

EAST HERTS COUNCIL

DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE – 22 MAY 2013

REPORT BY HEAD OF PLANNING AND BUILDING CONTROL

7. BISHOP'S STORTFORD NORTH, PUBLIC BRIEFING

WARD(S) AFFECTED: Bishop's Stortford wards

---

**Purpose/Summary of Report:**

- To enable Members to consider the operation of a Public Briefing in respect of the proposals relating to Bishop's Stortford North.

**RECOMMENDATION FOR DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE:**

**That:**

<b>(A)</b>	<b>The arrangements for the operation of a Public Briefing to consider the development proposals relating to Bishop's Stortford North be endorsed; and</b>
<b>(B)</b>	<b>Final arrangements for the Briefing be delegated to the Head of Planning and Building Control to confirm in consultation with the Chairman of the DC Committee.</b>

1.0 Background

1.1 Members will be aware of the submission of an outline planning application which covers the site of ASRs 1-4 at Bishop's Stortford north (BSN). The application is under consideration and is currently due to be reported to a special meeting of the committee in October.

1.2 At the time of writing this report, Officers have also been notified that applications are forthcoming shortly, which will cover ASR5 (both an outline and a detailed first phase application) and a further application in relation to ASRs 1-4, which will be in part outline/ part detailed form, setting out a first phase of development there. There will be two applicants for the applications – the Bishop's Stortford North Consortium (ASRs 1-4) and Countryside Properties (ASR5).

1.3 As part of the consideration of the proposals, Officers have suggested that a Public Briefing event in relation to the proposals

should be held. This would be an event at which the applicants could present their proposals and provide further information to those present in response to questions. This report suggests how the event should operate and Members agreement to it is sought.

## 2.0 Operation of the Briefing

### Date and venue

- 2.1 The event is scheduled for 7.00 pm on Thursday 13 June 2013 at the Charis Centre, Bishop's Stortford.

### Attendance

- 2.2 It is anticipated that the event will be an open public one to be chaired by the Chairman of the DC committee. An open invitation to attend would be extended to all District Councillors.
- 2.3 The Chairman and/or other nominated members would put questions to the applicants and also take questions from the floor.
- 2.4 Issues of pre-determination will not arise as no members would be expected to express a view on the proposals. Indeed, DC members should not do so. Members would be present solely to listen to the presentations and seek information. No decisions would be made at the event.

### Questions

- 2.5 All Members would be invited to submit questions to the Chairman in advance. These would be put to the developers at the event by the Chairman or other nominated Members. The Chairman would then open the event up to the floor for further questions, seeking to ensure that duplication and repetition is avoided.

### Reporting back

- 2.6 At a future date the Head of Planning and Building Control would be asked to provide feedback to the DC Committee. A short written summary would be required, which would be placed on the public file. The Head of Planning and Building Control would be asked to talk through this and take any questions from the Committee. This feedback event could take place in a session immediately prior to a future DC meeting, or at another convenient time.

### 3.0 Implications/Consultations

- 3.1 Information on any corporate issues and consultation associated with this report can be found within **Essential Reference Paper 'A'**.

#### Background Papers

Planning application 3/13/0075/OP, Bishop's Stortford north ASRs 1-4

Contact Member: Malcolm Alexander, Executive Member for Community Safety and Environment.  
[malcolm.alexander@eastherts.gov.uk](mailto:malcolm.alexander@eastherts.gov.uk)

Contact Officer: Kevin Steptoe – Head of Planning and Building Control, Extn: 1407.  
[kevin.steptoe@eastherts.gov.uk](mailto:kevin.steptoe@eastherts.gov.uk)

Report Author: Kevin Steptoe – Head of Planning and Building Control, Extn: 1407.  
[kevin.steptoe@eastherts.gov.uk](mailto:kevin.steptoe@eastherts.gov.uk)