

Councillor David Carroll

Councillor for Ridgeway West Ward

Buckinghamshire Council
The Gateway
Gatehouse Road
Aylesbury
HP19 8FF

David.carroll@buckinghamshire.gov.uk

www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk

Councillor Martin Tett Leader of the Council Buckinghamshire Council The Gateway Gatehouse Road Aylesbury HP19 8FF

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Dear Martin,

I am writing to inform you of the outcome of the recent call-in of the Cabinet decision on the Proposed residential development at the site of the former Buckinghamshire County Council Sports and Social Club land which was taken at Cabinet on 7th June 2022. The Call-in request form and the Call-in notice can be found at the following links:

https://buckinghamshire.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s44952/Call-in%20request.pdf https://buckinghamshire.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s44951/Call-in%20Request%20Notice.pdf

As you know, the Growth, Infrastructure and Housing Select Committee met at The Oculus yesterday to consider the call-in request which had been submitted by Cllr Anders Christensen and was supported by a further 22 members of the Council. The meeting was attended by a number of local residents and was also webcast.

The Committee heard a submission from Cllr Anders Christensen and Cllr Susan Morgan explaining their concerns about the Cabinet decision and their reasons for requesting a call-in. Committee Members were then able to ask questions. Cllr John Chilver, Cabinet Member for Accessible Housing and Resources, then responded to the key points that had been raised and presented his own explanation of what the Cabinet decision was aiming to achieve and his knowledge of the outcome of the pre-planning public consultation exercise. Committee Members were then able to ask questions to the Cabinet Member and also to Mr David Pearce, Capital Projects Performance Manager who had written the 7th June Cabinet report.

At the outset of the Select Committee's deliberations, I reminded members that the accepted grounds for the call-in were as follows:

'9.1 states that the results of a 'pre-planning consultation will be considered' before a decision is made. The result of that consultation was not included in the papers before cabinet and have yet to be published to either members or the pubic. Until the results of the pre-planning consultation are published I do not believe the decision to proceed with the development of the site can be considered safe.'

Therefore, Members focussed their discussion and deliberations on the pre-planning consultation. After inviting members comments and in light of a difference of views, I proposed a vote and the Select Committee agreed to uphold the call-in by a vote of 7-3 and refer the decision back to Cabinet for reconsideration.

The Select Committee recommends that all members of Cabinet and the public should have sight of the pre-planning public consultation report, in the interests of transparency. Whilst we heard that this report was referred to in discussions at Cabinet on 7th June, it was not included in the agenda pack, despite reference being made to it at both 8.1. and 9.1 of the Cabinet report.

Best wishes

Councillor David Carroll
Chairman, Growth, Infrastructure and Housing Select Committee