DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE MEETING – 4 OCTOBER 2017

WRITTEN QUESTIONS RELATING TO ITEM 5 (PLANNING APPLICATION 17/02468/FULL1 – ST HUGHES PLAYING FIELDS, BICKLEY) RECEIVED FROM BROMLEY RESIDENT, MS DIANE BROWN

Question 1

With the Bromley Council's manifesto regarding pro education and the importance and this being their driving force, if BWSFBs is not approved, what does the Council have planned for the pupils who will be left without secondary school places in the forthcoming years due to the projected shortfall?

Chairman's Response

This is a matter which would be considered by the Local Education Authority following the decision on the application.

Question 2

With travel/traffic safety being the main reason for concern/refusal of this application, as many parents have said already that their child(ren) will walk and school has adjusted the start and finish time to alleviate the footfall. Please explain why the amended plans are deemed unacceptable?

Chairman's Response

This matter is addressed within the Committee report.

Question 3

Demand is high and the need for BWSFBs is evident not only for the boys but all children in Bromley, alleviating the pressure on other schools allowing for more availability, educationally it is apparent that this school should be approved, why would the Council refuse this?

Chairman's Response

This matter is addressed within the Committee report.

WRITTEN QUESTION RELATING TO ITEM 5 (PLANNING APPLICATION 17/02468/FULL1 – ST HUGHES PLAYING FIELDS, BICKLEY) RECEIVED FROM BROMLEY RESIDENT, MR FRANK KNIGHT

Given the recent applications regarding the new proposed Bullers Wood Boys' School appear to be acceptable to planners other than the proposed traffic plans – could the Council not approve plans with condition that a suitable travel plan is arranged and approved by the planning department to satisfy and discharge?

Chairman's Response

The concerns about Highways matters are too serious to be addressed by planning conditions and the applicant has been unable to resolve the concerns via any modifications they have proposed.

ORAL QUESTIONS RELATING TO ITEM 5 (PLANNING APPLICATION 17/02468/FULL1 – ST HUGHES PLAYING FIELDS, BICKLEY), RECEIVED FROM MS JAYNE BURMAN

Question 1

'How is the Council ensuring that there are equal educational opportunities for secondary school boys and girls in the Borough of Bromley? Statistics show that Coopers' cohort is consistently 60% boys because they have no other choice of school.'

Chairman's Response

There are no gender restrictions on school planning permissions and this is not a matter for this Committee.

Question 2

'BWSFB – given that each car driver was not asked of their destination in the traffic survey, how can one conclude that the traffic is attributable to the school run and will increase because of the boys school, especially when Chislehurst Road and Bickley Park Road are commuter routes into Bromley and Bickley Station?'

Chairman's Response

Highways considerations are set out in the Committee report and it would not be appropriate to discuss this prior to the Committee's consideration of the application.

Question 3

'Whilst recently approving several housing developments across the Borough, what is the Council doing to work with the community to address the shortfall in school places generally?'

Chairman's Response

Education contributions are routinely sought where appropriate under S106 of the Town and Country Planning Act where larger residential planning permissions are granted and this funding is directed appropriately by the Local Education Authority.