

16 November 2016 – Cabinet Meeting Cllr John Perry deputation

Being a member of the Development Management Committee, the DMC, I must ask that those here do not construe my deputation as either supporting or opposing the local plan, or any site within the plan, and specifically as it applies to Hayling Island.

When speaking I will refer to the cabinet as “you” and that is in your capacity as a councillor, a cabinet member and as a representative of your Conservative Government. You have joint and several collective responsibility and accountability.

I consider all these roles as mutually inclusive and not mutually exclusive.

But I have a dilemma:

On the one hand

Your policies and manifesto objectives are to pursue a rapid increase in immigration and hence population accompanied by an aggressive housebuilding programme of at least 250 thousand homes per annum to achieve your economic growth objectives.

You also determined the Objectively Assessed Housing Need procedure and criteria, and hence the 11,250 extra homes you need for Havant.

You went out and encouraged and canvassed residents to vote for you and your policies.

Consequently, the General Election result gave you a very clear and decisive mandate to meet and exceed those Country and Borough house building targets.

It follows that just as your councillors supported your manifesto and voted for it, I would expect them to be loyal and “walk the talk”, and support your plan as it would be disingenuous at best for them to cherry pick policies as that destroys your local-central government relationship.

I believe in democracy, the residents voted for you and your plan and your houses, so should I?

On the other hand

I do not believe your immigration induced population growth targets requiring 100 thousand extra homes per annum (ref Grant Shapps) is either wanted or needed.

Development is required to be in accordance with your NPPF, I have studied it, and it is here!

In the Ministerial forward and I quote “ “ and paragraph 9 states “ “ with the remaining paragraph elaborating.

However, you have failed to ensure an adequate 5 year land supply for houses and consequently, planning decisions are now based on your NPPF and not our local plan. This joint failure by the Portfolio holder and Cabinet is unforgivable.

Currently, I do not accept the development proposals for Hayling Island are sustainable against the definitions within your NPPF. We must have a complete infrastructure review for the Island.

At a minimum traffic on the A3023 must be reassessed and a safe and separate cycle path provided running adjacent to it.

Medical facilities must be reassessed and more houses can only mean Southern Water pumping even more raw sewage into Langstone Harbour – this is unacceptable even now.

Finally, with Havant average salaries being £25 thousand per annum, we need 360 **affordable homes** per annum for our residents wanting to get on the housing ladder, and not the 0.5 million pound plus houses as in Bedhampton.

My dilemma is, do I support you, as you have a clear mandate from residents to get these houses built or do I oppose the Plan as the plan appears not to be NPPF compliant and against current resident opinion.