Wiltshire Council

Cabinet

14 June 2011

Public Participation From Ginny Scrope - Aggregate Minerals Site Allocations Development Plan Document (DPD) - Results of the Site Appraisals

Question

On behalf of the Bromham community we would request that the members of the Council Cabinet for the future of the Bromham area consider assuring and protecting that the C18 site will not be put forward again for any future mining consideration and that it will remain Grade 2 best and most versatile agricultural land and core to the Council's agricultural policy.

Statement

On behalf of the Bromham Quarry Campaign action group and the Bromham area we have campaigned on behalf of the residents against the mining of C18 and have worked together with the Parish Council and Wilthshire Council to provide evidence for C18 to be removed from the mining plan. We are very pleased to read the officers report. We sincerely hope that this will be endorsed today by members of the cabinet

Response

Cabinet acknowledges the motion submitted by the Bromham Quarry Campaign. However, for the reasons set out below, it would not be appropriate for Cabinet to accede to the proposed request in respect of Site Option C18.

The Council has a statutory duty to prepare development plans containing policies and proposals for the use of land within its area. In accordance with statute, the appropriate mechanism for allocating land and applying policies for the control and use of land is through the Local Development Framework (LDF) system.

Therefore, for the Council (or any part of the Council) to attempt to introduce (and approve) policy to control the use of land outside of the LDF system and the statutory procedures, would unlawfully fetter the discretion of the local planning authority to appropriately plan for its area, and indeed conflict with its duty to keep such policies and allocations under review.