St Albans City and District Local Plan

Statement

Stage 1 Matter 2 Issue 5

On behalf of

The Trustees of the Shonleigh Trust

Land at Park Street Lane. How Wood

(Reg19 Sub 100)

1) This statement should be considered in conjunction with the Reg 19 Sub 100 with its attached appendices.

Issue 5: Site Selection Methodology

- Q1 What were the reasons for discounting sites at the initial assessment stage. Was this done on a consistent and transparent basis?
- 2) We provide in **Appendix 1** a summary sheet of each of the scores attributed the each to the sites recommended and included in the submitted plan. On the Councils scoring our client's site had a comparative assessment of 14 Strong, 9 medium, 8 weak **Appendix 2**. It therefore performed better than 5 of the sites recommended.
- 3) A review of the proforma for our client's land indicates errors.
 - a) The site has a Bus Stop on its frontage, a bus stop and services is shown on Appendix 3. There are 2 bus services, the 635 to Watford and the 361. The main service is the 361, which is the service from St Albans to Radlett and Borehamwood. The service is 1 per hour. The site is not 1.6 kilometres from a bus stop. Clearly, the score of my clients site of "Weak" is incorrect and its should have been "Strong".
 - b) The site does not contain contamination. To the east of the railway line where there was a landfill site, restoration completed 50 or so years ago. This is now a habitat site. As part of the restoration, methane vents have been provided. As there is a water course which passes through the site, the E.A. would monitor any leaching into the

- water course. We are not aware of any issues relating to either contamination of the water course or that the properties in Maple Field, which adjoins the site have been affected by contamination leachate. Rating should be at least "Medium" not "Weak"
- c) The site is 1 Kilometre to the nearest Primary School which is accessible along a public footpath, not 1.5 kilometres.
- d) The site is 900 metres walk (800 metres crow flies) to the local centre not 1 kilometre.
- e) Whilst the site as the crow flies may be within 400 metres of a SSSI and 100 metres of a County Wildlife site, due to the railway line the actual walking distance is over 1.6 kilometres (**Appendix 4**, area coloured pink). The scoring should be "Strong" not "Weak"
- 4) From the above it will be noted there have been significant inconsistences due to errors and omissions with our client's site being incorrectly assessed. Had the site been correctly analysed and scored it would have achieved a rating of Strong 16, Medium 10, Weak 5. In effect making it better performing than at least 11 Sites shown on **Appendix 1**.
- 5) In addition, the Site Selection Methodology relied in part on the Green Belt Study. The Qualitative Assessment begins "The site is not recommended for further consideration by the Green Belt Review Stage 2 Report". The Green Belt Study conclusions are the subject of a separate Statement on behalf of our clients.

Medium & Small Sites – Recommended to Progress

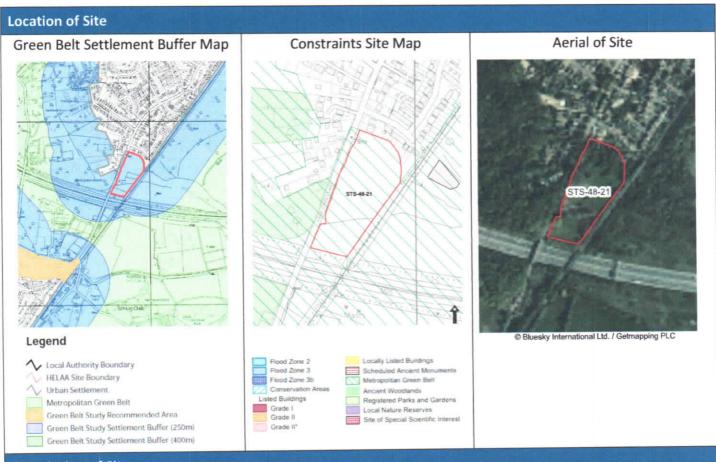
Table 1 - Summary of proformas contained within this document

Site	HELAA	Site Address		Scores		
Reference	Reference		week	Medine	Stra	
C-001	CH-01-21	North East of Austen Way, St Albans, AL4 0XH	9	11	11	
C-012	CH-12-21	Land North of Boissy Close, AL4 OUE	Cy	7	15	
C-037	HR-02-18	Wood End, Hatching Green, Harpenden, AL5 2JT	4	11	16	
C-050	HT-04-21	Falconers Field, Harpenden, AL5 3ES	6	7	18	
C-055	HT-11-21	Piggottshill Lane, Harpenden, AL5 5UN	3	13	15	
C-056	HT-12-21	Baulk Close, Harpenden, AL5 4LY	2	14	15	
C-057	HT-13-21	Townsend Lane, AL5 2RQ	6	10	15	
C-067	HT-22-18	Rothamsted Lodge, Hatching Green, AL5 2JS	7	8	16	
C-064	HT-20-21	Lower Luton Road, Harpenden, AL5 5AF	4	10	17	
M-016	R-18-21	South of Harpenden Lane, AL3 7RQ	12	6	13	
C-135	SA-18-21	Bedmond Lane, AL3 4AH	8	10	13	
C-299	SA-07-21	Verulam Golf Club, London Road, St Albans, AL1 1JG	4	9	18	
O-028	STS-30-21	North of Oakwood Road, Bricket Wood, AL2 3PT	6	5	14	
C-237	STS-54-21	Bucknalls Drive, Bricket Wood, AL2 3YT	9	9	13	
C-240	STS-57-21	Ashdale Lye Lane, Bricket Wood, AL2 3LQ	9	6	16	
C-210	STS-32-18	Tippendell Lane and Orchard Drive, How Wood, AL2 2QF	6	5	20	
C-286	WH-32-21	North of Wheathampstead Road, Harpenden, AL5 1AB	5	it	15	
C-283	WH-28-21	Hill Dyke Road, AL4 8TR	7	9	15	
C-280	WH-24-17	Amwell Top Field, Wheathampstead, AL4 8DZ	18	10	13	

N.B. Maps within this document contain public sector information licenced under the Open Government Licence V3.0. © Crown copyright and database rights 2024 Ordnance Survey AC0000819589.



