

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF RINGWOOD TOWN COUNCIL

Held on Wednesday 27th April 2022 at 7.00pm at Ringwood Gateway, The Furlong, Ringwood.

PRESENT: Cllr Tony Ring, Town Mayor
Cllr Philip Day, Deputy Mayor
Cllr Andy Briers
Cllr Gareth Deboos
Cllr Rae Frederick
Cllr John Haywood
Cllr Jeremy Heron
Cllr Gloria O'Reilly
Cllr Steve Rippon-Swaine
Cllr Derek Scott

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr Chris Wilkins, Town Clerk
Mrs Jo Hurd, Deputy Town Clerk
Cllr Michael Thierry, Hampshire County Councillor
Kate Little, Senior Planning Manager, Crest Nicholson

ABSENT: Cllr Hilary Edge
Cllr Peter Kelleher
Cllr Darren Loose
Cllr Glenys Turner

C/6768 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were two members of public in attendance. One asked the Council to give further consideration to the recently installed "no parking" signs on the Bickerley, as he understood from a traffic warden that these could not be enforced. It was noted that this subject would be included on the agenda for the Recreation, Leisure & Open Spaces Committee meeting on 4th May 2022.

C/6769 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apoloiges for absence had been received from Cllrs Kelleher, Loose and Turner.

C/6770 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none declared at this time.

For the benefit of Kate Little, Senior Planning Manager for Crest Nicholson (the applicant), agenda item 7 was taken next.

C/6771 LAND AT MOORTOWN LANE 21/11723

Members considered a recommendation from the Planning, Town and Environment Committee to approve the draft response to planning application 21/11723 for submission to NFDC (*Report A*) (*P/5992 refers*).

Cllr Day thanked all those who had been involved in the preparation of the draft response. He commented on three developments since the Committee meeting on 13th April when the draft response (*Annex A*) had been agreed.

- i) A paragraph had been added to the “Flooding, Drainage, Water Supply and Foul Water” section (page 8) to take account of residents’ concerns about the reduction in water pressure in the Crow area.
- ii) Agents acting for owners of land south of Moortown Lane had submitted an objection to NFDC, stating that this landowner remained receptive to a more comprehensive form of development, which might better align with the Local Plan and the community’s aspirations.
- iii) As offered at the Committee meeting on 13th April, Crest Nicholson had provided a formal response to the Council’s draft response. However, this had not been received in time to circulate to Members prior to this meeting. He suggested that the response be circulated to Members and further comments made at the next Committee meeting, if appropriate.

Kate Little apologised for the lateness of the response. She did not expect the content to change the Council’s response but sought to clarify some issues and provide further information on some of the matters raised. She said that they had agreed with NFDC an extension of time for determination of the application until 29th June. Comments from Hampshire Highways had been added to the NFDC portal today, but were still awaited in respect of Rights of Way, Education, Conservation and Minerals. They would be undertaking a review of all comments submitted and would revise plans accordingly. She added that it was refreshing to work with a Town Council that was so knowledgeable and engaged in the process.

Members agreed that the draft response should be submitted unchanged, and that the Council should reserve the right to comment further on receipt of additional information, including the responses referred to above.

RESOLVED: That the objection to planning application 21/11723 for development of land at Moortown Lane be submitted to NFDC (*Annex A*), and the Council reserve the right to comment further if appropriate.

ACTION J Hurd

**C/6772
POLICE REPORT**

Inspector Ord had apologised that neither he nor a member of his team was able to attend this meeting. A written report had been received from Sergeant Steve Auton shortly before the meeting and would be circulated to all Members.

Members expressed their disappointment at the Police non-attendance.

**C/6773
MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

C/6767 – The Town Clerk reported that he was expecting to attend the auction on 19th May, when land at Forestside Gardens would be offered for sale. However, he advised Members that he had not yet had sight of the legal pack with details of the overage clause and it was

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important to ensure the terms would not put the Council at financial risk. Members were comfortable that the Town Clerk had a level of discretion in this regard.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on 30th March 2022 be approved and signed as a correct record.

C/6774

RECREATION, LEISURE AND OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE

Cllr Briers presented the minutes of the Recreation, Leisure and Open Spaces Committee meeting held on 6th April 2022.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Recreation, Leisure and Open Spaces Committee meeting held on 6th April 2022 be received.

