

Northern Parishes Meeting

17th March 2022

Notes

Loxwood Parish Council expressed their concerns that CDC are continuing to use their [Interim Position Statement for Housing](#) despite now having a 5.3-year housing supply figure (as of December 2021). Given that the housing supply figure is above 5 years, para 11d of the [National Planning Policy Framework](#) no longer applies – namely a presumption in favour of approval.

Loxwood's revised Neighbourhood Plan has been with CDC at the Reg 14 stage for over 1 year. CDC are not giving the Neighbourhood Plan any weight. Their Planning Consultant has considered CDC's current practice and use of its IPS and concluded that it is a balance as to which has stronger material consideration weighting – an interim position statement, or a made Neighbourhood Plan. Loxwood PC is of the view that it is their made Neighbourhood Plan, as the IPS has not been through public consultation.

Loxwood PC has written to Gillian Keegan MP to ask that this matter be brought to the attention of the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, the Rt Hon Michael Gove MP.

The meeting agreed that Loxwood PC will circulate any response and consider its position further once this matter has been considered by the Secretary of State.

Wisborough Green PC have not formed a view regarding the use of the IPS overruling Neighbourhood Plans. CDC have previously been supportive of their Plan, although this has drifted in recent times. The meeting discussed engaging in a higher-level conversation with CDC.

The meeting was advised of the current situation regarding Plaistow and Ifold's withdrawn Neighbourhood Plan.

The meeting discussed the Northern Parishes individually putting together a package of work to challenge CDC's housing numbers as presented in their letter dated 19 January 2022. These numbers /scenarios will be tested by CDC prior to going to public consultation. The meeting felt that if individual Parish Councils responded, CDC would have to consider the number of views. Therefore, each Parish will look at the sustainability of development e.g., electricity and water/sewage supply, schools, road infrastructure etc. It was suggested that the following document is referred to: 'Landscape and Capacity Study for whole district', as well as all the [supporting evidence for the Local Plan Review](#).