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**From:** Rob Stewart  
**Sent:** 21 August 2017 11:22  
**To:** Planning Policy Vale  
**Subject:** Re: Open Spaces Report 2016

Dear Nina,

Many thanks for your email.

I am fully aware that the Inspector of Part 1 of the Local Plan allowed you 2 years to produce Part 2, however, I assume that in doing so he also expected that the reports that inform the plan would be accurate?

The Open spaces audit may well have taken place in 2015. However, Humpty Hill was recommended for addition to the Town Green Register in September 2015 and OCC voted to do so 30th November 2015 (the town green application was made in 2013). Although the actual amendment of the register did not take place until spring 2016, following a failed judicial review, the land was in law a Town Green from September 2015 (a green become a green whether registered or not, please see Oxford Trap Grounds case at the High Court 2005).

I accept that it is possible that your policy officers were unaware of this, although probably unlikely as Humpty was also subject to a failed planning application in 2014 and was provisionally allocated as Local Green Space in the Neighbourhood Plan, an allocation which also failed.

The existence of the Town Green application was extensively discussed in meetings with your neighbourhood plan officers years before. Further to this, one would assume it is the job of policy officers to be aware of such situations.

I am certain that your senior policy officer, Andrew Maxted, was aware that Humpty was a Town Green on 13th July 2016, some 4 months before the Draft Open Spaces Report was published, as he attended the Faringdon Neighbourhood Plan Inquiry where this was discussed.

If the report is not amended I will write to the Inspector to inform him of this inaccurate report and lodge a complaint with the Vale. Apologies form my stern position on this but reports should be correct and it should be possible to amend a draft report. Particularly one which was inaccurate before it was even published.

Regards

Rob Stewart

> Hi Ben

>

> You are right, this is tricky to respond to. I have wrote down a couple of sentences but like you suggested it may be worth speaking to Andrew.

>

> Any questions, please let me know

>

> Many thanks

> Nina

>

>

> Dear Rob

>  
> Thank you for your email.  
>  
> The draft report allows us to amend minor details, however to include  
> Humpty Hill into this report would require a lot of time and resource  
> which we do not currently have. The Local Plan 2031 Part 1 inspector  
> placed a condition on the Council to get Local Plan 2031 Part 2  
> adopted within two years of Local Plan 2031 Part 1 adopted. This was  
> in December 2016 and we therefore have to adopt Local Plan 2031 part 2  
> by December 2018. Therefore we do not have the time to reproduce the  
> core information which informs the Open Spaces report. To view the  
> inspectors report please follow this link: INCLUDE LINK  
>  
> The Council's Design Guide SPD provides some guidance for developers  
> when considering planning applications on open spaces. This can be  
> found using the following link: INSERT LINK  
>  
> Unfortunately at this stage we are unable to include Humpty Hill into the Draft report, however the Council will  
consider including it when we next review the Open Spaces report.  
>  
> I hope this provides more clarity.  
>  
> Kind regards  
>  
>  
>  
>  
>  
>  
> Nina  
>  
>

>  
> -----Original Message-----  
> From: Rob Stewart  
> Sent: 26 July 2017 11:49  
> To: Planning Policy Vale <planning.policy@whitehorsedc.gov.uk>  
> Subject: Re: Open Spaces Report 2016  
>  
> Hello Ben,  
>  
> Humpty Hill does not need protecting by Local Plan Policies. It's a town green! The highest level of land protection  
available? Your Policy 32 somewhat pales into insignificance.  
>  
> The point I am making is a with the broader view of the town. The report will inform policy and decisions but is  
inaccurate by some 14 acres. An enormous amount of open space for a town the size of Faringdon. Policy is now  
being written based on known faulty information. It makes a mockery of the process.  
>  
> The report is in draft. It needs to be amended. If this was just a small area of land it would perhaps not be  
significant, but it's 14 acres. One assumes that the purpose of a draft report is to allow amendments?  
>  
> Perhaps you could consider this and come back to me.

>

> Regards

>

> Rob

>> Dear Mr Stewart,

>>

>> Thank you for your email regarding the draft Open Spaces Report published in 2016, in particular your query related to Humpty Hill Town Green, Faringdon.