C/6775

PLANNING, TOWN AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Cllr Day presented the minutes of the Planning, Town and Environment Committee meetings held on 1st and 13th April 2022.

He made the following comments:

P/5984 – It was regrettable that the allotments at Crow Arch Lane had not yet been handed over to the Council and that new tenants will have missed this year's planting season. It was expected that revised plans for application 21/10042 for land north of Hightown Road would be considered in June.

P/5985 – Weekly updates were now being issued by National Highways regarding the piling works on the A31. Temporary traffic management would be put in place to facilitate access to site for larger deliveries. Discussions were ongoing regarding fencing as a noise barrier on the Church/A31 boundary.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Planning, Town and Environment Committee meetings held on 1st and 13th April 2022 be received, with the exception of P/5992, which was discussed earlier at the meeting.

C/6776

POLICY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

Cllr Heron presented the minutes of the Policy and Finance Committee meeting held on 22nd April 2022.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Policy and Finance Committee meeting held on 22nd April 2022 be received.

C/6777

GRANT AID AWARDS

It was noted that Grant Aid of £2,000 had been awarded to Poulner Junior School to help fund the development of an outdoor learning area.

The Town Clerk reported that it was intended to resume the practice of presenting Grant Aid cheques at Council meetings.

RESOLVED: That this information be noted.



C/6778

SPORTS DEVELOPMENT PROJECT AT LONG LANE

The Town Clerk reported that the Football Foundation grant panel had approved the grant, but main Board approval was required. It was hoped that confirmation of the grant would be received within the next few weeks. He added that NFDC had agreed to transfer developers' contributions to the Town Council shortly and these funds would be placed with CCLA until required. Suitable budget codes would be set up and a monthly financial report circulated to all Members. Treatment of VAT was being considered further and clarification sought on confirmation of remaining funding.

Cllr Day declared a pecuniary interest as his firm had been instructed to assist with leases. He would not take part in any discussion regarding payment of fees, but this did not exclude him from discussions concerning the project in general.

RESOLVED: That the verbal report be noted.

C/6779

COMMUNICATIONS TO BE RECEIVED

The Town Mayor reported:

- i) He had attended a Business Liaison meeting with National Highways, and noted that extended hours had been agreed for piling works.
- ii) Love Ukraine had made good progress and several guests had now arrived in the town.
- iii) Hightown Speedwatch had moved to Parsonage Barn Lane and there was an increased number of vehicles exceeding the speed limit.
- iv) The recent Community Litter Pick had been very successful, with less litter to collect than at previous events.
- v) Ringwood Society was updating its Town Trail – a leaflet would be printed to encourage visitors to see more of the town.
- vi) The official unveiling of the Commemorative Community Tree at Greyfriars would take place on 3rd June.

C/6780

REPORTS FROM TOWN COUNCILLORS

Cllr Day had attended a site visit to the top of the church tower to discuss the lighting of the beacon event planned for 2nd June; scaffolding would be required to clamp the beacon in to place.

Cllr Frederick reported on the recent Gorley Road Speedwatch - 212 vehicle speeds had been checked with 54 exceeding speed, 19 of which were above 35mph and the highest speed being 44mph. This Speedwatch was now taking place weekly. She hoped that lessons would be learnt by NFDC on the recent planning issues identified at 110 Christchurch Road.

C/6781

REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

County Councillor Thierry presented a written report (*Annex B*). It was noted that the number of allocated slots had been increased at the Somerley Household Waste Recycling Centre, to allow for an increase in demand during the growing season.

District Councillor Heron reported that Reverend Matthew Trick would be leaving Ringwood. He commented on the site at 110 Christchurch Road, which was being developed by NFDC



as temporary accommodation and would provide a very important facility for local people. He said it was disappointing that some changes to the build had been made contrary to policy but this had now been addressed and rectified. NFDC had started making payments of the £150 Council Tax rebate for households in bands A to D. For those paying by Direct Debit, the rebate would be received direct to their bank account. He advised anyone with concerns to visit Ringwood Gateway or to contact a local District Councillor. He also warned against scams and said that NFDC would not phone or ask for bank details.

