

Statement for Extra Ordinary Meeting

Adoption of Local Plan and Impact

The Town Council has spent over five years monitoring the draft Thanet Local Plan and the processes undertaken, this is despite the Planning, Highways and Environment Committee being disbanded in June 2017 before being reintroduced last year.

A Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group was formed and has worked with residents who have skills, expertise and interest in drafting a strategy to try and influence any future developments proposed for the Town. The Steering Group has strived to seek engagement and support despite facing obstacles both internally and externally but persevered and has played a pivotal role in observing the evolution and scrutinizing the method implemented by the authorities.

The Town Council has sought advice from professional individuals, and advise that in order to call a Judicial Review you require, either a point of law or a flaw, discovered in the procedure, and used to question the decision to adopt the Thanet Local Plan.

If there is to be a challenge you need clear grounds and evidence to support your claim the decision is not sound and be able to demonstrate what is procedurally incorrect.

The cost for appointing a legal team to trawl through the documentation, spanning five years, is a very expensive exercise and the likelihood of overturning the decision would be diminutive/minimal.

This Town Council will nevertheless continue to work, with the residents and with all the means at its disposal, to protect the social and economic environment of the town.