

From: John R Reynolds
Subject: LOCAL PLAN ENQUIRY – ONGAR P 4
Date: 24 April 2019 at 15:35:58 BST
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SITE R2 – (BOWES FIELD) & R1

On the 28th. June 2017, on behalf of Ongar Town Council,I met a representative from Active Essex who I understood was preparing reports for the 4 Global submission document, on the provision of sport and facilities within the Local Plan.

We met at the Jubilee Park sport complex, where it was explained that additional football and rugby pitches together with training facilities were desperately required now..

Ongar teams were having to find pitches and training areas outside the Town plus the fact that there is no pitch capacity or facilities for football and rugby to be played by women.

Our meeting took place on the field behind the Ongar Castle site where,although not part of the Local Plan,the merits of that area were discussed.

I then explained that site R2 (Bowes Field) had historically been used as a sports field which included cricket and football..With vehicle access being provided from site R1, there was massive potential for changing rooms and parking to be provided which would cope with the present demand, not withstanding what it might be in the future.

The 4 Global report I understand was only available in draft form when the Local Plan was agreed by EFDC.This fact rules out the possibility that information provided about site R2 could have been included for consideration in the final document.

The settlements of Shelley and Chipping Ongar would be joined together with the development of sites R1 and R2,which substantiates even more, why site R2 could be providing sport facilities and public open space.

Site R1 although agricultural land, is not used as such, and is virtually a "Brownfield" site, suitable for development.

Site R2 is owned by the London Borough of Hackney and leased to a developer,this information was confirmed to me in 2014.This site has no viable access as a stand alone site. In 2001.EFDC refused an application for site access from the High Street.

The Local Plan (Appendix 6) states the Councils"s preference for access from the High Street,but as stated this, was refused back in 2001.There is also the fact that any High Street access will interfere with the trees that received preservation orders back in 2008

Also,regarding High Street access,the Council probably were not aware plans to upgrade the flow of traffic around the Four Wantz roundabout.Essex County Council"s highway contractors,Ringway

Jacobs, held a public consultation/exhibition on the 20th. July last year in connection with a £4 million pound scheme to provide filter lanes. The work is scheduled to be carried out this year. A consultant stated that the work was being done to combat present traffic problems and did not relate specifically to additional future traffic flows brought about by Local Plan proposals.

John R Reynolds