

HURST VILLAGE SOCIETY

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PLANNING EDITION

Land East of Lodge Road (Tape Lane), Update on Planning Appeal Inquiry HPC Meeting Tuesday 6th December

Planning Application 220458

Following the developer's Appeal against the refusal of planning decision for 200 houses on the field opposite Tape Lane, an urgent meeting of the **Say No to 200 Homes in Hurst** Group (of which HVS is a member) was held on 3 November to plan our strategy. At the meeting HVS was requested to provide funding of £7,000, which was unanimously approved by the HVS Committee.

Subsequently **Hurst Parish Council** ("HPC") successfully applied for **"Rule 6 status"** interested party for the duration of the Public Enquiry. For full details view the HVS <u>Tape Lane planning page</u>.

HPC is fund raising to help pay for the legal costs of their campaign (see HPC <u>website</u> for details). HVS has confirmed its **donation of £7,000** towards funding legal advice in preparing for and representing the village at the forthcoming Planning Appeal Inquiry. In addition HVS has paid **£450** for the new 'Say No' banners which are appearing around the village.

Wokingham Borough Council were due to submit their "Statement of Case" to the Planning Inspectorate by the 30th November 2022. This includes the main issues they would be presenting to the Planning Inspector at the Public Inquiry as to why the decision to refuse planning permission for 200 houses should be upheld.

This is in the public domain and we expect it to be on the WBC planning portal shortly under planning reference <u>220458</u>.

There will then be three very important documents available, which together will form the basis of the Inquiry:

1) The Statement of Case from Mactaggart and Mikel

- 2) The <u>Decision Notice</u> detailing the Reasons for Refusal of the Original Planning Application from Wokingham Borough Council
- 3) The Statement of Case from Wokingham Borough Council

These can then be reviewed and contrasted to identify strengths, weaknesses and flaws in the arguments put forward.

Now HPC have been given "rule 6 status" and become the third Interested Party in this Inquiry, they have the responsibility for leading the Community's objections to these proposals.

The next **HPC Council Meeting** is on **Tuesday 6th December** at St Nicholas CofE Primary School at **7.30pm**. It is expected that HPC will provide an update on the amount of donations received following their appeal for funds in order for them to engage a Barrister for the Inquiry, along with an update on the progress of the the campaign against the planning proposals.

The Barrister would be involved in the preparation of the Parish Council's case (including attendance at pre- Inquiry meetings between the Planning inspector, the Appellant and WBC, the identification of witnesses and the preparation of their proofs of evidence) and attendance at the Inquiry itself (to take those witnesses and other witnesses put forward by Wokingham Borough Council, through their evidence, cross examine witnesses put forward by the Appellant and present opening and closing statements).

If you want to hear more about what is going on please come along to the HPC meeting.

Public Appeal

31st January – 11th February 2023

WBC Council Offices, Shute End. Starting at 10.00am
It is important that as many people as possible attend. Please put dates in your diary

Further updates

As more information becomes available we will send out additional emails to update everyone.

If you have any questions or comments at all, please email planning@hvs.org.uk

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