Cllr Rippon-Swaine reported on ongoing work on the Waste Strategy, the introduction of S106 monitoring charges designed to improve the service, and updating of the local enforcement plan. He also referred to the Elections Bill, which would bring about changes for the 2023 elections, including the requirement for photographic ID and changes to postal and proxy voting.

Cllr Deboos asked if a more local solution could be looked at for treatment of food waste. It was noted that HCC was responsible for processing waste and Cllr Thierry suggested that Members might benefit from a site visit to a Material Recovery Facility to better understand how recyclable waste is dealt with.

**C/6782
FORTHCOMING MEETINGS**

Recreation, Leisure & Open Spaces	7.00pm	Wednesday 4 th May 2022
Planning, Town & Environment	10.00am	Wednesday 6 th May 2022
Annual Town Assembly	7.00pm	Wednesday 11 th May 2022
Policy & Finance	7.00pm	Wednesday 18 th May 2022
Annual Council meeting	7.00pm	Wednesday 25 th May 2022

There being no further business, the Town Mayor closed the meeting at 8.31pm.

APPROVED
25th May 2022

TOWN MAYOR

**CREST NICHOLSON “HYBRID” PLANNING APPLICATION
IN RESPECT OF LAND OFF MOORTOWN LANE, RINGWOOD**

(DRAFT) RINGWOOD TOWN COUNCIL RESPONSE V.3

Summary

This is Ringwood Town Council’s response to planning application 21/11723

The application for outline planning consent concerns part only of Strategic Site 13 as identified in New Forest District Council’s Adopted Local Plan Part 1 and the detailed planning consent concerns part only of the site included within the area encompassed by the outline application.

In this response, RTC address a number of matters of “detail” but that we have chosen to do so should not detract from its fundamental objection to the current proposals.

Introduction

During the process of adoption of the Local Plan Part 1, RTC made both written and oral representations to the Public Inquiry with regard to what was originally known as “Site P” but is now referred to as “Strategic Site 13”.

In very brief summary, RTC was opposed to the removal of Site 13 from the Green Belt and concerned as to the extent of the proposed development and matters relating to infrastructure.

Nevertheless, the site was included within the housing allocation on the basis it could provide at least 480 dwellings, employment land of about 2 hectares, the provision of land for a minimum of 15 full size allotment plots and (south of Moortown Lane in the Green Belt) the provision of natural recreational greenspace and public open space (including outdoor sports facilities) and 2 hectares of land to be reserved for a primary school.

It should be noted that the current applicant neither owns nor has any control over parts of “Site 13” and this is highly relevant in that it means that the applicant is simply not in a position to deliver a number of strategic/policy objectives of the Local Plan insofar as it relates to this site. Further detail as to the relevant issues are dealt with below.

The mere fact that the land the subject of the applications is included as a strategic site within the adopted Local Plan does not mean that any planning consent should be automatically granted (even in outline) – the applicant needs to demonstrate that its proposals include appropriate infrastructure and in the view of RTC, the current application manifestly fails in that regard.

Further, the proposals either entirely or inadequately fail to address a series of other matters of concerns which are outlined below.

“Caveats”

At the time of preparing this response, formal responses from a number of consultees were awaited, including in particular from (but not limited) to the Highway and Education authorities. RTC must reserve its right to comment further in the light of further responses from other statutory consultees (see also further below).

Issues

In this section, RTC simply sets out the matters of concern – more detailed comments follow in the sections below and the appendices.

- Principle of Development
- Housing Mix and Type
- Design Considerations – Site layout
- Transport (including walking and cycling strategies) – please note that this issue is fundamental.
- Nature Conservation and Ecology
- Public Open Spaces
- Flooding, Drainage, Water Supply and Foul Water
- Residential Amenity
- Sustainability
- Gravel extraction

Principle of Development

Whilst the Local Plan identified the land included within the application as appropriate for housing (and employment) development, this was on the basis that appropriate infrastructure be included in any proposal.

The application fails to comply with this policy requirement on a number of matters:

No community facility is proposed within the site and no proposal has been made regarding any “off-site” provision. RTC is not in a position to suggest any “off-site” provision and looks to the applicant to make appropriate proposals.

The proposal does not include any provision for a primary school (see further below regarding transport in particular).

