

HTC Planning Hearing Comments

Matters 8: Employment Policies and Allocations

Thursday 25th January at 9.30am

The designated industrial site of 6 hectares, the 2nd largest in the district and is now not available, this was known in March 2022 and I believe before the Plan was submitted. Holt Town Council were not aware of this until January 2023, despite a meeting with NNDC in February, no new site has been put forward, although there are alternatives.

As NNDC policy states that Holt being on the main A148 spine road in North Norfolk has to provide employment for Sheringham, Cromer and surrounding villages. The existing District Council employment sites are North Walsham a 34-mile round trip and Fakenham 24 miles, this is a very big issue especially with the carbon footprint.

The existing LDF 6.0.4 states that Holt has been identified as the most suitable location for new employment development, Holt Town Council are keen to see this represented in the New Local Plan.

Holt needs more affordable homes and employment opportunities to retain our young people and try and keep a balanced community.

Whilst Holt Town Council accepts that the 6-hectare site currently included in the Plan is no longer available, it should not be removed from the plan until a suitable alternative is found. A new employment site is needed in Holt to meet the current and future employment needs of the community.

Due to Holt's geographical position and existing public transport links, it lends itself to be an employment hub for this part of the district and in order to meet

the community's needs requires the Local Plan to be amended to include a site for employment growth.