Fulbourn Neighbourhood Development Plan

Arrangements for a hearing

Independent Examiner's Note

Context

The examination is now at an advanced stage. I have visited the neighbourhood area, read the submitted documents and the representations made to the Plan. I have also prepared a clarification note for the Parish Council and read its responses to that note.

Hearing

In accordance with paragraph 9 (3) of Schedule 4B to the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, I have concluded that it in order to ensure an adequate examination of the Plan it is necessary to hold a hearing.

The hearing details are as follows:

Date: 4 July 2022 10:30

Venue: Fulbourn Centre, Home End Fulbourn CB21 5BS.

I would like to meet with the participants at 10.00 on the day of the hearing at the venue. This brief meeting will discuss the format of the hearing (based on the following sections of this Note). This meeting will not discuss the substantive matters to be debated at the hearing itself.

The participants

In accordance with paragraph 9 (3) of Schedule 4B to the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, Fulbourn Parish Council (the qualifying body) and South Cambridgeshire District Council (the local planning authority) will be entitled to make oral representations at the hearing.

In addition, the following organisations are invited to attend.

- Cambridgeshire and Peterborough NHS Foundation Trust (1);
- Ely Diocesan Board of Finance (2);
- Hill Residential (3);
- Countryside Properties (UK) Limited (4);
- Janus Henderson Property UK (5); and
- KG Moss Will Trust (6).

The issues

The hearing will consider the following issues:

Session 1

Policy FUL/1

Parish Council, District Council and participants 1,2,4,5 and 6

To what extent do the proposed Important Visual Gaps bring any added value beyond the application of Green Belt policies?

What is the intended purpose of the proposed Important Countryside Frontages? In particular, would the Important Countryside Frontages bring any added value beyond the application of Green Belt policy?

Session 2

Policy FUL/05

Parish Council, District Council and participants 1, 5

Do proposed Local Green Spaces B (Victoria House Parkland), C (Fulbourn Hospital Parkland) and D (Fulbourn Hospital Old Cemetery) comply with the criteria in paragraph 102 of the NPPF?

Is their designation as Local Green Spaces consistent with the local planning of sustainable development?

Is their designation as Local Green Space capable of enduring beyond the end of the Plan period?

Would their designation as Local Green Spaces bring any added value beyond the application of Green Belt policy?

Session 3

Policy FUL/14

Parish Council, District Council and participant 3

Is the proposed allocation of land for recreational use adjacent to the Recreation Ground realistic and deliverable?

General Comments

The various parties should each be represented by no more than two persons at any of the sessions.

The public and other interested parties will be able to attend the hearing. However, there will be no opportunity for their direct participation.

The format of the hearing

The hearing will address the matters set out above. I will ask the various questions and lead any follow-up discussions. There will be no opportunity for any party to question the other parties. As the representations made by the parties invited to the hearing are clear and comprehensive, I am satisfied that additional hearing statements are not required.

A neighbourhood plan hearing is intended to achieve a balance between getting to the heart of identified issues and having a light-touch approach so that lay people can both understand and take an active part in its proceedings. The hearing will proceed on this basis.

The wider examination

I am satisfied that the remainder of the Plan can be examined by way of written representations.

Following the hearing, I will produce a report on the submitted Plan as quickly as possible. Its timing will relate to the nature of the outcomes of the hearing. There will be no separate report arising from the hearing. Its findings and conclusions will form part of the overall report.

Andrew Ashcroft Independent Examiner Fulbourn Neighbourhood Development Plan

25 April 2022