

Developer Contact Policy

The following restrictions relate to windfall sites. Allocated sites within the local plan would normally be handled by a steering group (administered by ABC) which includes members of the public.

If the council is to adopt a dialogue within set parameters, then the following conditions need to be adhered to:

- 1. Does not interfere with or lead to any unauthorised disclosure of commercially confidential and sensitive information discussions between the developer and ABC during the "Pre App" process.
- 2. Any meeting is held post "Pre App" process, as confirmed by the relevant ABC officer(s).
- 3. Meetings will be held in Ashford Civic Centre or the Town Hall and be facilitated by and be in the presence of relevant ABC planning officer(s).
- 4. The meetings will be open to the public (as observers) up to a practical number that either office can accommodate.
- 5. The Town Clerk will be responsible for taking minutes of such meetings. The meeting will be recorded and the audio be made available via the Town Council website. [This will ensure confidence is not eroded, and trust is retained with evidence there has been no horse trading, or secret deals.]
- 6. Councillors must not make comments, suggestions, or agreements that predetermine themselves or commit the council to a particular course of action.
- 7. The Planning Officer or Town Clerk will have the right to halt the meeting if he/she feels the direction of the meeting is inappropriate.
- 8. Councillors will be nominated by the planning committee for these meetings.

Adopted by Town Council on 4th November 2019