Tandridge Local Plan 2033

Statement in relation to Matters Issues and Questions ID/5 V2

From Liz Lockwood

Additional information, mainly in the form of supporting documents, in response to MIQs raised

Matter 1

Community Involvement

1.7

With reference to the National Planning Policy Framework (2019) para 16,

c) be shaped by early, proportionate and effective engagement between planmakers and communities, local organisations, businesses, infrastructure providers and operators and statutory consultees;

Evidence of lack of engagement:

Tandridge Council Member Briefing Session arranged by Piers Mason with Alan Dodgshon, Principal Consultant, Planning Advisory Service on 7 September 2016.

During the briefing, in response to section on role of members in local plan process, Mr Dodgshon was asked a question regarding engagement with members as sites came forward for consideration for inclusion in Local Plan; he answered that it was essential they were engaged at earliest possible opportunity, to assist in flagging possible issues about the site, based on their better local knowledge. He expressed surprise that this had NOT been the case at Tandridge.

Copy attached of Slide Presentation by Alan Dodgshon and email chain with the then Head of Planning, Piers Mason, where I asked why district councillors were not engaged sooner regarding sites in their wards. The Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessment 2015 was first published on the 27th November 2015, along with the first consultation documents prior to the Planning Policy Committee Meeting (2nd December 2015) where the first Local Plan Reg 18 was approved to go to public consultation. At no point between my election as a district councillor in May 2015 has any officer had any contact with me regarding the inclusion of sites in my ward at any stage of the preparation of the emerging Local Plan.

Two “drop-in” sessions were arranged to give advance information to ward members as to which sites were to be included in the Sites Consultation and the Regulation 19 Consultation on the 20th October 2016 and 6th June 2018, respectively. These only informed members of the sites that had been chosen. This appeared to be the only attempt at “engagement” regarding sites, parish councils, resident’s groups, amenity groups and the such were not involved in any early engagement.
Housing allocations

HSG12 Land at Old Cottage, Station Road, Lingfield

6.63 Emerging Neighbourhood Plan

Please find attached copy of submission from Lingfield Neighbourhood Plan (LNP) to the Reg 18 Sites Consultation. It is clear the stance taken by the LNP on Star Fields (HSG12) as it is included in the response even though it was not identified as a site going forward, and as such the council were not seeking comments about it.

Please refer to Paragraph 5.23 in this document. The LNP state intentions for this site was to allocate it as a Local Green Space. This would be easily justified as it meets all the NPPF criteria for its designations as such (2019, para 100). **This has very clearly been ignored by TDC.**

Also attached is a copy of the notes taken after a meeting with Sarah Thompson (Head of Strategic Planning) and members of the LNP Steering Group on 28th June 2018. Highlighted are some admissions from Sarah Thompson of the lack of engagement with the LNP.

There is more, but not included, email correspondence between Sarah Thompson and myself in my capacity as the Secretary of the LNP Steering Group, which I did well before I was elected as a district councillor. With these very good avenues of engagement relating to Neighbourhood Planning matters, it would have been very easy to arrange some engagement about Star Fields.

Attachments

Slide presentation to council members 7th September 2016

Email thread between Cllr Lockwood and Piers Mason and others

Lingfield Neighbourhood Plan consultation response to Sites Consultation

Copy of notes of a meeting on 28th June 2016 with Sarah Thompson and LNP