

MAIDSTONE BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLANNING AND INFRASTRUCTURE POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 3 NOVEMBER 2022

Attendees:

Committee Members:	Councillors Blackmore (Chairman), English, Garten, Jeffery, Munford, Spooner, Springett, Trzebinski and Young
Lead Members:	Councillors Cooper (Lead Member for Planning and Infrastructure)

73. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors Clarke, Grigg, Kimmance and Young.

74. NOTIFICATION OF SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS

The following Substitute Members were present:

Councillor English for Councillor Kimmance;
Councillor Garten for Councillor Young; and
Councillor Jeffery for Councillor Grigg.

75. URGENT ITEMS

There were no urgent items, but it was noted there was an urgent update for Item 13 – Statement of Common Ground Local Plan Review. The Committee agreed to adjourn for 15 minutes before Item 13 to enable them to read through the update.

76. NOTIFICATION OF VISITING MEMBERS

There were no Visiting Members.

77. DISCLOSURES BY MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

There were no disclosures by Members and Officers.

78. DISCLOSURES OF LOBBYING

There were no disclosures of lobbying.

79. EXEMPT ITEMS

RESOLVED: That the meeting go into part II session for Item 13 – Statements of Common Ground for Local Plan Review only if required.

80. PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS

There were no petitions.

81. QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION FROM LOCAL RESIDENTS

There were no questions from local residents.

82. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS TO THE CHAIRMAN

There were no questions from Members.

83. FORWARD PLAN RELATING TO THE COMMITTEE'S TERMS OF REFERENCE

RESOLVED: That the Forward Plan be agreed and noted.

84. RESPONSE TO TONBRIDGE AND MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL LOCAL PLAN CONSULTATION

The Lead Member for Planning and Infrastructure introduced the report and explained that Tonbridge and Malling's Local Plan had previously been submitted but it had been withdrawn due to comments from the Planning Inspector. As a result, there was a new regulation 18 consultation which the Council was responding to as a neighbouring planning authority. The new Local Plan identified the local housing need as well as areas for new growth and development.

The Council's proposed response raised concerns around transport and air quality due to the proximity of Tonbridge and Malling to Maidstone.

The Committee supported the proposed response noting that, although it did not contain anything on river quality, that would be addressed at the next stage of consultation when more specific details about the development are available.

RESOLVED: That the Lead Member for Planning and Infrastructure be recommended that Maidstone Borough Council's response to the Local Plan Regulation 18 consultation, attached as Appendix 1 to this report, is submitted to Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council.

85. ADJOURNMENT OF THE MEETING

RESOLVED: That the meeting be adjourned at 2:28 p.m. until 2:44 p.m. to allow Members to read the urgent update related to Item 13 – Statement of Common Ground for Local Plan Review.

86. STATEMENTS OF COMMON GROUND FOR LOCAL PLAN REVIEW

The Lead Member for Planning and Infrastructure introduced the report and advised that there were three Statements of Common Ground that were ready to be signed off, which were with; Kent County Council (Exempt Appendix 2), Kent Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Unit (Exempt Appendix 6) and the Defence Infrastructure Organisation (Exempt Appendix 9).

The Lead Member stated that as the other Statements of Common Ground were not ready to be signed off, if they could not come back to a future meeting of the Committee, he would liaise with the Chairman and group Leaders under the urgency process already agreed with the Committee.

In response to questions from the Committee the Lead Member confirmed that the documents were factual and would outline both agreements and disagreements as the Council had a duty to cooperate, not to agree.

Should there be any significant changes to the documents, the Lead Member undertook to notify the Committee.

RESOLVED: That;

1. The Lead Member be recommended to approve draft Statements of Common Ground set out in Exempt Appendices 2, 6 and 9 (between Maidstone Borough Council and Kent County Council, Kent Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Unit and the Defence Infrastructure Organisation);

The draft Statements of Common Ground set out in Exempt Appendices 1, 3, 4, 5, 7 and 8 be noted.

87. DURATION

2:00 p.m. to 2:59 p.m.