

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of Simon Newland
Sent: 01 November 2013 11:01
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FOPI - FW: Harpenden Parents Group support for Site F

Re FOI request.

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 11 October 2013 11:55
To: Simon Newland; Pauline Davis
Subject: RE: Harpenden Parents Group support for Site F

Simon,

In relation to Harpenden this seems a sensible approach. You should be aware that at the members meeting on Monday we will be saying that a lot of the future dates around funding, town planning and CPO are not known at this time. The reason for this is that the lack of a Local Plan means that dates regarding town planning are uncertain. This may not be a palatable position as far as parents are concerned.

In relation to SW Herts the EiP gets underway next week and Education is being considered On Thursday 17th. I will know more following the examination.

Thanks

[REDACTED]
Senior Planning Officer

Hertfordshire County Council
Children's Services, School Planning Team
Room 137, County Hall
Pegs Lane
Hertford
01992 [REDACTED]
ext [REDACTED]

From: Simon Newland
Sent: 11 October 2013 10:24
To: [REDACTED]; Pauline Davis
Subject: RE: Harpenden Parents Group support for Site F

I think I will set out a line on this, in the form of a briefing note to [REDACTED] for the next EMB. Then send it

on to Terry after he has seen it.

As I see it, the key points are these:

1. There is a round of bidding underway for free School provision opening September 2015. Ideally, we would not want to open a school then, but would plan to open in on its completion. However, there is no prospect of being able to run a CPO for the site without funding, and we cannot realistically expect any other form of external funding or for it to be funded by HCC. So it is worthwhile investing the effort in a bid.
2. If the bid fails, then we will pursue whatever route is then open for providing new Free Schools. It may be that there would be a further round of Free School bids. It may be that there is a further round of TBN. The government may introduce a new programme. None of these are at all certain. However, we suppose that there will eventually be some route by which new secondary schools might in theory be provided.
3. We do not have a plan for how the school might open on a temporary basis. this is a critical problem, and may prove to be insoluble. One option would be to open on one of the existing school sites, but that depends on the consent of that school -- one of the reasons why they are key partners. I expect that all of them would be reluctant to do this. It is an idea we raised in SW Herts with Clement Danes, and got a cool response.

I will also do an update on the meetings and Free School company work -- [REDACTED] anything to add on the LP process round baldwins lane?

Simon Newland

Assistant Director (Education Access & Provision)

Children's Services

[REDACTED] (01992 [REDACTED], ext. [REDACTED])

01992 [REDACTED] - Fax

Postal Point - CHO126

Hertfordshire County Council, County Hall, Pegs Lane, Herford, SG13 8DF

'Protect our environment - only print this email if absolutely necessary'

Hertfordshire - County of Opportunity

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 10 October 2013 17:51

To: Simon Newland

Subject: FW: Harpenden Parents Group support for Site F

FYI - Not quite sure how to answer this one.

[REDACTED]
Senior Planning Officer

Hertfordshire County Council
Children's Services, School Planning Team
Room 137, County Hall
Pegs Lane
Hertford
01992 [REDACTED]
ext [REDACTED]

From: Teresa Heritage
Sent: 10 October 2013 17:35
To: Pauline Davis; [REDACTED]
Cc: Chris Hayward
Subject: FW: Harpenden Parents Group support for Site F

Dear both
Please see this email from HPG. Nothing new, but giving support.

Naturally they are asking about the transition years. I have articulated what John Harris told David, Maxine and I met with him and discussed the process (hopefully the Dof E accept the bid, then work with the consortium to find temporary accommodation) but what happens if the bid is rejected next year – where does that leave us? Are you thinking about this scenario? They will ask!

Regards
Terry

County Councillor Teresa Heritage
Cabinet Member for Public Health and Localism
County Councillor for Harpenden South West
District Councillor for Harpenden South
Mobile: 07818 580081

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 09 October 2013 22:08
To: Teresa Heritage; David Williams; Maxine Crawley
Subject: Harpenden Parents Group support for Site F

Dear Teresa, David and Maxine

I wanted to get in touch with you to pass on the current thoughts of Harpenden Parents Group on the proposed Secondary School Site on Common Lane.

As you know, we've been requesting Herts CC to come forward with the plans to deal with the future Secondary school deficit and as you'll probably have seen in the local press we welcome the announcement that HCC will buy a site and it is our group's collective view that the proposed site F is the most viable of all the considered sites and that this site meets one of the key aims of our group which is for new school places to be close to the areas of most demand.

[REDACTED]

The group is also interested in any other practical ways we can support the new school. I heard David state on Sunday at the All Saints Meeting that HCC is still looking for a sponsor for the new school although there is still dialogue with the 3 current schools on this issue. It is absolutely imperative for HPG that whoever sponsors the school, that the school is an 'all-inclusive' 'community' school such that no parent would have a reason for not wanting their child to attend. In that regard, please let me know where you feel HPG can provide assistance. As you hopefully know, [REDACTED] is organising a meeting next week (on 15th) with us and it would be good to talk through some of the options at that meeting.

You may also be interested to know HPG held its AGM last night. There was much discussion about the secondary school plan and there are a few points which I'd like to highlight.

One point which came out relates to what Herts CC is planning on doing to deal with the shortfall in places over the next 3 years. I have seen Teresa's update on a possible temporary expansion from 2015 (with caveats) and relayed this to the group (with the caveats attached). It is welcome that there are some plans being worked on to deal with this issue. However, there is a real concern among parents that this solution will not be adequate – that their children will be spending 1 or 2 years in a pre-fab school with inadequate facilities at a significant time in their lives (these fears may or may not be with foundation). I think it is very important therefore that you can articulate to all parents in the affected year groups some more detail of what the proposal will look like – where the possible locations are for the temporary classes, what the facilities would be like etc. I realise that the proposals may not yet be fully worked through but the thought of a possible temporary solution is tempered by a real concern that the temporary solution will mean 2 years of unsatisfactory schooling for affected children. I'd happily pass on to our group any more information you can provide here.

Best regards

[REDACTED]

