

EAST HERTS COUNCIL

DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE – 9 OCTOBER 2013

REPORT BY HEAD OF PLANNING AND BUILDING CONTROL

6. PUBLIC SPEAKING ARRANGEMENTS FOR DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETINGS DEALING WITH DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS FOR LAND AT BISHOP'S STORTFORD NORTH

WARD(S) AFFECTED: Bishop's Stortford wards.

Purpose/Summary of Report:

- To consider public speaking arrangements for subsequent meetings of the committee (or parts of) which deal with the four current planning applications relating to land at Bishop's Stortford North.

RECOMMENDATION FOR DECISION That:

(A)	The revised arrangements for public speaking, as detailed in this report, be applied to subsequent meetings of the Development Management Committee (or parts of) which deal with the four current planning applications relating to land at Bishop's Stortford North.

1.0 Background

1.1 Four planning applications are currently under consideration in relation to the land at Bishop's Stortford north. The first of these, relating to ASRs 1–4 and outline in form, was received in January 2013 (3/13/0075/OP). This was followed by a further application, again in outline form, but which contains details of a first phase of residential development (3/13/0804/OP). This was submitted in May 2013.

1.2 There are two further applications under consideration in relation to land at ASR5. These are again in outline form, firstly 3/13/0886/OP, submitted in May 2013 and 3/13/1501/OP submitted in August 2013. As above, the second of these

applications, whilst being outline in form, contains details of a first phase of residential development.

1.3 Officers are likely to be in a position shortly to submit reports to the committee in relation to these applications. It is not possible to confirm, at this date, that all matters will be reported to a single meeting of the Committee. However, 14 November 2013, is currently identified as the date for a Special meeting of the Committee to consider the proposals. This report sets out details of public speaking arrangements that Members are asked to consider for that meeting. If not all of these four applications are ultimately reported to that meeting, or any revised date, Members are also asked to agree that the arrangements set out here apply to all meetings (or parts of) when these applications are considered and public speaking is available.

2.0 Revised Public Speaking

2.1 Members will be aware of the normal public speaking arrangements. Three minutes are permitted for speakers both in favour and in objection to any proposal. Where multiple speakers wish to address the meeting, they are required to combine their presentations within the overall three minute period.

2.2 Clearly the development proposals relating to Bishop's Stortford north are extensive, have raised a range of issues and are of significant local interest. Given that, it is also appropriate to review the normally applied speaking arrangements to ensure that interested parties can fully articulate the issues they wish to raise.

2.3 It is suggested then that twice the normal speaking time is permitted: six minutes. In addition, multiple speakers will be permitted in objection. On registration however, a brief outline of the issues they wish to raise will be sought and, where it appears duplication will result, speakers will be asked to combine their presentations.

2.4 Once the combined requests of those who wish to speak in objection to each of the proposals is known, the same combined time will be offered to parties who may wish to speak in support of the proposals, usually the applicant. Officers will establish appropriate deadlines for registration of requests to speak and all other normal arrangements of public speaking will apply. Where any matters are raised with regard to the arrangements which are

not addressed here, it will subject to decision by the Chairman of the Committee.

2.5 Members are asked to consider and endorse these proposals.

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, 3/13/0804/OP, 3/13/0886/OP and 3/13/1501/OP.

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