

DEREHAM TOWN COUNCIL

18th November 2025

At an **Extraordinary Meeting** of the **Full Council** held on **Tuesday 18th November 2025** at the Memorial Hall, Dereham at **7.30pm**.

Present: R O'Callaghan (Chairman), P Duigan, S Green, A Greenwood, R Jamieson, and L King.

Also in attendance: Town Clerk A Needham and Deputy Town Clerk J Barron.

1. **To consider apologies for absence.**
Apologies for absence were received from Councillors A Brooks, Z Flint and H King.
2. **Declaration of Interest.**
There were no declarations of interest.

The meeting was adjourned

Mr Ian Milligan addressed the meeting raising concerns about NR19 and public safety in the town. He asked if the council would explain what steps it had taken regarding this matter.

The Town Clerk replied that at a council meeting in late summer members of the public raised concerns about the impact that residents of NR19 were having on the town. Following that meeting Freedom of Information requests were submitted to several district councils asking how many people they have placed in temporary accommodation and of those how many were deemed to be vulnerable due to having served prison sentences.

Mr Milligan replied that people were being placed in accommodation with no support for ridiculous amounts of time.

Councillor R O'Callaghan advised Mr Milligan that this was not within the Town Councils remit, and that all the Town Council can do in these cases is to try and shine a light on such matters.

The meeting resumed

3. **To comment on the Breckland Draft Plan – Full Update Preferred Options (Regulation 18)**
Councillors reviewed the Town Clerk notes agreeing the following amendments to the wording,

GEN 03: Page 46 – Built Form.

The Council objected to GEN 03 replacing settlement boundaries. It felt that clear settlement boundaries would better serve the public interest than trying to define a built form with words.

HOU 03 Page 80 – Windfall Housing Policy

The policy would be better worded as follows:

“The scale of every single and the sum of all windfall developments must reflect the relative sustainability of the parish as identified in Policy GEN03 as follows:”

- Market Towns – up to 100 dwellings over a plan period.

Page 246 – ENV12: Open Space, Sport, and Recreation**New Provision**

Wording amendment:

All new residential developments of 11 or more dwellings will be expected to provide outdoor playing space equivalent to 2.56 hectares per 1,000 population, which equates to 25.6 sqm of outdoor playing space per person. It is expected that this will be provided onsite due to the importance of the mental and physical health benefits of having communal open spaces close to where people live.

For developments of 25 dwellings or more, the outdoor space shall be provided as 17.6 sqm for areas for sport and 8 sqm of children’s playing space per person.

Submitting Comments to Breckland Council

It was agreed that Councillors could submit additional comments regarding Breckland Draft Plan to the Town Clerk who would then submit all comments collectively to Breckland Council.

The Town Clerk advised Councillors that the deadline for comments to be submitted was just before Christmas, but he would confirm the date.

Chairman