RTC does not consider it appropriate that any land currently used for formal recreational activity should be re-designated as a school. If (and the Education Authority’s response is awaited) it is necessary or appropriate to designate land for the construction of a Primary school, it is the view of RTC that this must be provided within the site in the applicant’s ownership, excluding any land that is currently used as formal recreational space (i.e. the football pitches south of Moortown Lane).

The application also fails to take into account that Ringwood currently does not meet national criteria regarding formal recreational space. The proposal as it stands would reduce the number of football pitches currently available and makes no provision for either replacing that same nor increasing the provision as would be required should this proposed development be approved.

The proposal taken as a whole does not provide sufficient informal green space to meet policy requirements and its design (see further below) is also problematic.

Housing Mix and Types

It is noted that the outline scheme provides 50% affordable housing but the detailed planning application does not. This is not acceptable.

Furthermore, the mix of housing and types proposed is contrary to NFDC policy;

Housing Mix – Application Planning Statement section 6.75 correctly reproduces the NFDC Local Plan (2020) Policy HOU1 for the required mix of housing sizes, for each of the sectors “Affordable Housing to Rent”, “Affordable Housing to buy” and “Market Housing”.

However, the presentation made does not achieve these proportions. Para 6.75 lists overall proportions but without reference to different housing sectors, and moreover, are listed as “indicative” - hardly a commitment!

Moreover, the open market housing mix only proposes 20% of 1-2 bedroom sizes, compared with Policy HOU1 which requires 30-40%. This failure to match the requirement would mean that, of the 168 dwellings proposed in phase 1, there would be a shortage of some 25 dwellings likely to be more affordable to people - particularly those with Ringwood connections - to start a home. There is very little in this application that benefits the well documented housing needs of our local community, and the diminution in this developers plans for fewer smaller, less expensive housing is unacceptable.

2. Housing Types. Although the proportion of subsidised Affordable Housing in the proposal of 47% is nearer the Policy requirement of 50%, the recently commissioned Ringwood Housing Needs Assessment (attached) suggests the split of types should be 50% Affordable to Rent/50% Affordable to Buy, rather than Policy guidance of 70%/30%. This Needs Assessment summarises the position as follows:-

“Accordingly, within the Affordable Housing that comes forward in future we have recommended a split of 50% routes to home ownership and 50% Affordable Housing for rent. Within the 50% affordable ownership, there could also be a split of 25% First Homes, 20% Shared Ownership and 5% Rent to Buy. Importantly, this split within the affordable home ownership is compliant within current government guidelines, such as First Homes and Rent to Buy. This recommendation should be interpreted flexibly as there is an argument for a higher weighting on affordable rented products due to uncertainty about future rates of turnover, the need to meet a share of the District’s needs, and the fact that much affordable home ownership is only affordable to above average earners in Ringwood.”

We recommend this proposed 50/50 mix of Affordable tenures as being more suitable for the subsidised housing sector on this SS13 site.

Regard should also be had to the work undertaken by RTC’s Neighbourhood Planning Teams regarding housing need in Ringwood (Appendix A). In summary, the application is unacceptable because it does not:

Provide sufficient open market housing for one and two bedroom apartments and flats (Indeed, there appear to be no proposals for such housing within the detailed application);

Provide for larger affordable housing such as 4 bedroom houses;

RTC would in any event ask for a s.106 Agreement to ensure that all manner of affordable housing is provided before open market housing is offered for sale/occupied.

Design Considerations – Site layout

RTC have significant reservations about the design (particularly in relation to the detailed application).

The detailed application seems to us to be very inward looking and quite inappropriate for a development on the fringes of the Town, bordering as it does to Green Belt land and in very close proximity to the National Park – there would be no (or very limited) views from within the development to the open areas.

The density of proposed housing in the detailed application (40 per hectare) is significantly greater than what has been approved (and now built) at Beaumont Park (Linden Homes at 32-33) and the proposed development at the “Taylor Wimpey” site (also referred to as “Hightown”, “Nouale Lane” and strategic site 14) at 35 per hectare.

Further, the detailed application provides little (if any) opportunity for soft landscaping and one is left with the impression that the “side streets” will probably be obstructed by parked cars (see also further below under “sustainability”).

There is at present a large tree and copse in the middle of the site which is a nesting site for a pair of breeding buzzards. It is understood that that this tree would be felled which would be regrettable to say the least – we suggest that a TPO be made to prevent this.