Local Plan Site Selection Proforma Sheet							
Site Ref	HELAA Ref	Green Belt Sub-Area Ref	Site Address	Parish	Area in Ha	Current Land Use	Proposed Use
C-228	STS-48-21	SA-126 / Not recommended	Land at Park Street Lane, Park Street, St Albans, AL2 2BB	St Stephen	2.26	Scrubland	Primarily residential



Description of Site

The site is located south west of St Albans in How Wood. The south western boundary of the site adjoins the M25. The site is flanked by Park Street Lane on the west boundary and the Abbey Line on the east boundary. To the north of the site is the residential area of How Wood.

Location	Yes, Partially or No
Located within Green Belt Buffer or settlement area	Yes - 100%
Located on previously developed land	Partially - <1%
Located within Green Belt Study weakly performing area	No
Located within Green Belt Study Weakly performing and Located within Green Belt Study less important area	No
Located within Green Belt Study less important area Located within Green Belt Study Recommended for further Consideration area	No

Major Policy and Environmental Constraints	
Functional Floodplain (or climate change floodplain)	S
Heritage Asset or its setting	S
Ancient Woodland	M
Accessibility	
Distance to nearest bus stop (with at least peak hourly service)	W

Distance to nearest mainline railway station	W
Distance to nearest branch line railway station	S
Distance to the nearest employment site/location	M
Distance to the strategic road network for employment sites	N/A
Distance to local centre/town centre/village centre	M
Distance to nearest infant/primary school	M
Distance to nearest secondary school	W
Distance to nearest GP surgery	S
Other Key Constraints	
Agricultural Land Classification	W
Nationally (European) Protected Sites (SSSI)	M
Local or Regional Nature Conservation sites	M
Priority Habitats (listed on S.41 of the NERC Act)	W
Existing Woodland	S
Archaeological Assets including their setting	S
Landscape Conservation Areas including their setting	S
Source Protection Zones	W
Access to Open Space	M
Air Quality	S
Utilities and Infrastructure	M
Tree Preservation Order (TPO) trees	S
Areas of non-designated biodiversity	W
Green Infrastructure Corridors	M
Access to the Site	S
Contamination	W
Mineral Resource	S
Waste	S
Chiltern Beechwoods SAC Zone of Influence	S
Buncefield Protection Zone	S

CRITERION BASED ASSESSMENT TOTAL	8 - Weak	9 - Medium	14 - Strong
CRITERION BASED ASSESSIVILIAT TOTAL	O TTCUIT		- 0

Qualitative Assessment

The site is not recommended for further consideration by the Green Belt Review Stage 2 Report.

The site is adjacent to How Wood, a Tier 5 Settlement in the Settlement Hierarchy. The whole site is within the Green Belt. It is within the 250 metres Green Belt Study settlement buffer.

The site is approximately; 1.5 kilometres from a primary school, 3.4 kilometres from a secondary school, 1.6 kilometres from a bus stop, 5.5 kilometres from Radlett railway station and 1 kilometre from a Local Centre.

The site is within the 100 metres buffer of an Ancient Woodland, within 400 metres of a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and within the 100 meters buffers of a County Wildlife Site. The site contains and is adjacent to deciduous woodland Priority Habitats. Many non designated individual mature trees are located within the site.

A gas pipeline runs parallel to the eastern site boundary and crosses through the site from south east to south west. The site contains and is adjacent to contaminated land at the north east corner.

Potential access is via Park Street Lane.

This site is not recommended to progress.



Derek Bromley

From: Derek Bromley
Sent: 09 April 2025 18:35
To: Derek Bromley







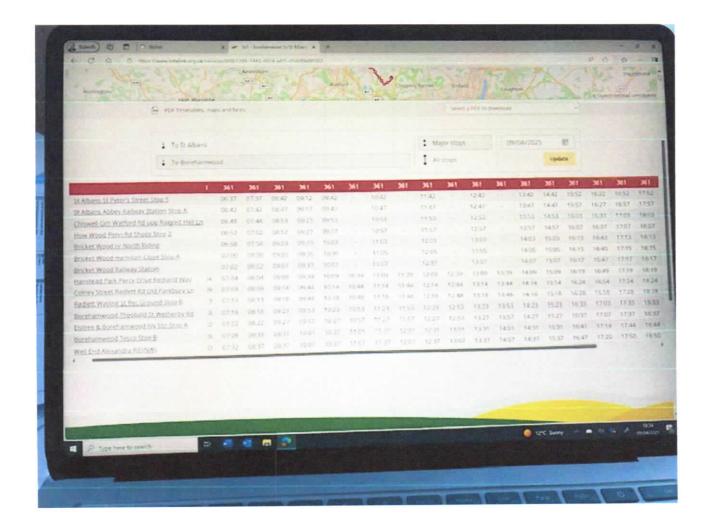
Sent from my iPhone

Derek Bromley

From: Sent:

To:

Derek Bromley 09 April 2025 18:36 Derek Bromley



Sent from my iPhone

Derek Bromley

From: Sent: To: Derek Bromley 13 April 2025 17:33 Derek Bromley

Subject:

SSSI



Sent from my iPhone