



SANDHURST TOWN COUNCIL

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Date: 6 December 2017

Sandhurst Neighbourhood Plan Group
Sandhurst Town Councillors

Dear All

Re: Suspension Of Sandhurst Neighbourhood Plan

When we last met just over a year ago, forms had been devised to enable us to go out into the community and collect the evidence base, with instruction to be issued on their use. We then had an enforced break when key members of the group were unavailable and so we were looking to re-group spring 2017. Although the group has not met, several events and factors have occurred in the background:

- In March 2017, The Chairman, Vice Chairman and Secretary had a Skype session with Navigus Planning to discuss a number of questions including the evidence base versus local plan, consultation and use of an external contractor to assist.
- Binfield Parish Council, having been the first BFC parish to have a 'made' Neighbourhood Plan, are now considering version 2 as it is not compliant with the emerging Comprehensive Local Plan
- The Chairman and Secretary attended a Neighbourhood Planning Conference in October, hearing presentations from a number of authorities and parishes on the pros and cons. One point that came across was that irrespective of the plan period, the local planning authority can demand changes whenever material circumstances change (i.e. housing numbers and locations) This, along with the impression most had underestimated the effort required, left us questioning whether the circumstances were right to continue with the Sandhurst Neighbourhood Plan.

Given the above and the potential loss of cohesion with the Bracknell Forest Comprehensive Local Plan (CPL) if we proceeded, it has been decided to suspend work on the Neighbourhood Plan. This decision was formally made at the Strategy & Policy Committee meeting 23rd November 2017 with a recommendation to review the SNP in 18 to 24 months' time. We will keep your contact details so we can update you with our future plans.

Kind Regards

Cllr Mrs Jean Bettison
Chairman
Sandhurst Neighbourhood Plan