

BOROUGH PLAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

NOTES OF MEETING – 7th October 2020

Meeting hosted on Zoom

Attendees:

Cllrs: Aidan Mundy (Chair); Anthony Fairclough; Linda Kirby; Dennis Pearce; Geraldine Stanford; Najeeb Latif.

Merton Council Officers: Tara Butler; Paul McGarry (Future Merton); Jason Andrews, Davide Pascarella (Environmental Health), Amy Dumitrescu (Democracy Services)

Meeting notes and action points

Agenda item 1: Apologies for absence – none

Agenda item 2: Declaration of pecuniary interest– no declarations of pecuniary interest.

Agenda item 3: Notes of previous meeting - notes of the previous meeting agreed as accurate;

Agenda item 4: Public consultation on Merton’s Local Plan (stage 2a)

Councillors considered the report and raised points including:

- Consultation must involve councillors – they have huge links across the borough and can spread the reach further
- Councillors asked questions including:
 - Consideration of timetable change with government white paper proposals
 - Queries on government changes including increasing the level at which Local Planning Authorities can ask for affordable housing contributions from 11 homes to at least 40 homes, the government White Paper consultation including the approach to the national levy, the approach to calculating the number of new homes needed; the Litchfield reports
 - approach to assessing development viability
 - changes to climate change policies (*Send briefing note to councillors*)
 - whether the proposed 50% affordable housing on private schemes would apply to Merantun Developments
 - Planning policies on build to rent
 - How new contributions from small sites to affordable housing could be spent.

RESOLVED:

That the Borough Plan Advisory Committee considers the contents of the report and delegates approval of the final documents for public consultation between 30th October 2020 and 11th January 2021 on the revised Stage 2a Local Plan to the Director of Environment and Regeneration, Chris Lee in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Housing, Regeneration and Transport, Councillor Martin Whelton.

Agenda item 5: Adoption of FutureWimbledon SPD

Councillors considered the report and raised queries including:

- Responses from younger people
- Co-ordination with existing and new planning policies
- Production of and nature of the SPD
- Building heights
- Travel matters, including deliveries
- Changing high streets.

RESOLVED:

That the Borough Plan Advisory Committee considers the report and advises that Cabinet:

A. agrees the Consultation Report (Appendix B), including comments, responses and where applicable, amendments to the SPD.

B. notes the Council has undertaken a screening exercise with relevant statutory bodies to confirm that a Strategic Environmental Assessment is not required to support the SPD.

C. notes that whilst the Council's constitution permits Cabinet to agree the Adoption of SPDs; in recognition of the cross-party political representation in Wimbledon wards, the decision will be presented to Council.

D. That Cabinet recommend to Council;

i. Adoption of the Future Wimbledon Supplementary Planning Document (Appendix A) in accordance with the Town & Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012.

ii. Delegate to the Director of Environment & Regeneration, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Housing & Transport, the making of minor factual, editorial and image changes to the SPD prior to publication.

Agenda item 6: Consultation on Merton's air quality SPD

Councillors considered the contents of the report and raised queries on:

- Construction traffic and pollution from demolition
- School streets
- Changes in air pollution over the Covid19 lockdown cycle and learning from it
- Business transport and deliveries – “clean air village” in Wimbledon town centre
- Construction of balconies on A-roads and artificial ventilation
- Heating systems for homes and schools
- Engagement on the public consultation and working with councillors on this

RESOLVED

A. amend Recommendation A from originally *to approve the six-week consultation on the draft SPD, to run for six weeks by winter 2020/21*

New Recommendation A To approve public consultation on the draft SPD to run for 10 weeks between 30th October and 11th January 2021 (same as the public consultation on the draft Local Plan)

B. Delegate approval of the final consultation draft SPD to the Director of Environment and Regeneration in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Housing and Transport