

HRA Policy on Planning

Currently it is the policy of HRA that it only becomes involved in any planning application if there is significant local interest. In addition HRA will always take an interest in any development that should be the subject of planning permission if it is brought to its attention.

This policy is intended to avoid any potential for personal or individual motives to drive its activities.

However in the light of some recent applications that have been passed to the surprise and dismay of the committee it is proposed that this policy be amended to allow a more active role to be taken but without losing the sentiment behind it.

The policy will therefore be:

1. That HRA only becomes involved in any planning application if there is significant local interest.
2. HRA will take an interest in any development that should be the subject of planning permission if it is brought to its attention by a group of members. HRA may bring the activity to the attention of the planning authorities and encouraging them to act appropriately.
3. To enable a wider circulation of local planning applications, so residents beyond just those immediately involved can also be made aware of significant proposals in the village, and their views may be made known to the planning authorities
4. Where members feel they do not want to put their name to a comment on an application HRA will provide a route for such anonymous involvement.
5. Maintain close coordination between HRA and the Parish Council to raise early objections where applications could cause local concern.
6. Subject to approval by Committee, use HRA funds for commissioning quality professional advice to HRA, enabling informed comment to be made to SDC at an early stage on any inappropriate application.