

HALSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 18 JUNE 2014 in THE PAVILION, STATION ROAD, HALSTEAD AT 18.00

PRESENT: Cllr. Terry Brooker – Chairman of the Planning Committee
Cllr. David Taylor, Chairman of Council
Cllr. Barrie Blundell
Cllr. Karen Grosvenor

IN ATTENDANCE: The Clerk, 1 parishioner, 1 visitor from Knockholt parish
The meeting convened at 18.05

1 **APOLOGIES.**

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr. Bent who had a previous commitment and Cllr. Ford was unwell

2 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Nil

3 **SDC GYPSY AND TRAVELLER CONSULTATION**

The location maps were perused and it was noted that the sites were:

1. Station Court, Sevenoaks Road where the proposal to turn the temporary travellers site to a permanent site and create another six pitches, totalling 12 pitches at this site: and
2. On land on Star Hill, Knockholt, owned by Fort Halstead bordering with Knockholt and 16Halstead Parishes for 15 pitches. Considerable discussion took place about the consultation.

SO1d: The Chairman adjourned the meeting and invited Mr Rae to speak.

S01d: The Chairman reconvened the meeting

Further discussion ensued.

It was agreed that a subsequent Planning Committee meeting would be required to agree a final response to the Consultation. This will be held on Wednesday 25 June at 18.00 in the Pavilion. The following points were noted:

3. The High Court had only given consent for a three years occupation of Station Court.
4. After these three years; the Appeal Inspectorate had only given consent for a three years occupation of Station Court. Finally SDC had given consent for a three years occupation of Station Court (total 9 nine years). Site then to be vacated.
5. Travellers site at Polhill - Irish gypsies do not mix with Romany Gypsies.
6. 84% of new sites have been position North of Sevenoaks. Why none south?
7. Why now changing temporary sites to permanent sites?
8. Local facilities: Knockholt School is over-subscribed; Halstead School has some vacancies; Dunton Green School is oversubscribed. children will be ferried some distance
9. No health-care or doctor in Halstead and neighbouring Knockholt
10. One small shop in both villages and post office (within shop later this year) in Halstead.
11. No footway on Star Hill and Old London Road only certain parts of the road.
12. 60mph speed limit on the road; public transport is minimal with buses hourly.
13. Where will pedestrian access be located? Where will vehicular access be located?
14. Why is land found for travellers to set up home when there is no programme to provide affordable homes for young people – discrimination?
15. How does the target for homes roll over each year? How are pitches allocated to applicants?

4 **INFORMATION**

- a. It was noted that Cllrs. Taylor and Brooker would be meeting with two representatives from Otford PC and two from Knockholt PC to discuss the letter sent by Otford Parish Council
- b. The Statement of Community Involvement in Planning is also under consultation which closes on 4 July.

The meeting closed at 19.40

