

## Supporting our Community

## **Hunsdon Eastwick and Gilston Neighbourhood Plan Group**

https://hegnp.org.uk/

By email to Mr Christopher Lockhart- Mummery QC Examiner

Cc George Pavey, Principal Planning Officer, East Herts Council

Dated 12 October 2020

Dear Mr Lockhart-Mummery,

## Gilston Area Neighbourhood Plan (GANP)

We write to you as Chairs of the Hunsdon Parish Council and of the Eastwick & Gilston joint Parish Council, which together are the qualifying body for the GANP.

We request that as part of your recommendations to East Herts Council, if and when you are minded to make them, you include a recommendation that the referendum area should extend beyond the neighbourhood area to include the whole of the Parish of Hunsdon. See para Paragraph: 059 Reference ID: 41-059-20140306 of the NPPG (online)

The reasons for our request are as follows: -

- 1. The Gilston Neighbourhood area geographically covers the whole of the parishes of Eastwick & Gilston but part only of the parish of Hunsdon. The area of Hunsdon which is included is approximately 289 hectares (36%) out of a total parish area of 810 hectares. Approximately 25% of the GANP area is in Hunsdon. You may refer to the Map in Fig 1, page 9 of the draft plan which shows the whole of the neighbourhood area and the 3 parishes it covers but the attached map shows more clearly the whole of the parish of Hunsdon and the parts inside and outside this neighbourhood area.
- 2. The number of residents on the electoral roll (for 2029/20) in the parishes of Eastwick & Gilston is 675 and all of those will be entitled to vote in the referendum. The total on the electoral roll for Hunsdon is 892 but only one of them will be entitled to vote as she is the only one who lives in the Neighborhood area.
- 3. The lives of those 891 residents will be affected by the Gilston Area development as one of the 7 Garden villages proposed for Gilston will be in the south of the parish with 1500 new houses, and a large tract of land in the east and north of the parish

- though not built on will be part and parcel of the Gilston development as amenity land, parkland and recreational areas for all future residents of the area, e,g the historic WW2 site known as Hunsdon Airfield and wooded areas and farming land.
- 4. In short, and to use the wording of the reference cited above, the scale or nature of the proposals in the draft neighbourhood plan are such that they will have a substantial, direct and demonstrable impact on all the residents of Hunsdon Parish.
- 5. The residents and parish representatives of Hunsdon have been fully consulted at all stages and at all levels on development plans for the Gilston Area and in the preparation of this Neighbourhood plan just as equally as those of Eastwick & Gilston.
- 6. The Parish Council of Eastwick & Gilston fully agrees with this as does the whole of the Hunsdon Eastwick & Gilston Neighbourhood Plan Group.

Accordingly, we hope that you will feel that it would be the proper and democratic thing to recommend this extension of the referendum area to the whole of Hunsdon Parish.

We have approved this letter in our names and send it electronically via our colleague Frank O'Shea without physical signatures,

Yours sincerely,

Robert Toll
Chair Hunsdon Parish Council

Mark Orsen Chair Eastwick & Gilston Parish Council

Anthony Bickmore Chair HEGNPGroup