

Minutes

Local Development Framework Panel

30th September 2009

Present:

| Councillors | Present | Councillors | Present |
|----------------|-----------|---------------------|-----------|
| G Butland | Yes | H J Messenger | Yes |
| A V E Everard | Yes | Lady Newton | Yes |
| N R H O Harley | Yes | Mrs W D Scattergood | Yes |
| M C M Lager | Apologies | Miss M Thorogood | Apologies |
| N G McCrea | Apologies | R G Walters | Apologies |

Councillor D Mann was also in attendance.

30 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

INFORMATION: The following declaration of interest was made:

Councillor H J Messenger declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 6 – Provision of Sites for Gypsies and Travellers, as he had recently moved to a house in Stisted Village. Councillor Messenger stated that his house was not near to the Twin Oaks travellers' site located off Coggeshall Road, Stisted.

In accordance with the Code of Conduct Councillor Messenger remained in the meeting and took part in the discussion when the item was considered.

31 MINUTES

DECISION: The Minutes of the meeting of the Local Development Framework Panel held on 2nd September 2009 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

32 QUESTION TIME

INFORMATION: There were no questions asked or statements made.

33 ST EDMUNDSBURY BOROUGH COUNCIL CORE STRATEGY SUBMISSION DRAFT DOCUMENT – RESPONSE OF BRAINTREE DISTRICT COUNCIL

INFORMATION: The Panel was advised that St Edmundsbury Borough Council had published its Core Strategy Submission Draft Document for the purpose of public consultation. The Document was important as

development proposals for Haverhill which was within the Borough, could have a significant impact on northern, rural parts of the Braintree District, particularly Sturmer, which were on its border.

The Document gave details of the growth to be accommodated in the Borough up to 2031. This included the provision of 5,000 new dwellings in Haverhill partly within a north-east growth location. It was also proposed that a north-east relief road should be provided linking the A143 and the A1017. However, the Document did not include a transport assessment of the need for the new road, nor details of its route and possible traffic implications for Sturmer in particular and the north of the Braintree District in general. The proposals for Haverhill were summarised within the Document in Policy CS12 Haverhill Strategic Growth.

It was reported that Sturmer Parish Council had expressed alarm at the proposed north-east Haverhill growth location and the probability that the proposed relief road would link to the Rowley Hill roundabout. This roundabout was within the Braintree District and less than 400metres from the edge of the Sturmer village development boundary. The Parish Council had asked the District Council to send a robust response to the consultation document. Haverhill Golf Club had also expressed concern that the proposed relief road could pass through the golf course which was mostly within the Braintree District.

DECISION: That an objection be submitted to Policy CS12 Haverhill Strategic Growth of the St Edmundsbury Borough Council Core Strategy Submission Draft Document on the grounds that a transport assessment detailing the traffic impact of the north-east Haverhill growth location and the north-east relief road has not been completed as part of the evidence base. Without this evidence Braintree District Council is unable either to assess clearly whether the impact of the proposals is acceptable, or to support the new relief road which is likely to be built partly within the Braintree District.

34 GYPSIES AND TRAVELLERS – PROVISION OF SITES FOR THE PERIOD TO 2021

INFORMATION: The Panel was advised that the Housing Act 2004 and Planning Circular 01/2006 had established a framework which required all local authorities to identify land for the gypsy and traveller sites needed in its area. The Regional Planning Body specified through its Spatial Strategy how many pitches should be provided in each District.

The Government had finalised the Revision of the Regional Spatial Strategy for the East of England. This required 50 authorised pitches to be provided in the Braintree District for the period up to 2011 and a further provision of 3% per annum for the period to 2021. This equated to an additional 8 pitches by 2016 and a further 9 pitches by 2021.

Members were advised that there were already 25 authorised pitches in the District at Sandiacres, Cressing and at Ridgewell. In addition, the Council had agreed in 2008 to take steps to authorise the existing site at Twin Oaks, Stisted which would provide 21 pitches and 2 further pitches could be provided at the Sandiacres site. This left a balance of 19 pitches to be

provided during the period 2011 to 2021 and it was proposed that these should be identified through the Local Development Framework, or development control processes.

DECISION: That the following approach to meeting the requirement for the provision of sites for gypsies and travellers in the Braintree District be endorsed:-

- 21 pitches to be provided at Twin Oaks, Stisted.
- 2 pitches to be provided at Sandiacres, Cressing
- 19 pitches to be identified through the Local Development Framework, or development control process
- provision for travelling showpeople to be identified in conjunction with other Essex authorities, local travelling showpeople and the Showmen's Guild.

35 EXTERNAL ARTIFICIAL LIGHTING SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENT – RESPONSE TO CONSULTATION

INFORMATION: The Panel considered a report on the responses which had been received following public consultation on the External Artificial Lighting Supplementary Planning Document and accompanying Sustainability Appraisal. The representations submitted were attached at Appendix I to the report together with comments and recommended responses. An updated draft of the Supplementary Planning Document incorporating the recommended changes was attached at Appendix 2 to the report.

DECISION: That the External Artificial Lighting Supplementary Planning Document, as amended following public consultation and set out at Appendix 2 to the report, be adopted.

The meeting commenced at 6.00pm and closed at 6.30pm.

Councillor Mrs W D Scattergood

(Vice- Chairman in the Chair)