

Matter 2 Written Statement – Ian Parkinson (725)

I would like to add some further responses to Wycombe District councils Local Plan. But may I explain my interest firstly I am a concerned resident of Princes Risborough and was also a member of the Princes Risborough Steering group for most of its existence. I have found many of the issues raised in the minority report resonated with my experiences so had no hesitation with adding my name to it. With a background of 30 years of experience managing finance departments around the world, I took my time responsibilities on the Steering group seriously and researched planning issues and legislations, and as expected it discovered it is a complex field and not as black and white as it was often painted by WDC. My view on the plan is closer to those of RARA, than WDC, and I have assisted them in producing their responses, but I have different views that from them on some issues, which I would like to put forward at your enquiry bringing a different perspective to some of the matter, which I have already applied for earlier this month.

Matter 2

1)The vision does not have the aspiration expected because it does not work in conjunction with the existing, distribution of population, economic base and existing transport networks. It might hit the aim of meeting a housing target it fails to meet the golden threads set out by both the current and proposed NPPFs.

2)The aim stated by WDC's planning department, is that all they have to do is find sites for houses, and even in this simple aim they have failed, with a over a sixth of the housing need having to be met by unmet need. The council has produced a set of aspirations, but there is little evidence of them making a conscious effort to meet them. Without a clearly stated investment and infrastructure improvements targets from the council I have had to use NPPF to set the standard. The Golden threads set out by the NPPF have failed to be met, also the requirements to encourage the rural economy, reduce commuting, reduce greenhouse gas emission could be better.

4)To have sustainable development, a key component is to know the level of house to be built. As the council have tried to hide the true nature of the number of houses and their distribution of the builds this has be made difficult. Outside of Risborough the various settlements the housing numbers has been shown for the whole life of the Plan. Whilst in the Risborough area it only includes houses for WDC identified sites, does not including houses already constructed or with planning permission, plus future windfall sites. The neighbouring Parishes of Longwick and Kimble share the same infrastructure systems and support. The 2,500 new homes in reality are closer to 3,500 so the plans should reflect that number for it to be sustainable, not the 2500 that the WDC are passing off

Can I take this time in thanking your staff in the assistance they have provided in this process and in particular Ian Kemp in his patients in answering my many questions.lok8lllo

Yours respectfully

Ian Parkinson.