

Subject to approval at the next Subcommittee meeting

## LOCAL PLAN SUBCOMMITTEE

31 July 2014 at 6.00 p.m.

Present : Councillors Haymes (Chairman), Bower (Vice-Chairman), Bicknell, Brooks, Mrs Brown, Charles, Cooper, Mrs Goad, Mrs Hall, Mrs Maconachie, and Nash.

Councillor Dingemans and Maconachie were also present at the meeting.

### 10. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillors Chapman and McIntyre.

### 11. Declarations of Interest

The Monitoring Officer has advised Members of interim arrangements to follow when making declarations of interest. They have been advised that for the reasons explained below, they should make their declarations on the same basis as the former Code of Conduct using the descriptions of Personal and Prejudicial Interests.

#### Reasons

- The Council has adopted the government's example for a new local code of conduct, but new policies and procedures relating to the new local code are yet to be considered and adopted.
- Members have not yet been trained on the provisions of the new local code of conduct.
- The definition of Pecuniary Interests is narrower than the definition of Prejudicial Interests so, by declaring a matter as a Prejudicial Interest, that will cover the requirement to declare a Pecuniary Interest in the same matter.

There were no declarations of interest made.

### 12. Minutes

In considering the Minutes of the meeting held on 27 March 2014, Councillor Mrs Goad referred to Minute 9, Local Development Scheme, particularly that, within the general discussion that had taken place on the item, she had sought reassurance that a full and comprehensive consultation

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would be undertaken with the Parish Councils and local residents with regard to the drawing up of Gypsy and Traveller Development Plan Documents (DPDs). That reassurance had been given at the meeting on 27 March and was now reaffirmed by the Head of Planning Policy & Conservation.

Councillor Charles also made comment in respect of Minute 8, Local Plan Update, insofar as the copy of the Minutes that he had requested still did not provide the evidence he was seeking of the decision of the Council to support work on Route D for the realignment of the A29. The Head of Planning Policy & Conservation advised that the report in today's agenda summarised the process of the evidence base for the A29 realignment. He also made it clear that the Plan was taken as a whole and not every single policy had an individual decision attached to it but, in relation to the A29, Route D had been the preferred route, as included in the draft Local Plan agreed by Full Council on 29 May 2013. West Sussex County Council, as the Highways Authority, would have the ultimate responsibility for delivering improvements to the A29.

The Minutes of the meeting held on 27 March 2014 were then approved as a correct record by the Subcommittee and signed by the Chairman.

13. Arun Local Plan – Remaining Sections Publication and Consultation on Behalf of Government

*(During the course of consideration of this item, Councillor Bicknell declared a personal interest as an employee of Southern Water, which was mentioned within the document.)*

The Head of Planning Policy & Conservation introduced the item by advising that, following publication of the majority of the Local Plan in February 2014, and agreement of the Council's Housing Strategy in April 2014, the remaining chapters of the Plan were being presented, together with amendments to the approved policies of the Plan and a number of associated documents that supported it and which would be submitted with the Local Plan to Government. He therefore requested the Subcommittee to recommend that Full Council agree these documents.

Additional papers had been circulated separately to the Agenda which detailed a schedule of changes to the policies approved in the February Local Plan. These largely reflected the Development Control team's advice when using the policies and to accommodate suggestions from the Council's consultants. Also included with that documentation, and for information only, were the results of the business survey on transport priorities.

The remaining chapters were made up of:-

- Spatial Portrait – outlining the characteristics of Arum
- Employment and Enterprise – making it clear that employment was central to the Local Plan both in job creation and skills

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- Transport – again making it clear that this Local Plan was also about tackling infrastructure deficit
- Housing Allocation – taking forward the principles of the Plan as a whole for sustainable development in the District
- Implementation- a section which referenced the types of infrastructure and services that would help achieve the Local Plan
- Monitoring – the framework for monitoring the Plan
- Key Diagram and Policies Maps – which were also on display at the meeting and in the Members' Room
- The Sustainability Appraisal of the Local Plan

The Chairman then took the Subcommittee through the schedule of changes and new chapters of the Local Plan page by page and invited Members to make any comments or amendments where relevant.

General discussion/comment/amendment took place around:-

The Local Plan Advisory Group Membership – advice was given that statutory agencies such as the Environment Agency, Highways Authority, Natural England, and adjoining local authorities were participants to help shape the policies going forward. Members were referred to the November 2011 and January 2012 Subcommittee meetings regarding the LPAG.

Employment and Enterprise – a question was asked about apprenticeships and the Assistant Director of Planning & Economic Regeneration advised that a report was in the process of being prepared to be presented to a future meeting of the relevant committee.

Spatial Portrait – Para 3.7 – reference was made to the “Six Villages” which included Westergate. – comment was made that this was inaccurate as Westergate was part of Aldingbourne. It was acknowledged that this was not a list of parishes but places and that there were different views. Aldingbourne and Westergate were two different communities; it was suggested that Aldingbourne with Westergate could be referred to.

Spatial Portrait – Para 3.19 – on the question being asked as to how this statistic had been calculated relating to people from other European countries making up 5% of the population of the District, it was stated that a written reply would be provided following the meeting.

Housing Delivery – Para 12.1.38 – a query was raised regarding the potential stopping up of the Woodgate crossing and advice was given that that was a matter for Network Rail.

Transport – Para 15.4.2 – Members participated in some discussion around the parking requirements in town centres and requested that the wording of this paragraph be amended and strengthened to reflect their views that there must be adequate parking provided otherwise the

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towns would die. The Head of Planning Policy & Conservation offered a form of words, which the Subcommittee agreed should be incorporated into the paragraph, as follows:-

“Where the loss of town centre car parking is proposed for regeneration projects, the impact upon parking provision and town centre accessibility for all modes of transport must be fully assessed and provision must be made to meet the anticipated demand for public parking spaces on the existing site or elsewhere in the locality.”

Infrastructure Provision & Infrastructure & Implementation – Para 22.1.8 – clarification was given that the Environment Agency had not completed their study of the Aldingbourne Rife.

Sustainability Appraisal – Para 5.24 – a query was raised regarding the potential loss of 150 jobs in Angmering and clarification was given that this part of the Sustainability Appraisal was the baseline and reflected the economic situation at the time of writing; the Monitoring Report would show how things were changed over the Plan period.

The Committee then turned to the recommendations and

RECOMMEND TO FULL COUNCIL – That

- (1) the remaining sections of the Local Plan, the policies map and key diagram of the Local Plan be agreed;
- (2) the schedule of changes to the Publication Version of the Local Plan (February 2014) be agreed
- (3) the policies and maps presented at the meeting on 31 July 2014 are used as a material consideration by Development Control Committee for determining planning applications and that their use is monitored to determine if amendments need to be made to the policies before submission to Government;
- (4) Any minor changes to these policies be delegated to the Assistant Director of Planning and Economic Regeneration, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Planning and Infrastructure; and
- (5) the Council publishes all sections and maps of the Local Plan and carries out a ‘soundness’ consultation, under Regulation 19 of the Town & Country Planning (Local Planning)(England) Regulation 2012 on behalf of Government and submits the Plan, its associated documents and the responses from the consultation to the Planning Inspectorate in order that an Examination in Public of the Plan can be held.

(The meeting concluded at 7.00 pm)