

Planning & Development

Ask For: Brenda Fazzani
Email: Brenda.fazzani@ashford.gov.uk
Direct Line: (01233) 330328



ASHFORD
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Bethersden Parish Council and
Neighbourhood Plan group

Civic Centre
Tannery Lane
Ashford, Kent
TN23 1PL
(01233) 331111
www.ashford.gov.uk
Twitter: @ashfordcouncil

Our Ref:
Your Ref:
Date: 21st September 2015

Dear Keith,

Re: Bethersden Neighbourhood Plan Draft Pre – Submission for Consultation 2015 Regulation 14

Thank you for consulting Ashford Borough Council on your pre submission neighbourhood plan. Please accept these comments on behalf of the Parish Council and Neighbourhood Plan group.

When the examiner looks into the plan he will want to know that the plan meets the basic conditions. The Local Authority is only required to consider whether the draft plan meets the basic conditions after the examination. However, I am sure it would be helpful to the Parish Council and to the Neighbourhood Plan group to consider whether the draft plan meets these conditions as early as possible.

The Council has not yet had sight of your basic conditions statement and would therefore wish to reserve judgment on whether or not it meets these conditions until this is available. However, in the meantime, I will comment on the information before me in the draft plan.

There are still a few minor drafting errors that probably do not need pointing out but I have included them in the table below in case they get missed! Other than that I have drawn your attention to the need for some of the policies to be a little more specific in order to achieve the goals you are seeking. You will see there is also a little concern about how the plan deals with affordable housing and local needs housing in respect of the Council's existing strategic policies.



A table with my comments is attached.

As you are no doubt aware, when you submit the regulation 15 plan to the Council for us to carry out further public consultation you will need to include documents a) – d) as set out in the Neighbourhood Plan Regulations.

I hope you will find this helpful.

Yours sincerely,

Brenda Fazzani

Senior Policy Planning Officer

