

FOR INFORMATION – Update on Mendip District Council S106 Protocol

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Summary

To provide an update on a meeting with MDC Planning Team regarding S106 Agreements.

Background

In November 2012, Mendip District Council adopted a S106 corporate protocol, the clearly states that

- “For major applications where confidentiality is not an issue, planning officers will notify ward councillors, Parish and Town Councils about emerging development proposals and comments will be invited from them”.

At a recent meeting with the MDC Planning team to discuss planning matters in general, I asked why the protocol was not being followed, as in the last two instances; Frome Town Council has had to ask to be involved in any S106 discussions.

We were advised that it is the Town Councils responsibility to identify, at the consultation response stage; whether we believe a S106A will be necessary to make acceptable development which would otherwise be unacceptable in planning terms. A list of the works or provisions would also need to be submitted at this stage.

It was pointed out that this advice contradicts what is set out in the protocol. The Planning Team Manager agreed that further training needs to be arranged for the Planning Officers, Members and Parish Councils. He has assured us that the training will take place as soon as possible.

In the meantime, the application cover sheets have been amended to include any S106 requests to be sent with the consultation response.

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