



Murrell Green / Winchfield Hampshire

Client: Winchfield Parish Council

Local Authority: Hart District Council

Project Description:

Preparation of a strategy to challenge the allocation in the Hart Local Plan of an Area of Search for a new settlement of up to 5,000 dwellings.

Case Study:

JB Planning Associates worked closely with Winchfield Parish Council over a lengthy time period, preparing and submitting representations on their behalf throughout various stages of the Plan making process. We attended and gave evidence at the Hart Local Plan Examination Hearing sessions held during November - December 2018, supported by Michelle Bolger Expert Landscape Consultancy, advocating that the proposed new settlement was neither needed nor sustainable.

As a consequence of the evidence put forward by JB Planning Associates and others, the Inspector determined that the Sustainability Appraisal was not robust, and should not be relied upon in support of the Plan with regard to the provision of a new settlement.

Services Used

- Planning
- Planning Policy
- Research
- Local Plan Examination
- Project Management

The Inspector concluded that there was little evidence to demonstrate that a site for a new settlement could actually be delivered in terms of infrastructure, viability and landownership within the identified Area of Search. He gave considerable weight to the land ownership evidence that JB Planning Associates and Michelle Bolger put forward at the Hearing Sessions, which demonstrated that a significant parcel of land cutting across the middle of the Area of Search was neither in the ownership of the site promoters, nor land that is available to them.

The Inspector agreed with JB Planning Associates that in terms of the overall housing requirement, Policy SS3 was not required for the Plan to be sound, and recommended that it should be removed from the Local Plan through Main Modifications.