

GORING-ON-THAMES PARISH COUNCIL

Old Jubilee Fire Station • Red Cross Road • Goring • Reading RG8 9HG
Phone: (01491) 874444 • clerk@goringpc.org • www.goringpc.org

All correspondence to be addressed to the clerk

13 July 2017

Sarah Boulton-Jones
Clerk to the Governors

Goring Church of England Primary School
Wallingford Road
Goring
Reading
Berks
RG8 OBG

Dear Governors,

Thank you again for your letter dated 9th June 2017.

After further consultation, the Neighbourhood Plan have been requested by the GPC to focus all our attention on completing the draft Neighbourhood Plan and associated documents and beginning the pre-submission consultation as soon as possible.

We have attached the position decided by the Parish Council at their Public Meeting on 10th July that explains this.

We will of course continue the dialogue with the relevant parties and have been invited to a joint meeting with SODC, OCC, the developer, the Diocese and, we believe yourselves, to discuss this matter.

Yours sincerely

Colin Ratcliff
Clerk
For and on behalf of The GNP Steering Group

Clerk: Colin Ratcliff

DOCUMENT RECEIVED 12/6/17 FROM GOVERNING BODY GORING CE
PRIMARY SCHOOL

1. We have reviewed this document internally and with GPC and officials from OCC. The SG view is that the School's outline paper is, on the surface, attractive. Everyone can agree that the current school facilities are not as good as a new one might be. We are advised that the current school has capacity to cover the additional houses proposed in the draft Goring Neighbourhood Plan.
2. We understand the Governors are motivated by the good of the school and their pupils. Our job is to take a much wider view and seek to do what is best for the whole village. These two tasks do not necessarily align.
3. The document lacks the substance and evidence that we clearly explained to the Governors some time ago, was essential if we were to have any chance of considering it within this iteration of the GNP.
4. The GNP urgently needs to be finalised, voted upon and brought into force if we are to protect the whole village against uncontrolled development. For example, the latest SODC SHELAA shows that 80 additional hectares have been put forward by landowners around the village — this could mean an additional 2,000 extra houses in Goring.
5. The outline concept that the school has now produced includes elements which, even without the detailed evidence we would need to see, are contrary to the key policies within the draft GNP. These policies have been derived from legally required sustainability obligations and the clear priorities expressed by residents of Goring in consultation.
6. There is nothing to stop the Governors working further on this and putting forward a detailed and cogent proposal within the next iteration of the Neighbourhood Plan. But, as the concept stands at present, it now seems most unlikely that it would meet current criteria.

Agreed by the SG at a Public Meeting on 19th June, 2017.