

FOREST HEATH DISTRICT COUNCIL

LOCAL PLAN WORKING GROUP

THURSDAY 15 AUGUST 2013

4.00 PM - 4.55 PM

Members Present

Mrs R E Burt (Chairman)
W J Bishop
W Hirst
R D S Hood

Mrs C F J Lynch
W E Sadler
T Simmons

Also in attendance

M Magnusson, Forward Planning Officer
I Poole, Place Shaping Manager (SEBC)
M Smith, Place Shaping Manager (FHDC)
S Turner, FHDC Cabinet Officer/Committee Administrator

Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors M J Jefferys and R J Millar.

Substitutes

There were no substitutes at the meeting.

SCHEDULE OF RECOMMENDATIONS

	ITEMS OF BUSINESS	RECOMMENDATION
256	<p><u>SCHEDULE OF RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE MEETING HELD ON 4 JULY 2013</u></p> <p>The schedule of recommendations from the meeting held on 4 July 2013 were received and noted, subject to the addition of the following paragraph under Minute Number 252:</p> <p>252 <u>CORE STRATEGY SINGLE ISSUE REVIEW – RESPONSES TO REPRESENTATIONS (REPORT NO LOP13/007)</u></p> <p>A new paragraph four be inserted as follows:</p> <p><i>"Whilst considering the Officer responses, Members asked whether the housing growth would be matched to jobs. Officers explained that the Single Issue Review (SIR) would look at matching job creation with the housing provision across the</i></p>	NOTED

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	<p><i>District. However, the caveat would be that the housing growth would have to be consistent with the policy approach within the Core Strategy."</i></p>	
257	<p><u>JOINT STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT (SCI) – PROPOSED CONSULTATION (REPORT NO LOP13/011)</u></p> <p>The Forward Planning Officer presented this report which explained that the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act required local planning authorities to prepare a Statement of Community Involvement (SCI), which was a strategy for involving the community in the local plan and planning application processes. Given the approach to a shared planning service for Forest Heath District Council and St Edmundsbury Borough Council, it was now considered appropriate to have a joint SCI that set out a consistent 'engagement' strategy for application across both authorities.</p> <p>A consultation draft SCI had been presented to both the Sustainable Development Working Group of St Edmundsbury Borough Council on 27 June 2013 and the Forest Heath District Council Local Plan Working Group on 4 July 2013. It was resolved by both Groups that further consideration of the draft SCI and recommendation, as presented, be deferred. The reason for this was to allow sufficient time for a revised user friendly, plain English version, to be produced and submitted to subsequent meetings of these Groups.</p> <p>Prior to the SCI being adopted by the respective Councils, it would be subject to a four week period of public consultation.</p> <p>Also circulated to the meeting were amendments which had been made to the document, following the last meetings of the Sustainable Development Working Group (27 June 2013) and the Local Plan Working Group (4 July 2013). Since the agenda had been published, further proposed amendments to the document had been received and these were also circulated to the meeting.</p> <p>Members referred to page -36- of the agenda papers where reference was made to 'Local Advertisements', which outlined how the Council advertised planning applications. Members requested whether these advertisements could also be included within the Newmarket Weekly News and the Thetford and Brandon News.</p>	

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	<p>The Place Shaping Manager (FHDC) stated that Officers would review the most appropriate way of statutorily advertising planning applications. However, consideration would need to be given to the statutory requirements, along with the costs involved with potentially having to advertise in additional newspapers.</p> <p>That the revised draft Statement of Community Involvement be approved for a period of public consultation, as amended.</p>	RECOMMENDED
258	<p><u>DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS</u></p> <p>It was noted that meetings of the Working Group would be held on the following dates:</p> <p>(a) <u>Monday 9 September 2013 - 4.00 pm</u> - Core Strategy Single Issue Review – Overall housing provision and distribution (First Version)</p> <p>(b) <u>Thursday 12 September 2013 - 4.00 pm</u> - Core Strategy Single Issue Review – Consultation Draft - Site Specific Allocations – Towns</p> <p>(c) <u>Thursday 17 October 2013 - 4.00 pm</u> - Site Specific Allocations – Key Service Centres and Primary Villages</p> <p>(d) <u>Wednesday 30 October 2013 - 4.00 pm</u> - Site Specific Allocations - Consultation Draft and Public Consultation Strategy</p> <p>Officers were recommending for these meetings to be held in confidential as it was considered inappropriate for the Council to place emerging documents into the public domain for the public to view and comment upon, prior to the commencement of the formal legal statutory consultation process, taking place in November/December 2013.</p> <p>The Chairman explained that a request had been made for these meetings to be held in the public domain and requested the views of the Working Group.</p> <p>The Working Group discussed as to whether these meetings should be held in confidential or in the public domain and, with 5 voting for the motion and with 2 voting against, it was agreed that these meetings would be held in confidential, as recommended by Officers.</p>	RESOLVED

	ITEMS OF BUSINESS	RECOMMENDATION
259	<p data-bbox="277 210 619 241"><u>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</u></p> <p data-bbox="277 280 1002 311">The following item of Other Business was raised:</p> <p data-bbox="277 349 1126 454">(a) <u>Cambridgeshire Sub-Region Strategic Housing Market Assessment Technical Report and Memorandum of Co-operation- Update</u></p> <p data-bbox="379 492 1126 949">The Place Shaping Manager (FHDC) explained that following the meeting of the Working Group on 4 July 2013, Officers had met with Councillor R D S Hood to discuss the Cambridgeshire Sub-Region Strategic Housing Market Assessment Technical Report. Following that discussion, Councillor Hood had provided information from the East of England Forecast Model, carried out this year, which showed a potential decrease in the amount of additional homes required for the District to 6,100, as opposed to the number of 7,000, as was contained within the Technical Report.</p> <p data-bbox="379 987 1126 1234">The Officer explained that a formal response to this decrease was unable to be provided to this meeting, but as had been agreed on 4 July 2013, an additional briefing note would be produced for Cabinet on 3 September 2013, to further clarify the Technical Report and the housing numbers contained within that.</p>	NOTED