Comments

Site Specific Part 2 Local Plan - Publication Plan Consultation (18/12/19 to 12/02/20)

Comment ID 20
Response Date 31/01/20 12:11
Consultation Point Policy HWC2 Protection of Community Facilities and Proposals for New Facilities (View)
Status Processed
Submission Type Email
Version 0.3

Representation

Please use a separate form for each representation.

Which part of the Publication Plan does your representation relate to?

Policy HWC2
Protection of Community Facilities Proposals for New Facilities

Tests of Soundness

Do you consider the Local Plan is sound in terms of being:

Justified
Effective
Positively prepared
Consistent with National Policy

Reasons

Please give the reason(s) why you consider the Local Plan is not legally compliant or is unsound or fails to comply with the statutory Duty to Cooperate.

Re: Rothwell North Sustainable Urban Extension (SUE) public consultation

I am writing on behalf of Rothwell and Desborough’s leading community football club Rothwell FC Aztec. The club has over forty years of history within our community and currently has over 350 members and volunteers. We are mainly based at Rothwell's Montsaye Academy with some training sessions held at Desborough leisure centre.

The secret of our forty-three-year history lies in the welcome extended to all. Boys, girls, gifted or simply enthusiastic are encouraged not to win at all costs but to develop an awareness of discipline, fair play, tolerance and good sportsmanship. This is all done within a friendly atmosphere, controlled
by a team of dedicated local volunteers who give up their own spare time for the benefit of their community.

We truly believe our club's existence has a very positive influence on the youth of the district giving guidance and self-control as they grow into more mature members of the Community, they live in. We are proud that our current membership includes the sons and daughters of our former youth players and we make our comments drawing on the extensive knowledge of our community.

Our comments are drawn in the context of the current public consultation of the proposed Site Specific Part 2 Local Plan (SS2) which closes on 12th February next.

Within SS2 policy HWC2 sets out the Borough’s approach to provision of sports facilities and alludes to the “Local Football Facilities Plan”. It is noted that this will not be published prior to the closing date of the current consultation.

HWC2 indicates that all major developers should provide a contribution to provision of new sports facilities. One such major development is the Rothwell North Sustainable Urban Expansion (SUE) plan which forms the majority of the as yet unbuilt dwellings required under SS2. As a community sports club centred immediately adjacent to this area we are concerned at certain weaknesses within the plan.

It is noted that neither SS2 nor the Rothwell North SUE includes designated provision for sports facilities. While we appreciate that developers of major sites may reasonably require some flexibility in the final location of the sports facility or their contribution to them we strongly believe that the general location and extent of the facility should be included within SS2 and would ask that such provision be included in the plan. We recognise that the provision of these facilities may not necessarily be within the Rothwell North SUE but may be situated within the broader environs of Rothwell. We further note that the extent of the settlement as defined within the Rothwell North SUE is already under pressure due to the development of the “Truckstop” facility immediately south of the A14 Junction and close to the Town’s Cemetery which already lies to the south of the trunk road. It is arguable that the settlement now includes these areas and the plan should be revised to include them.

We are aware that the Borough owns land within the immediate vicinity of the Truck stop and would ask that this be included within SS2 as provision to meet Policy HWC2 and that the improvement necessary to provide this facility should come from the planning agreement for the Rothwell North SUE.

Notifications

Do you wish to be notified?