

## Press Release

Planning Application – 02/16/00030/SPH Outline Planning Permission (appearance layout, scale, landscaping reserved matters) for the erection of up to 80 dwellings (40% affordable dwellings) and creation of access on land to the South of Houlgate Way, Axbridge, BS26

Axbridge Town Council has continued to object to this application which was originally submitted in September 2016 and has yet to be determined by Sedgemoor District Council.

Amended plans and documentation have been received in during November 2017 including a Design and Access Statement, which was revised for the third time on 17 November 2017. This statement which suggests that the number of proposed properties has been reduced from 80 dwellings to 53 dwellings, also shows these properties to be the first phase of development, with the remaining building area, coinciding with that of the original application, being highlighted as “an opportunity to create second phase of future residential development”. This latest statement refers to around 35% of the 53 dwellings being affordable (below the minimum requirement of 40% when outside the development boundary).

The application form itself still refers to up to 80 houses and it remains an outline application. It gives no detail, for example, as to how the proposed development would meet the actual affordable housing needs in Axbridge or as to the design or height of the properties – only showing in illustrative terms that the development will “reflect the local vernacular of the town setting by ensuring most dwellings are 2 storey”.

Axbridge Town Council considered the revised documentation at its meeting on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2017 and will be responding to Sedgemoor District Council to reiterate all of its earlier objections (including the way in which this application has been handled) together with further objections and concerns. This response should be available on Sedgemoor District Council’s website later this week (a copy is available from Axbridge Town Clerk).

Sedgemoor District Council is seeking views on this application by Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2017. Any person wishing to comment on this application, or further comment or reiterate earlier responses, after considering the new documentation, must do so by this date.

All details can be found at [www.sedgemoor.gov.uk/planning\\_online](http://www.sedgemoor.gov.uk/planning_online) (type in 02/16/00030).