

PLANNING POLICY COMMITTEE

Date: 12 February 2014

Venue: East Northamptonshire House, Cedar Drive, Thrapston

Time: 6.30pm

Present: Councillors: David Brackenbury (Chairman)
Tony Boto (Vice-Chairman)

Peter Baden	Gill Mercer
Glenn Harwood MBE	Bob Nightingale
Sylvia Hobbs	Steven North
Marian Hollomon	Alex Smith
Sylvia Hughes	Jake Vowles
David Jenney	

Andy Mercer (attending as an observer)

363. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 16 December 2013 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

364. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Jeremy Taylor.

365. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following interests were declared in the Agenda items specified below:

Councillor	Agenda item	Nature of Interest	DPI	Other Interest
Tony Boto	Barnwell, Chelveston Cum Caldecott and Raunds Neighbourhood Plans: Neighbourhood Plan Area Boundaries	Member of Raunds Town Council		Yes
Glenn Harwood	Barnwell, Chelveston Cum Caldecott and Raunds Neighbourhood Plans: Neighbourhood Plan Area Boundaries	Member of Chelveston Cum Caldecott Parish Council		Yes

366. QUESTIONS UNDER COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 10.3

There were no questions submitted under Procedure Rule 10.3.

367. ADOPTION OF THE INTERIM STATEMENT ON HOUSING REQUIREMENTS IN THE NORTH NORTHAMPTONSHIRE HOUSING MARKET AREA

The Senior Planning Policy Officer provided the Committee with an update report on the current status of the Interim Housing Statement on Housing Requirements in the North Northamptonshire Housing Market Area, referred to as the Interim Housing Statement (IHS). This included additional sites proposed for inclusion in the IHS.

At its meeting on 21 October 2013, the Committee had endorsed the five year housing land supply for inclusion in the 2013 Annual Monitoring Report. This delivered 5.83 years housing land supply against the adopted Core Spatial Strategy targets. The adoption of the proposed changes would further increase the five year housing land supply and reduce the risk of the calculations being found to be insufficiently robust.

RESOLVED:

That the Interim Housing Statement Part B, incorporating the recommended changes set out in Appendix 2 of the report, be approved.

(Reason: To provide a robust basis for calculating a five year housing land supply and applying the Interim Housing Statement as a material consideration upon which to base planning decisions).

368. BARNWELL, CHELVESTON-CUM-CALDECOTT AND RAUNDS NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANS: NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN AREA BOUNDARIES

The Senior Planning Policy Officer presented a report summarising the main issues arising from the statutory consultations on the designation of Neighbourhood Plan area boundaries.

It was confirmed that in respect of Chelveston-cum-Caldecott, the area boundary proposed had not changed from the boundary submitted by the Parish Council at the beginning of the process.

RESOLVED:

That the following Neighbourhood Area boundaries be endorsed:

- i) Barnwell – The Neighbourhood Area boundary put forward in the formal notice of application for the designation of this Neighbourhood Area (25 October 2013)
- ii) Chelveston-cum-Caldecott – The Neighbourhood Area boundary put forward in the formal notice of application for the designation of this Neighbourhood Area (25 October 2013)
- iii) Raunds – Amended Neighbourhood Area boundary, as shown in Appendix 2.

(Reason – to enable Barnwell Parish Council, Chelveston-cum-Caldecott Parish Council and Raunds Town Council to progress with the preparation of their respective Neighbourhood Plans).

369. RUSHDEN EAST PROJECT BOARD TERMS OF REFERENCE

Following the establishment of the Rushden East Project Board by the Committee on 21 October 2013, the Head of Planning Services reported that the Board had met on 22 January 2014 and agreed Terms of Reference which were now submitted to the Committee for endorsement.

RESOLVED:

That the terms of reference of the Rushden East Project Board attached at Appendix 1 be endorsed.

