


**From:** Village Concerns villageconcerns2016@gmail.com   
**Subject:** Update 79 Urgent Draft Local Plan and Live Planning Applications  
**Date:** 9 January 2020 at 20:24  
**To:** Village Concerns villageconcerns2016@gmail.com



## **Draft Local Plan**

On January 6th 2020 Wealden issued a press release.

“Wealden District Council is disappointed by the decision of the Planning Inspector to find that it cannot proceed with its current draft Wealden Plan”.

The full details can be seen in the attachment, below.

The Planning Inspector’s full report can be seen, also attached, below.

*What are the implications of this decision for our Parish?*

Without a doubt a period of great uncertainty.

Wealden will be withdrawing the Draft Plan and are preparing a new timetable for the Local Plan Process. To produce another plan could take at least 2 years. The Draft Plan had provided us with considerable protection from speculative development with its aim to protect the Ashdown Forest and our tightly drawn development boundary.

Appeals for Hop Garden, Buttsfield Lane and 74 Houses in South Street have all been dismissed.

Now Planning Applications will be judged against the 2013 Core Strategy, but without a 5 year land supply and no up to date Local Plan we are again open to speculative development.

Applications which have been held in the queue will be coming before Committee - probably very soon.

Others with Appeals which have been dismissed may be resubmitted to Wealden.

Many of you will already have received letters re **Hesmonds, East Hoathly** asking for comments by Jan 20th 2020. It is likely that this application will come before Planning Committee South in late January, or late February.

**It is essential that we get as many objections in as possible and we will be issuing advice on ways to object very shortly when we have gathered more information.**

**Our greatest strength is still, that this development is UNSUSTAINABLE.**

We have a very strong defence and we are supported by Wealden’s Statement:

“We (Wealden) will continue to strive for sustainable growth that provides infrastructure for our communities and is consistent with our commitment to become a carbon-neutral District.”

The Application for **Bramblebank, Halland** has also come back to life. Please contact us directly if you require advice.

**Stop Press.** Notification has just been sent out today re **Circle Of Oaks** 29 Houses in South Street. Comments to go in by Jan 23rd 2020. We will advise.

This is going to be a very busy time and offers of help would be greatly appreciated. Leafleting, printing, information on utilities and facilities problems, professional expertise in Planning Matters, etc.

Please spread the word to your family members, friends and neighbours. There is strength in numbers.

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