

SPECIAL PLANNING & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
19 NOVEMBER 1998

Present: Councillor Mrs Ballin (Chairman), Councillors Bayle, Finnie, Grayson, Harrison, Jones, Piasecki, Mrs Pile, Ryan, Sargeant, Simonds, Thompson, Wade, Wheaton and Worrall

Also Present: Councillors Barnard, Birch and Hayes

Apologies for absence were received from:
Councillors Adams, Doyle, Flood and Veakins

349. Substitute Members

In accordance with Standing Order No. 38, Councillors Harrison, Thompson and Wheaton attended the meeting as substitutes for Councillors Flood, Doyle and Veakins respectively.

350. Urgent Items of Business under Standing Order No. 7

There were no urgent items of business under Standing Order No. 7.

351. Bracknell Forest Borough Local Plan – Policy R15 – Recreation Development at Amen Corner, Binfield and Housing Development Proposal PH1.9 – Land at Peacock Farm, West of Bracknell Town Centre

The Committee considered a report

- 1 indicating the dates at which matters relating to policies R15 and PH1.9 were to be heard at the Public Local Inquiry into objections to the Bracknell Forest Borough Local Plan;
- 2 setting out the content of particular representations made in respect of the two matters; and
- 3 recommending amendments to the Policy and Proposal which should be made to the Bracknell Forest Borough Local Plan and included in the Borough Council's Proofs of Evidence to the Public Local Inquiry concerning these matters.

The Committee discussed the proposal to amend Policy R15 by adding provision for educational development. The Director of Planning & Transportation stressed that this was intended to provide an opportunity to give proper open-minded consideration to all the issues arising. He indicated that the circumstances were such that he believed it was appropriate to consider the possible relocation of Bracknell and Wokingham College to the Amen Corner site.

In the course of the discussion, a number of issues were raised regarding the settlement boundary which it was noted was currently well-defined by hedging, fencing and a road. It was accepted that the question of amending this should not be considered until the precise nature of any development had been agreed and the structures were in place. It was stressed that all proposals which had already been

put forward or which might emerge to develop this site, would be considered on their merits. The Council's policy was considered to be strong enough to provide a guideline but also protect the Council's position.

RESOLVED that the following changes to the Bracknell Forest Borough Local Plan be:

- 1 approved for recommendation to the local plan inspector; and,
- 2 adopted for development control purposes:
 - a Policy R15 to be amended to refer to recreational and educational development as set out in Annexe 1 of the report; including a new section in the reasoned justification to the policy concerning provision for pedestrians and cyclists and the reordering of the transportation provisions to accord with Policy M5 (Highway measures expected in association with new development) incorporating Further Proposed Change 64; and,
 - b for the sake of consistency, the text of Proposal PH1.9 to be amended such that the reference to the provision of the station (criterion (h)(i)) should be deleted and criterion (d) which refers to public transport, and particularly the provision of a bus link to Great Hollands, should be expanded to read:

“Contribute to the improvement of the quality and choice of public transport serving the defined housing development area including the provision of a railway station and a bus link to Great Hollands.

The meeting commenced at 7.30pm and concluded at 8.10pm

CHAIRMAN