(Reason – to enable progress to be made on masterplanning for Rushden East)

370. PLANNING POLICY PROGRESS

The Planning Policy and Conservation Manager provided a verbal update on the work being carried out by the Planning Policy team and at the request of Members, a written report would be submitted to the next meeting of the Committee.

Chairman



East Northamptonshire Council

Rushden East Project Board

Terms of Reference

1 Name

- 1.1 The name of the Board is the Rushden East Project Board.

2 Purpose

- 2.1 The Board will shape the proposals for the development of the area to the east of Rushden, provisionally titled Rushden East, for housing and employment use. It is a collaborative partnership working for the benefit of existing communities and the surrounding area, by:

- agreeing the key outcomes and the project plan
- creating the Masterplan
- identifying the necessary associated infrastructure and its funding routes
- shaping of the broad areas for planning consent
- agreeing consultation and communication for the project

within the vision statement and related framework sent by the Planning Policy Committee and the Local Plan Framework.

- 2.2 The Board will be Member led but will include key officers tasked with providing information and liaison with interested parties such as potential developers. The Board will ensure that the project defines and achieves key outcomes relating to the development area and wider impacts on the surrounding area. It will provide a forum for discussion with developers of key elements of the project, including viability.
- 2.3 The Board will monitor performance and delivery against the agreed project plan and targets and will determine the steps necessary to achieve the targets. It will decide on any changes to the programme or timetable which appear to it to be desirable or necessary to ensure delivery.
- 2.4 The Board has no statutory role and is not able to agree planning policy, planning permission or support any particular applications.

3 Membership

3.1 The Board will comprise:-

East Northamptonshire Council

- Rushden Ward Members (4 nominees) – Councillor M Hollomon, D Jenney, G Mercer, S North
- Chair of Planning Policy – Councillor D Brackenbury

Rushden Town Council (2 Nominees)

- Councillor S Peacock
- Councillor D Coleman

Higham Ferrers Town Council (1 Nominee)

- Cllr A Sauntson (Deputy – Cllr B Jackson)

Northamptonshire County Council (1 Nominee)

- Councillor A Mercer

Principal Officers advising the Board will be:

- For East Northamptonshire Council
 - Chief Executive – D Oliver
 - Head of Planning Services – D Reed
 - Planning Policy and Conservation Manager – K Britton
- For North Northamptonshire Joint Planning Unit
 - Head of JPU - Andrew Longley

3.2 The Board will be serviced by East Northamptonshire Council (ENC).

3.3 The Board will invite individuals or representatives of other organisations, consultants, contractors and advisers to attend a particular meeting when an item of relevance to them is to be discussed or where particular specialist input is needed.

4 Meetings

4.1 Board meetings will take place every month initially. Timings of future meetings will be reviewed as the project develops. The business of the meeting shall be set out in an agenda and notified to members of the Group five days in advance of the date of the meeting. At least 50% of the Rushden Ward Councillors on the Board will need to be present for the meeting to be quorate.

4.2 The Board will be chaired by one of the four Rushden Ward (ENC) councillors, as agreed between them. The Deputy Chair will be elected from the four Rushden Ward (ENC) councillors or the Chair of Planning Policy.

4.3 Items for inclusion on the agenda will be agreed with the Chair and should be submitted for consideration at least 7 days prior to the date of the meeting.

4.4 The minutes of the previous meeting shall be submitted for agreement at the start of every meeting.

5 Members' Responsibilities

- 5.1 Councillors and officers must declare at the start of any meeting an interest in any matter for discussion in which they have a personal interest or involvement.

6 Voting

- 6.1 The Board will work towards securing mutual agreement on all aspects of the project, but should a vote be necessary each Councillor will have a single vote and decisions will be made on the show of hands. In the event of a tie in the number of votes, the Chair will have a second, or casting, vote.

7 Variation of the Terms of Reference

- 7.1 These Terms of Reference may be altered by vote at Planning Policy Committee