

## Frogmore and Sherford Parish Council

### Planning Advisory Sub-Group

#### **Context**

A number of major planning applications have been lodged for development in the parish without applicant pre-application consultation engagement. Proposed development locations have included land in the designated South Devon Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

Parish Councillors do not generally have detailed planning policy training and expertise. With limited resources at parish level it is prudent therefore to nominate those who may have relevant professional backgrounds or experience to assist fellow Councillors with the assembly of factual national and local planning policy guidance and associated technical information, in the form of an evidence base, against which individual planning applications may be assessed.

In complex cases independent planning consultant(s) will be appointed to advise the Parish Council.

#### **Terms of Reference**

The Planning Advisory Sub-Group is formed for the purposes of researching, compiling and reporting to fellow Parish Councillors, evidence base planning information relevant to planning applications registered and referred to it, as statutory consultee, by the Planning Authority.

Planning sources include relevant Government Town and Country planning legislation, National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) guidance, the Plymouth and South West Devon Local Plan (JLP), the retained South Ham Local Plan, SHDC and Devon Home Choice housing data and the emerging Neighbourhood Plan evidence base.

#### **Reporting**

All planning sub-group reports are circulated to Members via the Clerk. The Clerk is required to check that reports are evidence based and without recommendations or directives, such as may be construed as evidencing pre-determination of a planning application. Reports are held in strict confidence and are not made available to third parties until after the relevant Parish Council planning application recommendation has been published.

#### **Parish Council Conduct of Business**

Subject to adherence to the principles above, Planning Advisory Sub-Group members are eligible to debate and vote on planning applications in the normal course at Parish Council meetings, subject always to any prior disclosures of interest.