

**Statement by Sandi Merrifield**

**Planning Policy Working Group**

**Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> October**

**Stebbing Parish Council Comments**

**Agenda Item 4**

Stebbing Parish Council asks why are you issuing another Draft Regulation 18 Issues and Options when you will not have analysed the totality of replies from the recent one until December. This smacks of carrying on regardless and pushing forward with prejudicing force against the community of Stebbing. Is this really due process for the Development Plan Document or does this just indicate things to come.

To issue this from November 13<sup>th</sup> to January 8<sup>th</sup> is again over a holiday period which is again unfair.

BDC a partner in North Essex Garden Communities Ltd is taking forward WOB, if UDC continues on with “East of Stebbing” as we prefer to think of this will UDC seek to become a member of this company and as such what financial implications will that have for this council and its residents, given that BDC has already voted £250,000 into NEGC would UDC be expected to do the same and adopt compulsory purchase as well? If they didn’t would they be a junior /lesser partner and so have less say, thus disadvantaging the residents of Stebbing even more.

We seriously question why the Andrewsfield area is still included in the plan given that at a recent meeting with UDC; BDC and Parish Councils BDC stated that they were going for Option 3 which does not link with Andrewsfield, (we believe this came as rather a surprise to UDC representatives).

What is even more worrying and astounding is that residents are being asked to consider whether we think it is a good idea to include the triangular piece of land in between the Boxted Wood and Andrewsfield as a link to join them and so expand the land available. This is astounding and outrageous as this land has not been offered for development and is a fishing exercise.

Do not seek to confuse and overburden or assume there will be consultee fatigue, UDC must remember that just showing you are consulting is not enough, you must take notice and not just push aside and discount the community of Stebbing.

