



Jennifer Smith
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Tracy Darke
Director
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Reply To: Neighbourhood Planning

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23 April 2019

Dear Jennifer

HANSLOPE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN – EXAMINATION

The Examiner to the Hanslope Neighbourhood Plan, John Slater has asked me to write to you, in response to the letter you emailed to him, dated 5th April 2019. That letter was unsolicited. He had not invited any comments or representations, in terms of the responses to his Initial Comments document. It totally undermines the openness and transparency of the examination process, if third parties seek to influence his judgement, on the matters before him, through private correspondence sent to him direct. Mr Slater has therefore requested that I respond to your letter on his behalf as it would not be appropriate for him to engage in correspondence with you direct.

Mr Slater is not persuaded that the issues surrounding this neighbourhood plan are required to be the subject of a public hearing and that parties have had an ample opportunity to make their submissions through the Regulation 16 process. He will be dealing with the matter on the basis of the written material alone. As you will be aware, the decision to call a public hearing is entirely at the Examiner's discretion. Parties should not be seeking to influence that decision.

Turning now to the other matters in your letter, he has considered he has two options. In view that this letter was unsolicited, and has not been in the public domain, he could choose to ignore its comments and proceed on the basis of the submitted material and the responses to the comments he had specifically invited. Alternatively he could share the letter with the Parish Council and invite their comments, as well as asking that the letter be put into the public domain via this Council's and Parish Council's respective websites.

He has decided to adopt the latter approach and by copying this letter to the Parish Council, Mr Slater is inviting Hanslope Parish Council to submit any observations on the letter within the next 14 days. The Parish Council's response will be placed on the websites but Mr Slater is clear that he is not wishing to see a counter response. Upon receipt of any comments the Parish Council makes, the Examiner will come to his own conclusions including having regard to your letter and the Parish Council's response, alongside all other matters and material submitted, when he prepares his report.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "D. J. Blandamer". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

David Blandamer
Neighbourhood Planning

cc. Hanslope Parish Council