

Independent Examination of Wycombe Delivery and Site Allocations Plan

Matter 9 Issue 5

Further Statement by High Wycombe Society (025)

Policy DM15 - Open Spaces in New Developments

“To clarify our previous submission, whilst accepting that certain costly facilities, such as stadia and swimming pools, can only be provided on a District wide basis, we believe that others such as football pitches, tennis courts, etc, can and should be provided more locally. A site of 400 dwellings should normally be expected to provide this on site or immediately adjacent.

We are also concerned that, because of high land costs, it has become common for developer contributions to be used for ‘upgrading’ existing facilities to enable more intense use, rather than creating new facilities. We believe that this has now reached a limit where any further intensification will cause positive harm. We referred specifically to the Rye, an open space which the High Wycombe Society fought for successfully in the past, but where the cumulative impact of permanent facilities now threatens to destroy its historic character. There are other, less historic, recreation grounds which are similarly affected.”