

PLANNING POLICY COMMITTEE

Date: 29 September 2014

Venue: East Northamptonshire House, Cedar Drive, Thrapston

Time: 7.30pm

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

Peter Baden	Bob Nightingale
Wendy Brackenbury	Steven North
Glenvil Greenwood-Smith	Sarah Peacock
Glenn Harwood MBE	Jeremy Taylor
Marian Hollomon	Jake Vowles
Sylvia Hughes	Pam Whiting
David Jenney	

180. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 21 July 2014 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

181. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No apologies for absence were received.

182. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

Councillor	Agenda item	Nature of Interest	DPI	Other Interest
Wendy Brackenbury	Green Infrastructure Development Plan	Member of Northamptonshire County Council – affected by proposals		Yes
Glenvil Greenwood-Smith	Green Infrastructure Development Plan	Director of River Nene Regional Park		Yes (took no part in the discussion or voting on the item)
Sylvia Hughes	Green Infrastructure Development Plan	Northamptonshire County Council representative on Greenway Board		Yes

Sarah Peacock Green Infrastructure Member of Yes
Development Plan Greenway Board

183. QUESTIONS UNDER COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 10.3

There were no questions submitted under Procedure Rule 10.3.

**184. NORTH NORTHAMPTONSHIRE JOINT CORE STRATEGY REVIEW:
DISTRIBUTION OF THE EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE HOUSING
REQUIREMENT**

The Senior Planning Policy Officer reported that the North Northamptonshire Joint Planning Unit (JPU) was working to finalise the Pre-Submission Draft North Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy (JCS) review and the Council needed to agree an appropriate distribution of development across the District; namely the housing requirement for each of the six towns, together with the rural area.

In response to Members' questions, clarification was provided on the number of dwellings to be provided in particular locations and it was noted that windfall sites were likely to be forthcoming and the proposed development at Deenethorpe Airfield would count towards the housing requirement if, and when, the dwellings were built. However, these had not been relied upon in calculating the requirements at this stage. The Council's five-year housing land supply had been upheld in a recent appeal decision which strengthened the Council's position.

RESOLVED:

That the draft distribution of housing for the emerging North Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy review (Part 1 Local Plan) set out in Table 5 of the report be endorsed.

(Reason – to ensure that the emerging Local Plan includes a robust and defensible distribution of housing development)

**185. NORTH NORTHAMPTONSHIRE JOINT CORE STRATEGY REVIEW: POLICY 14:
DEENETHORPE AIRFIELD AREA OF OPPORTUNITY**

The Senior Planning Policy Officer reported that the North Northamptonshire Joint Planning Unit (JPU) was working to finalise the Pre-Submission Draft North Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy (JCS) review and the Council needed to finalise and agree relevant policies and supporting text for the emerging JCS review which were specifically relevant to the District.

In respect of the proposed development at Deenethorpe Airfield, Members considered that the target of providing 25% affordable homes plus specialist housing for older people was too onerous and might cause difficulties in strategic implementation and create unrealistic expectations for a community of the size proposed. It was therefore considered to be more appropriate to require a 25% provision for both these types of property. The policy would be subject to the JCS review and this would be considered as part of that review.

RESOLVED:

That Policy 14 – Deenethorpe Airfield Area of Opportunity – Draft policy and supporting text (set out in Appendix 1 of the report) be agreed for inclusion within the emerging North Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy review (Part 1 Local Plan).

(Reason – to ensure that the emerging Local Plan addresses local aspirations regarding the development of an exemplar new village at Deenethorpe Airfield)

186. GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE DELIVERY PLAN

The Committee considered a report of the Planning Policy Officer setting out the North Northamptonshire Green Infrastructure Delivery Plan and identifying projects which were either planned or underway within the East Northamptonshire District.

RESOLVED:

That the Green Infrastructure Delivery Plan be noted and the inclusion of the projects within East Northamptonshire in the plan be endorsed.

(Reason - so it can be used by the Council to help deliver green infrastructure improvements across the district)

187. ADOPTION OF WIND AND SOLAR ENERGY SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENT

The Planning Policy Officer presented a report setting out the responses received to the public consultation which had taken place on the Draft Wind and Solar Energy SPD which had been approved by the Committee in March 2014 following consideration by a Member Working Party and input from Consultants.

Concern was expressed by Members that the final document proposed did not contain policies requiring immediate action to be taken by developers where blade flicker occurred or noise problems arose from wind turbines; to require standards for photo-montages or to recognise the cumulative impact of developments falling under the remit of the SPD.

Reference was made to the draft SPD which had been approved by the Committee and a number of Members expressed the view that the SPD should be adopted as soon as possible, subject to the inclusion of the amendments set out in the Appendix to the report.

188. ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

The meeting having lasted for two hours, in accordance with procedure Rule 8 in Part 4.1 of the Council's Constitution it was proposed and duly seconded that the meeting should continue.

RESOLVED:

That the meeting continue to complete the item currently under consideration and the following item of business on the Agenda.

As an amendment to the recommendation contained in the report, it was proposed by

Councillor Glenn Harwood and seconded by Councillor David Jenny that the amendments to produce the final Wind and Solar Energy SPD should be made with Member involvement before the SPD is re-submitted for adoption and should include policies on cumulative impact; photo-montaging and blade flicker.

It was then proposed by Councillor Wendy Brackenbury and seconded by Councillor Jeremy Taylor that the recommendation in the report be approved, subject to the Head of Planning Services being authorised to make the proposed amendments set out in Appendix 1 of the report in consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

On being put to the vote, the voting was declared equal with 7 Members voting in favour of each proposal. In exercising his casting vote in favour of the proposition made by Councillor Wendy Brackenbury, the Chairman undertook to examine the issues raised by Councillor Harwood.

RESOLVED: That,

- i) the Head of Planning Services, in consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Committee, be authorised to incorporate the amendments set out in Appendix 1 to the report and provide further strengthening of the document where possible.
- ii) subject to the amendments in i) above being made, the Wind and Solar Energy SPD be adopted.

(Reason – to provide a planning guidance document for potential energy developers)

189. PLANNING POLICY AND CONSERVATION UPDATE

The Planning Policy and Conservation Manager provided the Committee with an update on work currently being undertaken by the Planning Policy and Conservation team.

RESOLVED:

That progress to date be noted.

(Reason – to provide an update for Members' information)

Chairman