

COLD ASH PARISH COUNCIL

(Constituted 4 December 1894)

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(Please address all correspondence to the Clerk)

Mr G Lugg
Head of Planning and Countryside
West Berkshire District Council
Market Street
Newbury
RG14 5LD

1 October 2014

Dear Mr Lugg,

DPD Consultation Response

Please find enclosed Cold Ash Parish Council's response to the consultation on the Housing Site Allocation Development Plan (DPD). The enclosed documents were approved at the full Parish Council meeting on 9 September 2014.

The Council was very disappointed to discover that its submission to Ms Alexander in March of this year was not included in West Berkshire Council's DPD documents. A copy of the letter and associated annexes are included in this pack. We have also included copies of your documents with our March 2014 comments attached and insist that the WBC documents are updated as if our submission in March had been recognised.

The Council was also very disappointed that WBC did not give it a chance to comment on *COL011 - Land at Cold Ash Hill* when this site was adopted by yourselves in May 2014. We consider the case against this site so compelling, that if we had had a chance to comment on it before publication it would have been excluded from the consultation DPD document, thereby saving local residents unnecessary worry.

For each of the four *preferred sites* in our Parish we have worked through the Site Assessment, SA/SEA and Site Commentary documents. We include copies of these documents which have been updated where we believe there to be inaccuracies - these are highlighted in red. We also include a page for each of the four sites, summarising the Parish Council's position.

We have also worked through the Site Assessment, SA/SEA and Site Commentary documents for the sites that were *not* selected as *preferred sites*. We include copies of these documents which have been updated where we believe there to be inaccuracies - these are highlighted in red. Even though these sites are not preferred, we request that these documents are updated with our changes in case they should be considered again in the future.

Regarding the WBC site evaluation documents, we should like to state that we consider that: they consistently fail to take into account and list known traffic volume statistics; they use loose language describing the proximity of facilities, which is misleading; the general use of the term 'mitigation measures' is misleading as in most instances no funding is available for such work, and in many case the measures are not technically feasible.

The Parish Council also carried out an extensive consultation process with parishioners to help guide its response to the DPD document. We include in this pack the parishioners' responses we have received.

To summarise, included with this letter are the following:

- Copy of letter sent to Ms Alexander in March 2014, including annexes A to D
- Submission for *preferred* site COL011 - Land at Cold Ash Hill
- Submission for *preferred* site NEW045 - Coley Farm, Stoney Lane
- Submission for *preferred* site COL002 - Poplar Farm, Cold Ash Hill
- Submission for *preferred* site COL006 - St. Gabriels Farm, Cold Ash
- Submission for *non-preferred* site NEW105 - Land at Yates Copse
- Submission for *non-preferred* site THA019 - Land at Little Copse
- Submission for *non-preferred* site THA011 - Land to North of Bowling Green Rd
- Submission for *non-preferred* site THA014 - Land at Regency Park Hotel
- Submission for *non-preferred* site THA027 - The Creek, Heath Lane
- Parishioners responses to the Cold Ash Parish Council consultation process
- CDROM with electronic copies of the above documents

We request that you write formally to acknowledge receipt of these documents, and that you keep us up to date with the DPD process.

Yours sincerely,

Councillor Richard Marsh
Chairman
Cold Ash Parish Council