

**LOCAL PLAN WORKING GROUP**

A meeting of the Local Plan Working Group was held on 27 February 2017.

**PRESENT:** Councillors Harvey, C M Rooney and N J Walker

**OFFICERS:** P Clarke, A Conti, K Whitwell

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** were submitted on behalf of Councillor Bloundele .

**DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

There were no Declarations of Interest at this point in the meeting.

**1 MINUTES - LOCAL PLAN WORKING GROUP - 8 NOVEMBER 2016**

Minutes of the meeting of 8th November 2016 were agreed as being an accurate record.

**2 LOCAL PLAN ISSUES CONSULTATION FEEDBACK**

KW presented feedback from the Local Plan Issues consultation to the MWG.

Local Plan Issues

The consultation on the Local Plan Issues was carried out from 5th December 2016 to 30th January 2017. The Paper asked a series of questions on different topic areas including:

- Economic growth
- Town centre
- Population and housing
- Historic and green environments
- Infrastructure

A total of 33 responses were received. Around 25 were from organisations and community groups including Highways England, Natural England, Environment Agency and housebuilders. The remainder were from individuals. The feedback from the consultation included the following:

- There was general support for the issues identified;
- Majority of responses focused on housing and infrastructure;
- Evidence to support the Plan should be up to date;
- Widely agreed that the growth is the correct strategy going forward;
- Development should be based on a mix of greenfield and brownfield land;
- Viability of sites is important;
- Development of infrastructure needs to keep pace with development;
- Importance of the role historic assets and heritage can have in providing a sense of place;
- Improvements required to the town centre; and,
- Importance of community and cultural facilities.

**3 EVIDENCE BASE**

KW presented details of the evidence documents that are currently under preparation. These include:

- Retail study
- Employment land study

- Housing Assessment (SHMA)
- Gypsy and traveller assessment
- Landscape assessment

Additional evidence will also be required to support the Local Plan preparation including:

- Open space needs assessment
- Playing pitch strategy
- Flood risk assessment
- Transport study
- Viability study
- Wildlife/biodiversity

4 **NEXT STEPS**

- Finalise key pieces of evidence
- Start to develop preferred options
- Present draft options to LPMWG
- Executive approval &ndash;May 2017
- Consultation June/July 2017

5 **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

None.