# WINTERSLOW PARISH COUNCIL

Planning Negotiation Policy

Contact with Applicants, Developers, Landowners and Supporters/Objectors

1. PURPOSE
2. Guidance for members of Winterslow Parish Council when members are in contact with parties having an interest in planning matters in the Parish.
3. Procedure for formal meetings with such parties where the subject of potential contributions to projects in the Parish are to be discussed.
4. GUIDELINES FOR PARISH COUNCILLORS
5. Predetermination Localism Act 2011 -

Predetermination occurs where someone has a closed mind so that they are unable to apply their judgment fully and properly to the issue requiring a decision. This can lead to legal challenges and decisions being set aside.

1. A member is not deemed to have had a closed mind on an issue just because they have indicated what view they have taken or may take before the issue is decided. A member is not, for example, prevented from participating in discussion of an issue or voting on it if they have campaigned on the issue or made public statements about their approach to it.
2. The general position, however, remains that, whatever their views, members must approach their decision-making with an open mind in the sense that they must have regard to all material considerations and must be prepared to change their views if persuaded that they should.
3. Members should avoid meeting developers alone or putting themselves in a position where they appear to favour a person, company or group.
4. Members Code of Conduct must be complied with at all times.
5. Meetings to discuss potential contributions to Parish projects.
6. Two Members will be present at all meetings, including the Chairman or the Vice-Chairman of the Parish Council
7. The Parish Clerk will be responsible for contacting all parties involved and arranging the meetings. All attendees will be advised, in writing, that the discussions will not, in any way, bind the Council to any particular course of action.
8. The Parish Clerk will take notes at the meeting with the potential developers and will be responsible for the distribution of those notes
9. DECISIONS
10. No agreements or decisions can be made at a meeting with potential developers
11. The members of the Parish Council must report back to the Parish Council after the meeting
12. If appropriate, any decisions / agreements from the meeting must be voted on at a full Parish Council meeting
13. This decision will be recorded in the minutes and the outcome will be forwarded to the attendees of the meeting

This document was agreed at the Parish Council meeting date:………..