and put more dwelling there
- We could then Keep North Weald as a Village rather than a Town
- Is District Council hiding behind the fact in saying that there is no land in Loughton or Debden
- We need to know what the exact figures are regarding what is needed
- Changes to the current road network won’t really make a difference

**P18.ES9 GOING FORWARD**

The Chairman thanked the Clerk and Adriana working on such an excellent presentation to Councillors in such a short time span and also in getting the relevant information to Councillors.

The Clerk also thanked Adriana for the time she had spent on the presentation, especially when the staffing resources were at a difficult time.

- Councillors and Members were advised of the relevant dates regarding the Exhibitions.
- Members Agreed that a list of initial errors regarding North Weald Bassett would be sent to all EFDC Cabinet Members.
- The Clerk would write to Cllr Chris Whitbread, as Leader of the Council and ask if he could arrange for a meeting to be held in Hastingwood as it is classed as a Strategic Site – if this was not deemed possible ask that he liaise with the Parish Council to see what could be achieved in ensuring that Hastingwood residents are made aware.
- A Meeting for Parish Councillors to discuss the Local Plan was arranged for Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> October – during the morning –hard copies of the local would be made available for those who have indicated that they wished to attend
- All District Councillors are being Specifically Invited to a Special Meeting with the Parish Council date to be arranged.

Meeting Closed: 21.11.

Signed ..... Date .....