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Subject: Update 82 Local Plan and Applications
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Village Concerns Update 82

Local Plan and Applications

February 21st 2020

1) Submission Wealden Local Plan

Following a Full Council Meeting on Feb 19th 2020, the Plan has now been formally withdrawn. Wealden will begin working on a new plan which will take about 2 to 3 years to complete but this may be optimistic. The constraint put on the amount and siting of development because of the need to protect the Ashdown Forest has now effectively been removed.

The housing figure for the failed plan was 951 pa. This has gone up to 1231 pa because of new NPPF guidelines. Wealden may have to meet the unmet housing needs of Eastbourne and other neighbouring authorities so the figure could eventually be higher but this will be subject to ongoing discussion with neighbouring authorities. The current working figure is 1231 per annum.

The Core Strategy of 2013 and Saved Policies from 1998 are now Wealden's Policy documents by which Planning applications will be judged.

However Wealden do not have a five year land supply so the policies will be considered out of date. This means Planning decisions will be much more weighted towards approval.

Wealden are rapidly bringing forward applications to the Planning Committees which have been held in the queue because of the Ashdown Forest moratorium on development.

There are several applications in the Parish which could be brought forward very soon.

The next Planning meeting is on March 26th 2020. We will inform you as soon as we know if any of our applications are on the agenda for this meeting. We will encourage residents to attend.

2) Current Applications likely to come before Committee very soon.

a) Hesmonds WD/2016/2796/MAO

If you have objected before you will have just received notification that further documents have been added by the agent.

The documents are on Ecology, Transport, Heritage and Landscape. They do not add any new arguments to strengthen the case of the Developer. In fact they are on the most part, poorly and hastily produced with several flaws.

Village Concerns will put in a detailed comment on these new documents. We are also seeking legal advice.

Can we ask you yet again to put in an objection saying:

"I have noted the additional documents . However my original objections still stand."

This can be done online. Deadline March 9th.

<https://planning.wealden.gov.uk/plandisp.aspx?recno=136395>

or by email to:

planning@wealden.gov.uk

Quote the application number and give your name and address.

If you want to make a more detailed objection please contact us.

One of our greatest strengths is the number of objections.

b) Bramblebank.

Online objections now closed. No further documents added.

c) South Street Circle of Oaks 29 Houses

Online objection now closed. Ecology report update added which Village Concerns are checking.

3) Other Applications

a) South Street 66 Houses

No deadline has been set for further comments on this application. It may come before Committee later than the other applications.

b) Halland Forge 21 Flats

Awaiting appeal decision possibly in mid March.

You are in receipt of this email, this is because you have previously requested to be part of Village Concerns email list. If you no longer wish to receive these emails please let us know.