

Agenda Item No:	9	
Committee:	COUNCIL	
Date:	18 DECEMBER 2014	
Report Title:	PETITION - ON WINDFALL DEVELOPMENT SITES	

1 Purpose / Summary

For Council to consider a petition regarding the Housing Development on Estover Playing Field

2 Key issues

- The Council has received a petition objecting to Housing Development on Estover Playing Field.
- In summary the petition states "We the undersigned call upon the Leader of Fenland District Council, Councillor John Clark, following an unprecedented breakdown in trust between him and the people of March and Fenland, to resign forthwith. As Council Leader he has systematically broken pledges to the people of March to prevent Housing Development on a key public open space, Estover Playing Field.
 - Despite it being agreed by his own Council that no housing should be allowed there
 - Despite a 700 signature petition and 150 letters/ emails objecting to any proposed housing development.
 - Despite the core strategy being amended to prevent it and approved by the Secretary of State

His behaviour has been dishonourable to the people of March and the whole of Fenland.

- The petition has received in excess of 500 signatures, therefore exceeding the minimum 500 signatures required to facilitate a debate at full Council
- When considering a petition, the Council has several options on how to respond to the petition including;
 - Taking the action requested in the petition
 - Considering the petition at a council meeting
- There is a substantive agenda item in entitled Update on the Council's Local Plan and Associated Policies which is scheduled as a later agenda item on today's agenda. It is therefore suggested that this petition is considered following the substantive agenda item as it will help to inform the debate in relation to this matter.

3 Recommendations

- For Council to debate the petition following the substantive agenda item in relation to the Council's Local Plan and associated policies.

Wards Affected	All Wards
Forward Plan Reference	
Portfolio Holder(s)	Councillor Will Sutton
Report Originator(s)	Anna Goodall Head of Governance and Legal Services agoodall@fenland.gov.uk 01354 622357
Contact Officer(s)	Paul Medd Chief Executive Rob Bridge Corporate Director Alan Pain Corporate Director and Monitoring Officer Anna Goodall Head of Governance and Legal Services
Background Paper(s)	Council minutes 06 November 2014. The Local Plan,