>>

>> The open space audit to inform the draft report was undertaken in 2015, before Humpty Hill Town Green was registered, therefore it has not been included within this draft Open Spaces Report (2016).

>>

>> However, I can confirm that Humpty Hill Town Green will be protected by the local planning policies in the emerging draft Local Plan 2031 Part 2: Additional Sites and Detailed Policies. For example, development of open space will be assessed in accordance with Development Policy 32: Open Space in the emerging Local Plan 2031 Part 2, where proposals will need to demonstrate a number of criteria, including the need to replace the loss of open space with an equivalent or better provision in terms of scale, quantity and quality in a suitable and accessible location.

>>

>> The draft Development Policy 32: Open Space in the Local Plan 2031 Part 2 is available to view and access on the Council website at:

>>

>> <http://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/services-and-advice/planning-and-build>

>> i

>> [ng/planning-policy/local-plan-2031-part-2](http://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/planning-policy/local-plan-2031-part-2)

>>

>> Unfortunately the open spaces audit was undertaken at a point in time and it would not be possible or practical to continuously update the Open Spaces Report to include any further additions. The Council will ensure that Humpty Hill Town Green is included within the next review of the Open Spaces Report.

>>

>> I trust this provides further clarity. If you would like to discuss further please do not hesitate to contact myself or the Planning Policy Team.

>>

>> Yours Faithfully,

>>

>> Ben Davis

>>

>> The Planning Policy Team

>> Vale of White Horse District Council

>> Telephone: 01235 422600

>> Email: [planning.policy@whitehorsedc.gov.uk](mailto:planning.policy@whitehorsedc.gov.uk)

>> Visit us at: [www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk](http://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk)

>>

>>

>> -----Original Message-----

>> From: Rob Stewart

>> Sent: 11 July 2017 18:00

>> To: Planning Policy Vale <[planning.policy@whitehorsedc.gov.uk](mailto:planning.policy@whitehorsedc.gov.uk)>

>> Subject: Re: Open Spaces Report 2016

>>

>> Dear Sir / Madam,

>>

>> I have just looked at the Draft Open Spaces Report. It appears there is an error with regard to Faringdon. Humpty Hill Town Green, of some 14 acres, which was registered in 2015, is not included. Why is this and how can it be rectified?

>>

>> Regards  
>>  
>> Rob Stewart (Successful applicant for the registration of Humpty Hill  
>> Town Green)  
>>> Dear Mr Stewart  
>>>  
>>> Thank you for your email.  
>>>  
>>> The Draft Open Spaces Report, November 2016, can be found using this link:  
>>> [http://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/java/support/Main.jsp?MODULE=FolderVi](http://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/java/support/Main.jsp?MODULE=FolderView&ID=684252033&CODE=B480854037609B1750481AA7F8BF8280&NAME=Open+Spaces)  
>>> e  
>>> w  
>>> &ID=684252033&CODE=B480854037609B1750481AA7F8BF8280&NAME=Open+Spaces  
>>> &  
>>> R  
>>> EF=Local%20Plan%202031:%20Part%202%20Preferred%20Options%20Consultat  
>>> i  
>>> o  
>>> n  
>>>  
>>> Kind regards  
>>>  
>>> Nina  
>>>  
>>> The Planning Policy Team  
>>> Vale of White Horse District Council  
>>> Telephone: 01235 422600  
>>> Email: [planning.policy@whitehorsedc.gov.uk](mailto:planning.policy@whitehorsedc.gov.uk)  
>>> Visit us at: [www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk](http://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk)  
>>>  
>>> -----Original Message-----  
>>> From: Rob Stewart  
>>> Sent: 09 July 2017 13:09  
>>> To: Planning Policy Vale <[planning.policy@whitehorsedc.gov.uk](mailto:planning.policy@whitehorsedc.gov.uk)>  
>>> Subject: Open Spaces Report 2016  
>>>  
>>> Dear Sir / Madam,  
>>>  
>>> I cannot find the Open Spaces Report 2016 on the VWHDC website. Please could you email me a copy?  
>>>  
>>> Regards  
>>>  
>>> Rob Stewart  
>>>