

Thaxteo parish council

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THAXTED PC POLICY ON MEETINGS WITH DEVELOPERS

Developments and the potential for community benefit affecting Thaxted

- 1 If a developer is considering a development in Thaxted and makes an approach to either meet with parish councillors, make a presentation, discuss the proposal etc., either prior to a planning application being submitted or after submission, the Council will normally agree to such a meeting as it may afford the opportunity to influence the proposal for the benefit of the town and local people.
- **2** On identifying a development proposal on the planning application list, the Council may write to the applicant in an effort to work proactively with a developer to achieve the best outcome for the Thaxted community. The developer may be invited to meet with and make a presentation to the Council.
- **3** Any community gain which is realised through development must be used to benefit areas in the immediate vicinity of the planned development.
- **4** When the Council formally considers any planning application it shall do this in an entirely impartial and unbiased way. Any councillor with any personal or prejudicial interest shall declare this at the earliest opportunity and act accordingly in respect of this. Any correspondence, meetings, discussions, etc. which may have taken place prior to the consideration of a planning application shall not influence the Council in any way, nor fetter its discretion when considering the application. This must be made clear to all applicants for planning permission.
- **5** Developers are to approach the Council through the Parish Clerk in the first instance who will then report the approach to the Council to enable arrangements to be made for discussions to commence if the Council feel it appropriate to do so. No individual councillor is permitted to meet with and developer without Proper Officer and Council approval.
- **6** The Developer accepts that the council have a right to determine its response to any submitted application during the statutory consultee period regardless of and pre meeting comments.
- **7** Any pre planning meeting between the Council and the Developer must remain impartial and confidential and the comments of which cannot be used in any planning applications or public advertising in a positive or negative way.