

BOURN PARISH COUNCIL**The minutes of the Meeting of Bourn Parish Council held on
Thursday 22 August 2013 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall**

Present: Cllrs: Mr N Ball ^(NB) Mrs X Rees-Howell
Dr G Pountain Mr L Rolfe
Dr N Blair ^(NBI) Mr S Jones
Mr R Ansell Mrs V Bruce

In attendance: 2 Members of the public.

Comments and observations from members of the public and from the County and District Councillors

An update from the StopBAD campaign was presented by Des O'Brien -

- A document is being sent to surrounding villages with local village contacts for BAD and methods of making objections to the proposed new developments.
- SCDC have given an extension to the consultation process on the draft Local Plan to 14th October

1. Apologies for absence and declarations of interest

None received.

2. Declarations of Interest**2.1 To receive declarations of interests from councillors on items on the agenda**

None

2.2 To receive written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests (if any)

None.

2.3 To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate

None.

3. Response to SCDC draft Local Plan

The planning sub committee presented their analysis of the draft Local Plan under the following headings -

a. New settlements at West Cambourne and Bourn Airfield

Cllr Jones presented the subcommittee's analysis of the proposed new settlements at West Cambourne and Bourn Airfield. There was then a general discussion about these sites with the following key points being raised –

- i. Lack of strategic vision from SCDC as evidenced by the passive approach to identifying housing sites (via the SHLAA)
- ii. No confidence in the soundness of the economic models used to predict jobs and housing growth
- iii. No confidence in the consistency of assessment of sites in the SHLAA
- iv. Failure to meet sustainable criteria required by NPPF with respect to the following criteria –
 1. Economic - mismatch of employment sites with proposed settlements;
 2. Social - unacceptable coalescence of development on A428 leading to lack of sense of place
 3. Environment – unacceptable impact on transport given high level of car usage at Cambourne and lack of alternative options e.g. cycle/bus
- v. Failure to cooperate with other District Councils as required by the NPPF
- vi. Loss of high grade agricultural land (at both sites)
- vii. Value of Bourn Airfield as an industrial site

It was agreed that the Parish Council would continue with its objections to both sites. (Prop NB, 2nd SJ, unanimous)
 It was also agreed that the Parish Council should produce a separate document (as well as responding via SCDC's website) that would collate the Council's objections to these sites and other aspects of the consultation process. (Prop SJ, 2nd NB, unanimous)

b. Other policies

Cllr Ball presented the subcommittee's analysis of the draft policies and compared and contrasted these to Bourn Parish Council's responses to last year's consultation exercise (this analysis is in a separate spreadsheet). Specific areas of concern were –

- i. Relaxation of restrictions on placement of new employment sites in the countryside
- ii. Relaxation of size restrictions on expansion of existing employment sites
- iii. Inadequate standard of protection for flood risk mitigation for new developments
- iv. Lack of any formal policies to involve Parish Council's in discussions concerning "local context" with respect to affordable housing and issues (i) and (ii) (above)

Cllr Ball reported that a local landowner had expressed concern that part of his land was being proposed as a new "Local Green Space" for Bourn Village. This concern centred around ongoing problems with dog fouling and a failure by walkers to keep to existing rights of way. After much discussion, Cllr Ball asked for a separate vote on this issue; councillors voted by 6 to 0 to keep the Local Green Space designation in the plan (with 2 abstentions).

It was agreed that the council accept the subcommittee's analysis and give authorization for them to respond accordingly to the draft Local Plan. (Prop GP, 2nd VB, unanimous)

4. To consider planning applications received since the last meeting

41 **S/1611/13/FL – 14 Alms Hill, Change of use of an agricultural building to manufacture and storage.**

It was agreed to recommend approval as the application supports new employment in the village and conforms to policy ET/4. (Prop NB, 2nd VB, unanimous)

4.2 **S1598/13/LB – Wysing Grange, replacement of defective render to part of the west and east facing elevation**

It was agreed to recommend approval as it was felt important to maintain a listed building and conforms to policy CH/3. (Proposed VB, 2nd NB, unanimous)

5. Closure of meeting

There was no further business and the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.30pm.

Signed _____ (Chairman) _____ (Date)