

Dear Editor,

**Concerns of Predetermination of Planning Applications raised over comments caught on webcast at Aylesbury planning meeting**

Your 12 March edition reported a comment from Mr Brian Foster, Chair of the AVDC planning committee, that suggested that approval of the Maids Moreton application had been decided before the meeting. This brings doubt over the validity of this and other even larger and more impactful planning applications, such as Hampden Fields and Woodlands (4000 + houses), all approved by the committee of which he was the Vice Chair.

At the relevant meetings for Hampden Fields and Woodlands outline approval was still granted despite constructive submissions from the affected Parish Councils, Hampden Fields Action Group and a large number of residents. Approximately 5,000 objections to Hampden Fields were received by Aylesbury Vale District Council, which begs the question - how seriously were these taken?

Were these submissions and objections properly taken into account at the meeting? Or were they predetermined behind closed doors and nodded through like the Maids Moreton application appears to have been. This may even bring into question the legality of these decisions.

In my opinion, Mr Foster should step down from the Strategic Development Management Committee and planning process, and the soundness of applications already approved at planning meetings under his Chair / Vice Chairmanship be reviewed to maintain the public's confidence that the correct procedures are being followed.

Your sincerely,

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