10/02/2012 12:47 >>>

Dear Lynette Benton
I am replying to your letter dated 4th April 2012. I hope it is acceptable to reply by email rather than letter. But I am willing to put these points in a letter if that is what you prefer.

1. The Localism Act gives communities "direct power to develop a shared vision for their neighbourhood". This should mean that although the Wealden Core Strategy can broadly allocate development, the local community should be fully consulted and even be allowed a referendum on the specific sites within the area.
2. In respect of the development SDA 4 South Polegate and East Willingdon, Wealden Council originally had two sites to consider. The land currently occupied by Willingdon Community School in Broad Road and the council preferred site at Hindsland.
3. The two sites are within a mile of each other and because of this there should be full consultation with the local community as to which should be the preferred site.
4. There is a strong local feeling that the Hindsland site should be revived as a significant sports facility for the local community and it may be that the most efficient way to do this is to transfer the school to this site and redevelop the site in Broad Road, but the community never had the opportunity to debate this issue.

Thank you for your attention.
Yours sincerely
V. Blaber