

Oakley Green, Fifield & District Community Association



January 10, 2013

Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead
Policy Planning Unit
Town Hall
St Ives Road
Maidenhead
SL6 1RF

Dear Sirs,

Borough Local Plan Sites Consultation

Of the four Sites that have been identified in Bray Parish, three are located in the area to the East of the Parish and are in the constituency of our Association, namely:-

- Land at Water Oakley Farm, Windsor Road
- Squires Garden Centre, Maidenhead Road
- Wyvale Garden Centre, Dedworth Road

Your Consultation says “.. some previously developed sites in the Green Belt ..” are included “.. to determine if there are more appropriate uses for the sites which would already be acceptable under current national planning guidance ...” and these three Sites would appear to fall into this category.

Our Association recognises the importance of the RBWM Local Plan and The Bray Parish Neighbourhood Plan and has made a number of efforts to inform local Residents and Businesses and urge them to engage with the Consultation exercises over the past 15 months or so.

Most recently, as part of this latest Consultation, we collaborated with The Oakley Green & Fifield Residents Association (OGFRA), The Down Place Residents Association (DPRA) and The West Windsor Residents Association (WWRA). In addition to the delivery of over 1,000 fliers to households and businesses in the immediate area, we organised two public meetings – one on December 8 and one on December 11 and over 150 people came along.

We also invited Representatives of the Owners of the three Sites, but only Farmglade from Water Oakley Farm took up the invitation to speak in public. At both meetings there were lively and extensive discussions on all three sites and at the end, people were asked to record

their overall views on the suitability of the sites for development. Here is a high level summary of the “exit poll” after the two meetings:-

- **The local community is overwhelmingly in favour of preserving The Green Belt and the area between Windsor and Maidenhead in particular.**
- **98% of participants who responded said that there should not be housing development at the two garden centres.**
- **Given the current untidy nature of the Land at Water Oakley Farm site, special circumstances could apply and over 80% of participants who responded supported limited residential development at the site, subject to strict controls to preserve the openness of The Green Belt. The Down Place Residents Association has already communicated to you their thoughts on what these should be.**

Whilst discussing Consultations, there has been a significant problem in RBWM notifying our local Residents and Businesses – both in this exercise and the Survey conducted in the early part of 2012. No deliveries were received by the vast majority of our constituents. This was another reason why we delivered over 1000 of our own fliers and organised the two meetings. Perhaps in future, RBWM should consider partnering with local Organisations whose track record is more reliable than the commercial delivery organisations who have been employed recently.

We hope that you find these comments constructive and urge you to take them on board when developing the Local Plan and organise future Consultations.

Yours sincerely,

Grenville Annetts
Chairman

Copies to:-

RBWM Bray Ward Councillors - David Burbage, David Coppinger and Leo Walters
RBWM Clewer North Ward Councillors - Cynthia Endacott, John Fido and John Penfold
RBWM Clewer South Ward Councillors - James Evans and Simon Meadowcroft

Bray Parish Councillors - Michael Airey, John Foulger, Helen Howard and Chris Yates
Bray Parish Council Planning Committee Chairman - Louvaine Kneen
Bray Parish Council Clerk - Janice Eden-Bagley
Bray Parish Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group Chairman - Chris Graham

Down Place Residents Association Chairman - David Short
Oakley Green and Fifield Residents Association Chairman - Rod Ball
West Windsor Residents Association Chairman - John Holdsworth

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