

To: City Executive Board

Date: 30th June 2010

Item No: 11

Report of: Head of City Development

Title of Report: Warnford Meadow

Summary and Recommendations

Purpose of report: To instruct officers to remove Warnford Meadow as a development site from all future planning documents, following a Council motion on 19th April 2010.

Key decision: No

Executive lead member: Councillor Ed Turner

Report approved by:

Executive Board Member: Councillor Turner

Legal: Emma Griffiths

Finance: Gillian Chandler

Head of City Development: Michael Crofton Briggs

Policy Framework: This relates to the Local Development Scheme and the Corporate Plan Priority to Improve the Local Environment, Economy and Quality of Life.

Recommendation(s): Members of the City Executive Board are asked to instruct Officers to remove Warnford Meadow as a development site from all future planning documents and framework.

Background

1. The following Motion was agreed at Council on 19th April 2010:

“Council notes the decision of Justice Wakeman to uphold the decision to register Warnford Meadow as a Town Green. Council therefore invites the Executive to instruct Officers to remove Warnford Meadow as a development site from all future planning documents and frameworks.”

Oxford Local Plan

2. The current planning policy for the Warnford Meadow is set out in the Oxford Local Plan as Policy DS 87 which was adopted in November 2005. This policy would permit up to half of the total area of the Meadow to be developed for a range of hospital and Brookes University uses. However the site has now been registered by the County Council as a Town Green, which prevents such development taking place.

Sites and Policies Development Plan Document

3. Officers are currently preparing this planning document that, once adopted, will replace the Development Sites chapter (and other sections) of the Oxford Local Plan. The programme is to ask the City Executive Board at its meeting on 8th December 2010 to agree that there should be public consultation on an Options Draft Version of the Sites and Policies Development Plan Document (DPD).
4. In view of the Town Green decision officers had already been clear that they would not be suggesting that Warnford Meadow would be included as a potential development site in this options version of the emerging DPD. Therefore there is no reason to ask CEB to resist this motion.

Conclusion

5. The City Executive Board can instruct officers to remove Warnford Meadow as a development site from all future planning documents and frameworks

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