

STRATEGIC PLANNING AND INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE MEETING

Date: Monday 21 March 2022
Time: 6.30 pm
Venue: Town Hall, High Street, Maidstone

Membership:

Councillors Clark, Cooper (Chairman), Garten, Mrs Grigg, McKay, Munford,
Russell, Spooner and Springett (Vice-Chairman)

The Chairman will assume that all Members will read the reports before attending the meeting. Officers are asked to assume the same when introducing reports.

AGENDA

Page No.

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Notification of Substitute Members
3. Urgent Items
4. Notification of Visiting Members
5. Disclosures by Members and Officers
6. Disclosures of Lobbying
7. To consider whether any items should be taken in private because of the possible disclosure of exempt information.
8. Minutes of the Meeting Held on 8 March 2022
9. Presentation of Petitions

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Notice has been given pursuant to Council Procedure Rule 13 of the intention to present a petition in the following terms:

Maidstone Borough Council is proposing to build over 2000 houses on farmland at Lidsing, a small hamlet of 13 houses near Hempstead, Lordswood and Bredhurst. The area is accessed by country roads which will be completely grid-locked by the development. The only road improvement proposed to support the additional traffic – probably an additional 4000 cars or 10,000 extra car journeys every day – is a spur road to the M2 motorway which will destroy an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Local communities will be overwhelmed. Health services locally are already over-stretched and will not cope

Issued on Friday 11 March 2022

Continued Over/:

Alison Broom

Alison Broom, Chief Executive

with the needs of potentially 8000 extra residents.

The so-called 'Lidsing Garden Village' is proposed in Maidstone Borough Council's new Local Plan but so far there has been very little community engagement from MBC. Local people – even those who have lived their whole lives in Lidsing knew nothing about the proposals until they found out via social media! The first consultation in December 2020 received 1700 objections against the Lidsing proposal which MBC have seemingly ignored; the results from the second public consultation in December 2021 are still being analysed, however, MBC have stated that the 'majority' of the 2250 objections received relate to the proposed Lidsing Garden Development.

If this development goes ahead on a greenfield site with the spur road in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and next to Bredhurst Woods with SINC status, it will adversely affect many people's lives and set a dangerous precedent for other large developments in areas which should remain protected.

Please help Save Lidsing and the countryside and protect this area for future generations. Let Maidstone Borough Council know that they cannot ignore local people by signing and sharing this petition.

10. Question and Answer Session for Members of the Public
11. Questions from Members to the Chairman (if any)
12. Committee Work Programme 5
13. Reports of Outside Bodies
14. Local Plan Review Requirements Leading to Submission 6 - 75

PART II

To move that the public be excluded for the items set out in Part II of the Agenda because of the likely disclosure of exempt information for the reasons specified having applied the Public Interest Test.

Head of Schedule 12 A and Brief Description

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| 15. Exempt Appendix 1 (Item 14 - Local Plan Review Requirements Leading to Submission) - Draft Statements of Common Ground | Paragraph 3 – Information relating to the financial or business affairs of an individual (including the authority holding that information) | 76 - 228 |
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INFORMATION FOR THE PUBLIC

In order to ask a question at this meeting, please call **01622 602899** or email committee@maidstone.gov.uk by 5 p.m. one clear working day before the meeting (i.e. by 5 p.m. on Thursday 17 March 2022). You will need to provide the full text in writing.

If your question is accepted, you will be provided with instructions as to how you can access the meeting.

In order to make a statement in relation to an item on the agenda, please call **01622 602899** or email committee@maidstone.gov.uk by 5 p.m. one clear working day before the meeting (i.e. by 5 p.m. on Thursday 17 March 2022). You will need to tell us which agenda item you wish to speak on.

If you require this information in an alternative format please contact us, call **01622 602899** or email committee@maidstone.gov.uk.

To find out more about the work of the Committee, please visit www.maidstone.gov.uk.