

On 14 Jul 2014, at 15:51, "Brooks, John" <JBrooks@spelthorne.gov.uk> wrote:

Dear Councillors

At the Overview and Scrutiny meeting held on 8 July the Committee asked for a position statement on Kempton Park and, in particular, whether Redrow Homes had made any contact with the Planning Section in advance of reaching an agreement with the Jockey Club.

I trust the following answers the various concerns that Members had.

It is understood that the Jockey Club have recently agreed to work with Redrow Homes in relation to future development aspirations they have for the Kempton Park site.

Redrow Homes have made no contact with Spelthorne's Planning Section either before or since the above arrangements were agreed. No planning application has been submitted.

Any arrangements between the Jockey Club and Redrow Homes is a private matter between the two parties. Whilst this arrangement has been given publicity by them, the Council has no further details.

The background to the site is it is designated as Green Belt and has been since 1956. That designation is formally shown on the Council's 'Proposals Map Development Plan Document' and there is a copy on the Council's web site.

Council policy on the Green Belt is set out in a document called 'Spelthorne Borough Local Plan 2001 – Saved Policies and Proposals' – updated December 2009 and Policy GB1 states specifically:

“ The Green Belt on the Proposals Map will be permanent and within it development will not be permitted which would conflict with the purposes of the Green Belt and maintaining its openness”.

The policy goes on to identify such development that would be allowed but this does not included housing.

The policy is entirely consistent with national planning policy guidance and provides the starting point for considering any proposal on any Green Belt site in the Borough. Any changes to a designated Green Belt can only be made through a formal review of a Council's Local Plan.

Please let me know if I can assist further.

Regards

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