

INDEPENDENT EXAMINATION OF HATFIELD PEVEREL NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

EXAMINER: MARY O'ROURKE BA (Hons) DipTP MRTPI

Lisa Miller
Hatfield Peverel Parish Council

Examination Ref: 02/MOR/HPNP

Via email: parishclerk@hatfieldpeverelpc.co.uk

cc. Alan Massow – Braintree District Council:

almas@braintree.gov.uk

Diane Wallace

Wallace.woolmore@btinternet.com

20 September 2017

Dear Ms Miller

Hatfield Peverel Neighbourhood Development Plan (HPNDP)

Thank you for your letter of 13 September 2017.

I note that, in response to my queries, that the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Screening Report is to be updated and that a Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) Screening Report has been commissioned. Whilst it is anticipated that both should be available within 3 to 4 weeks, the Parish Council has accepted that further consultation on them will be needed.

I have now found on your website the Hatfield Peverel Site Assessment 2017 in a news update of 17 March 2017. However, I think that it would be helpful if it was included on the web page that lists the HPNDP supporting information. As I set out in my earlier letter of 5 September 2017 I would hope to see, in updating the SEA, that the issue of the sustainability appraisal of alternative development sites is adequately addressed.

The resolution of the Braintree District Council Planning Committee on the Arla application (16/02096), which is the HPNDP allocation in policy HO6, refers to the requirement for a HRA screening report to be prepared. It would be helpful for me when examining the HPNDP to also see that report.

You suggest in your letter that whilst this work is being undertaken that the examination should continue. However, as I explained in my first letter, the issues raised are sufficiently substantive that I feel to do so runs the risk of undertaking work that could later be found to be abortive and incur unnecessary costs to the local authority.

I look forward to your further update when the Screening Reports are completed.

In the interests of transparency, may I ask that the local authority and qualifying body ensure a copy of this letter and any respective responses are placed on the relevant council websites.

Thank you in advance for your assistance.

Your sincerely

Mary O'Rourke

Examiner