



Local Government for Langton Green, Speldhurst, Ashurst and Old Groombridge

**Minutes of a Local Needs Housing Committee Meeting held in the Committee Room,
Langton Green Village Hall on Tuesday 29th November at 7.30pm**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Cllr Woodward (Chairman) Cllrs Mrs Hull, Mrs Soyke, Brown, Langridge, Milner and Cllr Mrs Jeffreys (ex-officio)

OFFICER PRESENT: Chris May, Clerk

1. **Declarations of Personal and Prejudicial Interest:** There were none
2. **Declarations of Lobbying:** All Cllrs said that they had been approached during the Consultation Event at some time by residents to discuss the subject. Cllrs Mrs Hull and Brown had also been spoken to by residents.
3. **Apologies for Absence:** There were none
4. **Minutes** of the meeting dated 6th September 2011, copies having previously been forwarded to all Members, were approved and signed as a correct record.
5. **Matters Arising and Correspondence:**
 - The Clerk confirmed that all emails received from residents concerning the Local Needs Housing (LNH) proposal had been circulated to all Councillors, TWBC and ERHA.
 - It was noted that ERHA were re-visiting the highways issue.
 - Cllr Woodward's proposal (Minutes 6th Sept No.10) regarding consideration of the factors on which to base a final recommendation was deferred.
 - Any decision on a referendum would be made by this committee which would then go forward as a recommendation to Full Council who would make the final decision.
 - A copy of all reports (when received) should go on our website for transparency to dispel any suspicion.
 - It was requested that there be ecological assurances rather than just a copy of the report
6. **Public Open Session:**

There were no members of the public present.
7. **Consideration of various letters proposed by Cllr Brown**

Cllr Brown referred to the minutes of 13th June 2011 (No.8) and said that the purpose of the letters was to clarify certain issues. He said that the Council had a responsibility to the public to be sure of the facts. He felt that questions should be asked even if they could not necessarily answer. Cllr Woodward had suggested some changes and Cllr Mrs Jeffreys further amendments. There was much discussion and it was agreed not to send a letter to Borough Cllr Ransley. The format of the letters was agreed and the Clerk would be sent the final copies for distribution. Copies are attached to the minutes for a record.

8. Items for Information:

There was further discussion regarding the amount of houses allocated to Speldhurst residents (unless there was no demand). A decision would be made at the next committee meeting but it was generally agreed that a 50% allocation would be made.

The meeting closed at 9.05pm

Chairman