In the view of RTC, the proposals do not adequately provide for preservations of existing hedgerows nor the provision of additional tree and other planting.

The “green spaces” are remote from the proposed housing and few if any are incorporated within the detailed application and there is what might be described as a “hard edge” around the housing site with no “soft transition” to the open areas. This is particularly the case along the western boundary – see further below regarding the water main and overhead electric power lines.

Further, the proposals do not take into account the impact of the proposed development on the National Park, particularly but not limited to light pollution.

Under the NNPF, a proposal that is not well designed should be refused consent. An appropriate tool should be used to assess how good the design is.

In this context, RTC make reference to a “Building for a Healthy Life” (“BfHL”) assessment undertaken by one of the teams involved in drafting a Neighbourhood Plan for Ringwood which indicated the proposed development is not well designed. A copy of the assessment is at Appendix B. Noting that use of appropriate tools like BfHL is required by the NPPF [133], we would be interested to know which ones are being used by NFDC to assess Ringwood’s allocated sites.

Transport

The Local Plan (and earlier incarnations) envisaged a route from the A31 (west bound), through what is now the “Taylor Wimpey/Nouale Lane” site, then onto Crow Lane and then through this site to Christchurch Road, either via Moortown Lane or, more importantly through the Forest Park (or as we know it the “Wellworthy site”).

The applicants are simply not in a position to deliver the policy objectives because no application has come forward from Hampshire County Council regarding the plot of land in the North West corner of site 13 and the access onto Crow Lane depends on the ownership of land that is also outside the applicant’s control (and would most probably require the demolition of one or more of the properties along Crow Lane itself).

It follows that the applications must be considered on basis that the sole access into and from the site will be from Moortown Lane. This alone does not achieve the policy objectives of the Local Plan.

Whilst this response has been prepared without sight of a response from HCC Highways, RTC comment as follows:

The proposal does not meet the policy objective of a link from the A31 to Christchurch Road nor does it achieve a sustainable cycling and walking strategy.

The traffic assessment is based on surveys that are out of date, having been conducted either during lockdowns or at times when significant numbers were working from home.

The proposals for the junction between Moortown Lane and Christchurch Road and along the western end of Moortown Lane are unsatisfactory. There is simply not enough room to allow for a footpath and 2/3 lanes of traffic without encroaching onto privately owned land. Further, the houses on either side of Moortown Lane at this point (particularly that on the northern side) occupy elevated positions and it would be necessary to provide some form of retaining wall that would dominate the street scene in what is at present an entry point into the countryside. Such a construction would be incongruous and unsightly.

The applicant has acknowledged that the development will have consequential effects on the route into Ringwood Town centre and to the A31 and suggests that three of the four roundabouts could be improved to ease traffic flow and congestion. However, no details have been provided and the Town Council is aware that previous investigations by the Highway authority have demonstrated that there is no practical scope to improve the three roundabouts at the junction with Castleman Way, at the War Memorial and the main town roundabout junction with Southampton Road.

The applicants also propose a pedestrian crossing point at the Moortown junction, across Christchurch Road. It is ludicrous to think that pedestrians will cross the road at that point simply to avoid walking across the forecourt of the Texaco filling station; further, the footpaths along Christchurch Road are not continuous and the one footpath that passes opposite the brewery site is very narrow with no scope to be widened.

The transport assessment also assumes that the majority of school children living in the development would walk or cycle to school. Unless the applicants can deliver a walking/cycling route across Crow Arch Lane and into and across the Beaumont Park estate (Linden Homes) (over and onto land that is not within their ownership), the only access will be via Moortown Lane. Elsewhere, it is proposed that primary and junior school children would be educated at Poulner schools (notwithstanding that this site currently falls outside the catchment area!) – a distance of over 2 miles away, on the other side of the A31. It is frankly ludicrous to suggest that parents will do anything other than drive their children to school (there are no buses). Not only will that significantly increase traffic movements at dropping off and picking up times but it will also exacerbate an already serious issue of parking around the Poulner Schools.

Nature Conservation and Ecology

The proposed ANRG does not meet minimum policy requirements and does not accord with the relevant SPD in terms of functionality as there is a road crossing through the middle of it.

