

# Extraordinary meeting of Glemsford Parish Council

## Minutes of meeting held on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> Nov 2017@ 7.15pm at Glemsford Village Hall

Present: Cllrs: Brown (chairman), Southgate, Plumb, Sewell, Bangs, Leopold and Stephens  
The clerk.  
27 members of the public.

It was explained that the meeting had been called due to a difference of opinions as to what the response to the Babergh and Midsuffolk Joint Local Plan should be. The draft response was read (*see below*) prior to the official beginning of the meeting.

Concerns were raised that this meeting was not legal and could be challenged by Councillors or public. It was explained that although this extraordinary meeting was not constitutional there was no alternative due to the response to the draft plan having to be submitted by Friday 10<sup>th</sup> Nov at 5pm.

Public questions were permitted.

### ***The original draft response:***

#### ***Glemsford Parish Council***

*Response to Babergh & Mid-Suffolk Joint Local Plan Consultation Document*

#### ***Spatial Distribution Options***

*We strongly favour Option BDH1 – county town focussed.*

*The Ipswich fringe area and Urban Areas & Market Towns offer the best opportunities for growth in employment. It makes sense to focus most development in those areas. They also have robust infrastructure already in place in terms of roads, transport and social facilities.*

*Large scale development in Core and Hinterland villages would require a very considerable and costly investment in infrastructure improvements.*

#### ***Housing Types and Affordable Housing***

*Glemsford requires more 2 bedroom affordable homes, small 3 bedroom homes for families with more than 1 child, all will require more than adequate parking facilities.*

#### ***Infrastructure***

*Further development in Glemsford will require considerable investment in infrastructure improvements.*

*Both Glemsford School and the Surgery are operating at capacity.*

*There will be a need to create local employment opportunities with existing employers, and possibly encouragement of new small businesses. This will not be easy to achieve. One of the two roads into the village,*

*Hobbs Lane/Park Lane, will have to be widened and improved to discourage over use and congestion of minor access routes including the extremely narrow in places existing Main Street.*

*Public transport will require dramatic improvement in frequency of service.*

*Increasing the capacity of the Sewage Works will be essential.*

### **Potential Land for Development**

*Three sites have been identified in Glemsford for possible development. Those Glemsford residents who have expressed an opinion are totally opposed to any of these sites being used for housing. A petition has been presented to the Parish Council to support this view.*

*However, we accept that there will be a need for more housing in the village and we regard Site SS0286, Land south of Kings Road, west of Park Lane, as the only viable option. The present estate at Kings Road already has three access points built into its design, it is adjacent to Park Lane/Hobbs Lane which, once improved, will allow traffic to flow without major impact on existing roads and it will have the smallest visual impact on the village approaches.*

*Neither of the other 2 options, SS0226 and SS0257 have any of these benefits.*

*SS0226, Land to the South East of George Lane and South of Flax Lane, will require extensive road improvements and will have the visual impact of extending the village beyond its present rural agricultural boundary.*

*SS0257, Land East of Brook Street and Chequers Lane, will have a negative impact on Listed Buildings and a Conservation Area. The visual impact on what is a Special Landscape Area will be huge and access to the site will drive traffic through an already congested part of the village.*

## **Parish Council meeting commenced at 7.50pm**

### **01.11 To discuss the Parish Council response to the proposed Babergh and Mid Suffolk Joint Local Plan**

Cllr Plumb proposed to amend the draft submission under paragraph 'potential land development'. To read as follows:

*If it can be proved that there is a need for more housing in the village and we regard Site SS0286, Kings Road, as the only viable option. There are already three access points built into its design, it is adjacent to Park Lane which, once improved, will allow traffic to flow without major impact on existing roads and it will have the smallest visual impact on the village approaches.*

***The motion was carried*** (in favour: Cllrs Plumb, Stephens, Leopold and Sewell).

The clerk is to submit the response on Friday morning.

Meeting finished at 8.30pm