

# **Gedling Local Planning Document**

## **(Part 2 Local Plan)**

### **Inspector's Response to Calverton Parish Council**

Dear Mr Bott,

I thank you for your letter, dated 19 April 2017, in which you raised several concerns about the Examination process, resulting in a request for the suspension of the Examination, and sought clarification of the Schedule of Changes Post Hearing Sessions [EX/87 and EX/97], along with an update on the progress of the Calverton Neighbourhood Plan. I respond to each of these matters in turn.

#### Request for Suspension of the Examination into the Gedling Local Planning Document

Calverton Parish Council and the Calverton Preservation and History Society have actively participated in the Examination Hearings for the Gedling Local Planning Document (LPD).

Whilst I acknowledge that Gedling Borough Council has produced and submitted evidence throughout the process, sometimes outside the timetable set, much of this has been prepared at my request or in response to questions that I have posed in my Initial Questions to the Council [EX/01], my Matters, Issues and Questions [EX/19] or during the Hearing Sessions themselves, [EX/12, EX/22, EX/43, EX/51, EX/56, EX/57, EX/58, EX/59, EX/65, EX/66, EX/67, EX/68, EX/69, EX/70, EX/80, EX/98, EX/101 and EX/104]. Other documents were submitted at the Submission Stage with the LPD for Examination [LPD/REG/20, LPD/BACK/02, LPD/BACK/05, LPD/GRO/14, LPD/GRO/15 and LPD/OPE/02]. Two documents were submitted post submission of the LPD, but were highlighted in the Council's submission letter, dated 14 October 2016, as additional evidence which was expected to become available post submission and which would be provided in due course [EX/22 and EX/23].

The remaining documents referred to by the Parish Council include the Residential Viability Appraisal – Top Wighay Farm (February 2016) [EX/35], which was submitted by the Council following reference to it during a Hearing Session, in order to aid the discussions of the Top Wighay Farm Strategic Site. A Sustainability Appraisal Publication Draft Addendum 3: Review of SA Assessment on Reasonable Alternative Sites and Allocation Sites based on Second Heritage Assessment (February 2017) [EX/62] was submitted by the Council following the Second Heritage Assessment in order to review the Council's original Sustainability Appraisal Assessment of the reasonable alternative sites and the allocated sites, which was carried out based upon an

assessment of heritage assets undertaken by the Planning Policy Team, following representations made by Calverton Parish Council and Calverton Preservation and History Society. In addition, the Council submitted comments by Trigpoint Conservation and Planning Limited in Response to Calverton Preservation and History Society's Statement prepared in relation to Matter 15 [EX/89] the day before the Historic Environment (Matter 15) was discussed at the Hearing Session on Day 8.

A further document, which includes a revised Policy LPD 63 Housing Distribution [EX/105], was submitted by the Council following the revisions made by the Council to its assessment of the 5 year housing land supply in the Revised Housing Background Paper Addendum [EX/104]. EX/104 and EX/105 have been subject to a public consultation exercise, following the Hearing Sessions, which ended on 19 April 2017. Indeed, you refer in your letter to the Parish Council having made comments during this public consultation exercise on these documents and EX/98.

Throughout the Examination process the Council has responded to my requests for further information and, in some cases, has responded to statements/comments submitted by other parties with the intention of clarifying matters prior to their consideration at the Hearing Sessions. Although this has led to a number of documents being submitted, I consider that the Council's intentions were that this would be helpful to all parties involved in the Examination and is not unusual.

I note that you consider that the Parish Council and the Calverton Preservation and History Society have been substantially prejudiced by the production and submission of this evidence. In this instance I am prepared to offer you both the opportunity to make any additional comments on the documents referred to in your letter, however, these should be related to points made in your original representations and should not repeat anything within your most recent statement in respect of EX/98, EX/104 and EX/105. A copy of this letter will be sent to the Calverton Preservation and History Society. Any comments you have should be made in writing by **Friday 12 May 2017**. I will then consider whether or not a further Hearing Session would be necessary.

The Council carried out its Sustainability Appraisal of the Plan in good faith and submitted it for Examination, alongside the LPD, in October 2016, and has published 2 addendums to the Sustainability Appraisal during the Examination, following the submission of the Plan. The Sustainability Appraisal Addendum 2: Appraisal of Housing Distribution for Key Settlements and Policies LPD 62 and LPD 63 [EX/12] was prepared in response to questions in paragraphs 22 and 23 of my Initial Questions for the Council [EX/01]. The Sustainability Appraisal Publication Draft Addendum 3: Review of SA Assessment on Reasonable Alternative Sites and Allocation Sites based on Second Heritage Assessment [EX/62] was prepared by the Council in order to review its original SA

Assessment of the reasonable alternative sites and the allocated sites, which was carried out based upon an assessment of heritage assets undertaken by the Planning Policy Team, following representations made by Calverton Parish Council and Calverton Preservation and History Society. I am satisfied that the Council has not failed the requirement for Sustainability Appraisal on submission and is able to correct any errors or omissions during the Examination process. Indeed, in this case, it has merely supplemented this Sustainability Appraisal during the Examination in response to questions from myself and representations from interested parties.

On the basis of my response above, I do not consider that a suspension of the Examination would be appropriate or proportionate at this time.

#### Schedule of Changes Post Hearing Sessions [EX/87 and EX/97]

During my opening statement on Day 1 (AM), I requested that the Council prepares a running schedule of any additional changes that, during the course of the Hearing Sessions, are proposed by the Council, supported by the Council or that the Council has no objections to, with a view that these be added to the Council's current schedules [EX/09B and EX/10A], with a final composite list of Main Modifications completed within 1 or 2 weeks of the final Hearing Session, which would then be consulted upon.

At each Hearing Session I asked if there were any Main Modifications proposed by the Council or any other parties in relation to the Matters and Issues being discussed. If so, these were discussed and the Council gave its views on any put forward by other parties. During the Hearing Session on Day 9 (PM) any outstanding Main Modifications put forward by the Council or other party, but not considered at a previous Hearing Session, were discussed.

A number of proposed changes have been put forward by Calverton Parish Council and these have been raised by myself and/or Mr Anthony Northcote, on behalf of the Parish Council, at the appropriate Hearing Sessions. These proposed changes were discussed and I sought the views of the Council on each one.

As such, I am satisfied that the proposed changes put forward by Calverton Parish Council have been treated fairly. I have asked the Council to revise its Schedule of Changes Post Hearing Sessions [EX/87 and EX/97] to ensure that it only includes proposed changes that it proposes, supports or has no objections to.

#### Factual Update – Calverton Neighbourhood Plan

I have noted the progress that has been made on the Calverton Neighbourhood Plan and will have regard to this during the preparation of my Report.

Karen Baker DipTP MA DipMP MRTPI

Inspector

26 April 2017