Whilst it is conceded that the scheme proposes a net gain in bio diversity (largely because the land is currently high quality arable land), it is of concern that the mature trees in the middle of the site is to be felled and that elements of hedgerow will be lost. Further, deer are regularly seen to be grazing on the land and will be displaced.

The site is just over 100m from the Avon Valley SSSI and there is extensive evidence that the gardens of the houses in-between are permeable to wildlife. The site layout would close this corridor and be against consultee advice from Wessex Water (due to water pipes) and the presence of overhead electricity cables, both of which require access for maintenance. More information on this and concerns about the BNG and phosphate calculations used by the applicant is contained in Appendix C.

The site layout with its streets effectively lined with housing provides little or no opportunity for landscaping and planting within the built area. If each property has a soak-away in its rear garden as proposed, this too would limit the opportunities that future residents might have for tree planting on their properties.

There is also serious concern regarding a lack of any detailed phosphate mitigation – NFDC does not have its own scheme and the applicants have provided no detail of what mitigation they might be able to achieve (nor where).

Public Open Spaces

RTC questions whether the scheme provides sufficient informal space but is also extremely concerned that the scheme relies on utilisation of existing formal recreational space. By national standards, Ringwood is already deficient in terms of formal recreational space and that will remain the case even after the proposed redevelopment of the Football club.

Far from providing additional formal space, the scheme envisages the loss of two existing playing pitches. It is submitted that the applicant should provide both additional formal and informal recreation space within the land it owns/controls north of Moortown Lane and does not rely on any of the land to the south of the lane.

Flooding, Drainage, Water Supply and Foul Water

The scheme is deficient in that it suggests that each property should have its own soak away in rear gardens – this would severely limit the opportunity to plant trees in rear gardens.

No swells or SUDS are proposed and surface water from the roads is to be held in crates. This proposal is a lost opportunity to increase bio-diversity by the creation of ponds or small lakes.

The applicant also appears to be unaware that existing field drains flow through the listed building known as Moortown House – the existing flow has historically caused flooding in the formal garden of that property and surface water from roads finding its way into that drain for example is likely to be contaminated with oil, diesel and petrol.

Local residents have also raised concerns about water pressure in the existing mains serving other properties in the locality. No information has been provided regarding the provision of water supplies to the proposed development nor has any account apparently been taken of the effect that may have on existing properties, including those within Beaumont Park and along Crow Lane in particular.

No detail has been provided as to how the foul sewers from the site would connect to the existing foul sewer in Christchurch Road and RTC question whether that sewer has the capacity to cope with the additional demand this development would cause.

RTC also understands that the sewerage treatment plant in Hampshire Hatches is already at capacity (such that from time to time, untreated waste is discharged into the river Avon) and questions whether it is physically possible to increase capacity.

Another matter of concern is that some years ago, a flood relief drain was constructed in an attempt to alleviate the flooding that regularly occurs along Crow Lane. Whilst this drain has not yet been commissioned (recent investigations have been undertaken with a view to bringing it into operation), RTC question how it might be impacted by the proposed development.

Residential Amenity

RTC's principal concern here is the impact on existing residents along the western boundary of the site. Many of those properties lie significantly below the ground level of the site and as the proposal stands, would be substantially overlooked by new houses. The scheme envisages that the rear gardens of properties along the western boundaries would abut onto the existing boundaries of the existing properties. However, it is understood that there is a water main running along the western boundary along with electricity cables, vehicular access to which would be required at all times. Further, it is understood that the water utility company would require a "corridor" that is at least 10 metres wide along the route of the water main – the scheme does not provide for these requirements.

It is also noted that there appears to be no assessment of odour or noise.

The detailed layout also leads RTC to suppose that there will be substantial on-street (or worse, on pavement) parking once the houses are occupied.

It is acknowledged that it is a matter for the applicant to determine when to bring forward application but RTC is surprised that the current proposal is to develop that part of the site closest to Moortown Lane first. If that were to happen, it would mean that new residents on the estate would find that construction traffic for the remaining part would

have no option but to go through the middle of the new housing with all the noise and associated nuisance that would bring.

Sustainability

It is noted that the proposal is simply to construct properties to existing Building Regulation standard, even though Crest Nicholson confirmed to RTC that they intended to build to a higher standard and indeed, have done so elsewhere.

