



Laverstock & Ford Parish Council

Incorporating Hampton Park & Old Sarum

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Dr Carlton Brand
Wiltshire Council
County Hall
Trowbridge BA14 8JN

23 February 2015

Dear Dr Brand

OLD SARUM AIRFIELD & WILTSHIRE CORE POLICY

Thank you for your email of 5 Feb 2015.

It is heartening to know that the promoters of the development on Old Sarum Airfield are aware of the Wiltshire Core Policy expectations. However, despite officers encouraging the promoters to discuss their proposals with the local community, what has taken place to date does not constitute developing a Master Plan for the site in partnership with the local community.

There seems to be an implication in your email that a Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) would adequately satisfy the requirements of 5.121 of the Core Strategy. This we understand is wrong in law. A SCI is a procedural requirement for any planning application for major development, whether or not a Master Plan is involved.

The newly adopted Core Strategy is quite clear at 5.121 that a Master Plan needs to be developed in partnership with the local community first before a planning application is considered. The Parish Council, representing the residents of the parish, therefore has every right to be fully involved in the working up of the Master Plan.

Whilst we accept that, as a matter of planning law, an applicant can submit a planning application at any time, we believe at present the proper reaction to an application on the airfield would be to refuse it as **premature**.

Finally, we note with some concern that your email made no reference to previous consultations that have taken place between Wiltshire Council and the promoters of the site being made available to the Parish Council in order to make this an open process in which we are full partners.

In conclusion, we believe that any application with respect to Old Sarum Airfield should be rejected for prematurity if it is submitted before the issue of the Master Plan has been settled in accordance with the Core Strategy. We also ask you again to make available to the Parish Council details of all previous consultations between the Wiltshire Council and the promoters of the site.

Yours faithfully

Christopher Burnell, Chairman

Copied to: Mr Grenville Hodge (Old Sarum Airfield Ltd)
Alistair Cunningham, Richard Hughes (Wiltshire Council)