

INDEPENDENT EXAMINATION OF THE WARFIELD NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

EXAMINER: Jill Kingaby BSc(Econ) MSc MRTPI

Examination Ref: 05/JK/WNP

Your ref: MB/ml

Max Baker
Head of Planning
Bracknell Forest Council

cc. Jason Mawer
Warfield Parish Council

Via email

25 June 2019

Dear Mr Baker

WARFIELD NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN EXAMINATION

Thank you for your letter of 14 June 2019, concerning the recent exchange of correspondence (Mr Lunn's email of 28 May and my letters of 3 and 11 June) about the options for moving forward the Warfield Neighbourhood Plan (WNP).

I note your view that I have misread the situation regarding Mr Lunn's email of 28 May. I am sorry about this but remain surprised that the options in Mr Lunn's email were not the result of discussions and agreement between Bracknell Forest Council (BFC) and Warfield Parish Council (WPC).

The NPPF (paragraph 183 of the 2012 version) states that neighbourhood planning gives communities the power to develop a shared vision for their area. The Government's Planning Practice Guidance sets out the role for communities, by way of qualifying bodies, in producing neighbourhood plans. It addresses the headings "Who leads in neighbourhood planning in an area?" and, quite separately, "The role of the local planning authority in neighbourhood planning". There is no suggestion that local planning authorities should be taking a lead role in preparing or setting the policies in neighbourhood plans. However, there is advice that local planning authorities should discuss and aim to agree with qualifying bodies the relationship between policies in adopted and emerging local plans with those in emerging neighbourhood plans¹.

You will appreciate I have been appointed to an examination which cannot yet proceed satisfactorily. I recognise that much hard work has already gone into the draft WNP to get it to the submission stage. Accordingly, I am seeking to be supportive and find a pragmatic means for the examination to go forward to the satisfaction of all the parties with a key interest.

I look forward to receiving your update in relation to points (i) – (iii) of your letter. It will be important to agree an indicative timetable, once the way forward is resolved, to introduce some certainty to the likely duration of the examination process.

¹ Government PPG Reference ID:41-001,002,003,004-20190509; ID: 41-014-20140306; ID:41-021-20140306; ID: 41-009-20190509 and ID: 41-022-20150209.

In the interests of transparency, may I ask you and the Parish Council to ensure a copy of this correspondence is placed on the relevant websites.

Yours sincerely

Jill Kingaby

Examiner