

Matthew Nouch

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 12 April 2018 17:56
To: Matthew Nouch
Cc: Bethersden, Ruckinge & Stone Parish Councils
Subject: Bethersden Examination
Attachments: Bethersden NP Significant issues.pdf

Dear Matthew

In carrying out the examination of the Bethersden Neighbourhood Plan I have identified some significant and inter-related issues which could mean that the Plan does not meet the basic conditions. These issues are summarised in the attached note. I should be grateful to receive comments on them from Ashford Borough Council and Bethersden Parish Council. Alternatively or in addition, if either Council wishes, I would be willing to attend an exploratory meeting to discuss the significance of these issues and how they can be addressed. An exploratory meeting is a procedure outlined in guidance on the examination of neighbourhood plans recently published by NPIERS for qualifying bodies and examiners. This can be found at: (http://www.rics.org/Global/NPIERS_Guidance_to_Service_Users_and_Examiners_030418_h1.pdf). This meeting would not be a hearing in accordance with paragraph 9(2) of Schedule 4B to the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 because its purpose would be different, but it would not preclude the possibility of a subsequent hearing. The meeting would be publicised in advance, held in public and would be similar in form to a hearing. It would be attended by Ashford Borough Council and Bethersden Parish Council and it is possible that I would decide that other parties should be invited.

I should be grateful if this e mail and the attached note could be posted on the Ashford Borough Council website. I also note that my previous queries and the responses to them have not yet been posted on the website as requested in my introductory letter.

Kind Regards

Richard High

Independent Examiner