This scheme can hardly be described as innovative in that (for example) it does not provide for solar panels (and the orientation of many of the proposed houses would be sub-optimal in that regard); heating will be gas powered with no provision for heat pumps; no attempt is made to provide for grey water recycling and the build methods are traditional and carbon intensive.

More information on this is provided in Appendix D.

The lack of SUDS is also regrettable in terms of sustainability.

Gravel extraction

At the Public Inquiry into the Local Plan, it was asserted by those seeking to bring forward this site that gravel/mineral extraction would need to take place before the site was developed. Whilst RTC would not encourage such extraction on this site, not least because of the disruptive effect on local residents (noise and dust etc) it would be appreciated if further information could be provided.

Conclusion

The Town Council recognises that both nationally and locally, there is a housing shortage, particularly for younger people who find it difficult to the point of impossibility to step on to the “housing ladder”.

However, there are so many issues with the present applications, both outline and detailed that we urge that the application be refused and the applicant be in effect invited to go back to the drawing board.

Ringwood Town Council
Ringwood Gateway
The Furlong
Ringwood BH24 1AT

Appendix A – Ringwood Housing Needs Assessment January 2022
Appendix B – Building for a Healthy Life Assessment
Appendix C – Environmental Impact Assessment
Appendix D – Energy and Sustainability Statement

County Council April 2022 Report

Councillor Michael Thierry - Ringwood Division

Hampshire County Council & New Forest District Council

Attended all meetings of both District and County as scheduled.

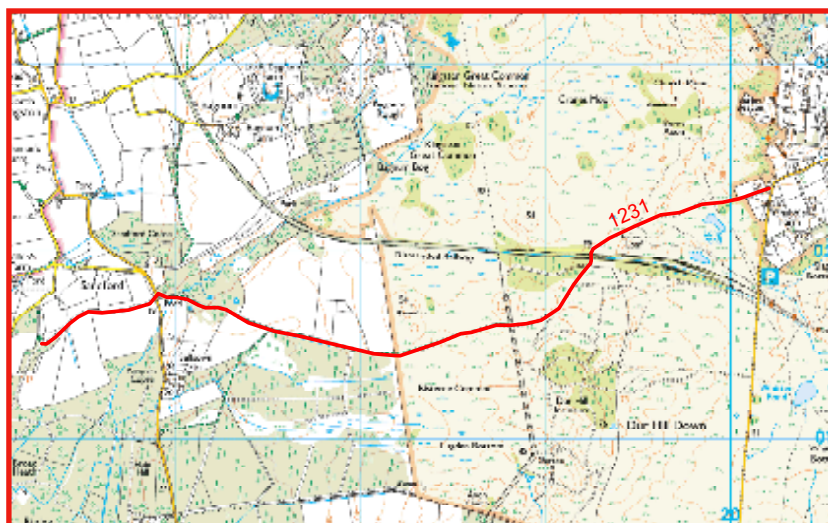
Hampshire County Council - Covid-19

The current data shows a picture of increased COVID-19 activity and continued high case rates across all ages in Hampshire, with the highest rates currently among 35-39 year olds, and rising infections in the those aged 60+. Despite hospitalisations decreasing since the peak of the Omicron wave, there is a slight upward trend in those admitted to hospital with COVID-19, which our Public Health team are monitoring closely, alongside outbreaks within the community.

Hampshire County Council - Restricted Byway

SECTION 53 - WILDLIFE AND COUNTRYSIDE ACT 1981.

Application to record a restricted byway in the parishes of Ringwood and Burley,
from U121 Golds Copse
SU 1628 0150 to
C27 Pound Lane
SU 2024 0236



Monthly Councillors' Surgery

The April MP and Councillor surgery was held. Sir Desmond Swayne, Cllr Ann Bellows (Fordingbridge). Local and national matters were raised by residents. (From May the monthly surgery will move to The Conservative Club to more reflect the boundary changes which come into affect at the next council elections in 2023.

Ringwood Casework

Ringwood footpath concern raised by Cllr Turner referred to county. Amendment to project requested.

