

MKPC: Approaches to Planning

Over the years MKPC has developed a number of agreed approaches to planning. These include:

To read and respond formally to national and local (RBC) planning statements at the consultation stage, giving support or objections **with reasons** as appropriate

MKPC will normally discuss applications at the PC meeting and respond in writing to all specific applications relevant to it (usually but not always those within the Parish boundaries). Sometimes time scales do not allow this and either an extension is requested, or a special meeting convened, or a sub-group of Councillors consider the application.

Responses will normally and explicitly either support or object to the application, and state planning reasons for the decision. Giving reasons is important because RBC is allowed to consider **planning** reasons only.

Responses must be compatible with national policies/guidelines (e.g. Green Belt) and should normally be compatible with RBC policies (as in the RBC Local Plan).

They should normally also be compatible with MKPC policy statements – e.g. VDS, Parish Plan, Conservation Area statements (see also RBC), neighbourhood Plan (when we achieve this!).

It is helpful to make specific reference to policies in responses and quote them if necessary. This is particularly true if the application and/or response is controversial.

All Councillors should therefore have a reasonable familiarity, knowledge and understanding of the various levels of policy and their content.

Ref: 071219 MKPC Planning Policy Notes.docx/MKPC