Planning Policy Team Brentwood Borough Council Town Hall Brentwood Essex CM15 8AY

Valerie Godbee

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BY EMAIL TO: planning@brentwood.gov.uk

Dear Sirs

Brentwood Borough Council Local Development Plan

I support the proposals put forward by Brentwood Borough Council for the Draft Local Plan and feel that they have created a very sensible and practical strategy in order to underpin the plan.

The proposal to develop areas where there are already good transport systems and road links to support the additional housing and development is sensible and less costly particularly when you consider that the rural areas of Brentwood are not so well served and the additional costs involved would be extreme.

As a borough, we are fortunate to have 89% green belt which is appreciated and enjoyed by everybody so prioritising the development of brownfield sites is both a priority and essential.

As a council it is difficult to provide the huge number of new homes required in a borough that has this level of greenbelt and deciding which part of the green belt to surrender is extremely challenging and less than ideal but, unfortunately, inevitable in order to reach the targets set. I therefore support the selection of a site that is already serviced by two main line rail stations as well as easy access to the A127 and A13.

The scale of the development will facilitate the required spend on infrastructure, schools and doctors and make it self-sustaining, making the site even more acceptable. Although cutting into a piece of our precious green belt the effect is far less than if many smaller slices were used in order to fulfil the quota and without gaining the infrastructure benefits associated with the larger development.

I also welcome the fact that there are no plans, or intentions, to alter the green belt boundaries adjoining our smaller villages (in particular Blackmore) within the plan which will help to avoid the urban spread of our smaller villages which have so much character and which need protecting for the longer term and for all to enjoy.

I conclude by repeating that I support the proposed Local Development Plan.

Yours sincerely

Valerie Godbee