

Sushila Dhall – Campaign to protect Port Meadow – Address to Council

Officer comments

West Area Planning Committee (WAPC) mandate

Council asked the Head of City Development (HoCD) to bring forward as soon as possible in the New Year, a report to WAPC, setting out any general lessons that need to be learned from the handling of this application and an assessment of the scope for further measures that are legally possible and that would contribute in the long and the short term to mitigate the impact on the views looking south from Port Meadow.

The HoCD submitted a report to the 7 February 2013 meeting of WAPC. The meeting resolved to

- (1) instruct the HoCD to negotiate with the University of Oxford in order to ameliorate the size and impact of the development
- (2) instruct the HoCD to report back to on the progress of those negotiations (by the April meeting at the latest;
- (3) establish a working party to recommend to the Council any changes to policies or procedure which the process of handling and determination of the application (including the pre-application and consultation stages) might suggest would be desirable

(1) and (2) are intrinsic to assessing the scope for further measures as referred to in the resolution of Council

(3) is intrinsic to establishing general lessons to be learned as referred to in the resolution of Council

Officers are therefore content that WAPC did not exceeded the scope of its authority

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