

INDEPENDENT EXAMINATION OF MARDEN NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

EXAMINER: DEREK STEBBING BA (Hons), Dip EP, MRTPI

Ms Alison Hooker
Clerk to Marden Parish Council

Ms Sue Whiteside / Ms Anna Houghton
Maidstone Borough Council

Examination Ref: 02/DAS/MNP

14 October 2019

Dear Ms Hooker, Ms Whiteside and Ms Houghton

MARDEN NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN EXAMINATION

Thank you for your comments of 9 October 2019 on the fact check version of my report on the Marden Neighbourhood Plan (the Plan) examination.

I have considered carefully all the comments you have made. As was made clear when my report was sent to you, the changes that can be made through the fact check process are limited to purely factual errors and this stage is not an opportunity to re-examine issues and put forward further evidence, opinions and submissions that would ultimately change the recommendations. Accordingly, I respond to the points you raise with this in mind.

I have amended the report in response to your fact check comments in every instance with this one exception. I have not made the suggested amendment to PM15 (which is now PM16 in the revised report). That modification is addressing a representation made by Maidstone Borough Council (contained at page 3 of their Regulation 16 response - Representation Reference 100), which I consider reflects correctly the strategic Local Plan position and the national policy position.

I enclose my final report for the Parish and Borough Councils. I congratulate you for progressing the Plan to this advanced stage and wish you well in moving forward.

Your sincerely

Derek Stebbing

Examiner