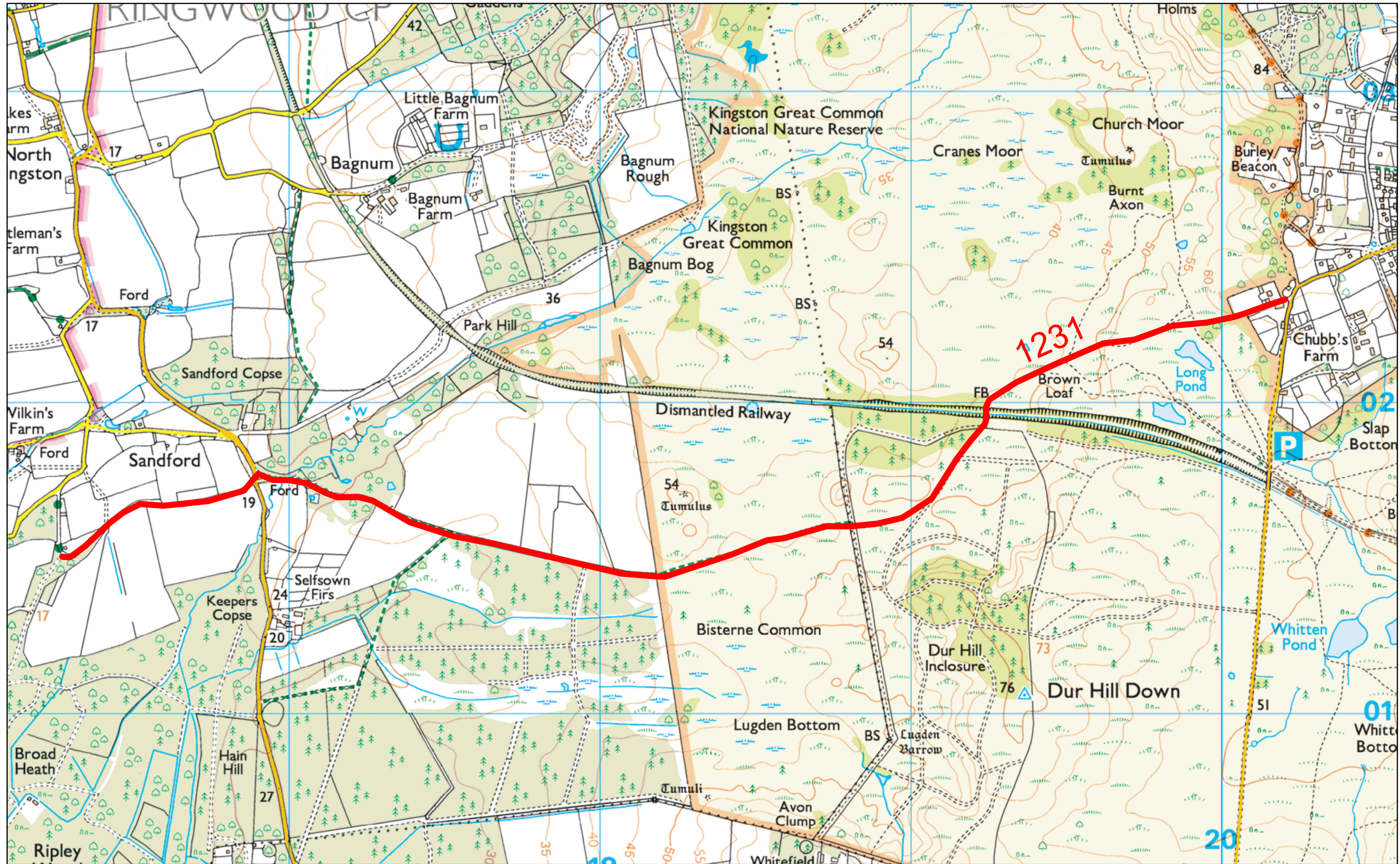
Somerley Household Waste Recycling Centre A decision was therefore taken in January 2022 to retain the booking system permanently due to the customer and operational benefits it has brought. It is important that callers to the site have their documentation with them. Errors in bookings do occur and staff try to deal with booking problems. However staff have been subjected to customer behaviour which should not be tolerated in the work place.

County representation






Ellingham Parish Council Meeting
Avon Valley Concerts

Cllr Michael Thierry - 01425 479095

DMMO 1231 Ringwood and Burley - Add Restricted Byway



Legend

-  Application 1231
-  BOAT
-  Bridleway
-  Footpath
-  Restricted Byway

Scale 1:15,000

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