



AGENDA

SCHOOL ORGANISATION ADVISORY BOARD

Thursday, 17th July, 2008, at 2.00 pm

Ask for: **Geoff Mills/Karen
Manning**

**Council Chamber, Sessions House, County
Hall, Maidstone**

Telephone **(01622)
694289/694367**

Refreshments will be available from 1.45 pm outside the Chamber

UNRESTRICTED ITEMS

(During these items the meeting is likely to be open to the public)

1. Substitutes
2. Declarations of Interests by Members in items on the Agenda for this meeting.
3. Minutes - 12 June 2008 (Pages 1 - 4)
4. Goat Lees - Parental Representations for New School Provision (Pages 5 - 18)
5. Schools Applying for Foundation/Trust Status (Pages 19 - 28)

EXEMPT ITEMS

(At the time of preparing the agenda there were no exempt items. During any such items which may arise the meeting is likely NOT to be open to the public)

Geoff Mills
Democratic Services
(01622) 694287
9 July 2008

Please note that any background documents referred to in the accompanying papers maybe inspected by arrangement with the officer responsible for preparing the relevant report.

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KENT COUNTY COUNCIL**SCHOOL ORGANISATION ADVISORY BOARD**

MINUTES of a meeting of the School Organisation Advisory Board held in the Council Chamber, Sessions House, County Hall, Maidstone on Thursday, 12 June 2008.

PRESENT: Mrs V J Dagger (Chairman), Mr R B Burgess (Vice-Chairman), Mrs C Angell, Mr C J Capon, Mr A D Crowther, Mr M J Northey, Mr A R Poole and Mr I S Chittenden (Substitute for Mr M J Vye)

IN ATTENDANCE: Dr I Craig (Director Strategy Policy & Performance), Mr M Doole (Area Education Officer Thanet & Dover) and Jones (Area Education Officer Maidstone, Ton.& Mall.)

UNRESTRICTED ITEMS

- 1. Declarations of Interests by Members in items on the Agenda for this meeting.**
(Item. 2)

The Chairman, Mrs Dagger, declared an interest in this item as she was a Local Member for Wrotham School.

- 2. Minutes - 7 May 2008**
(Item. 3)

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting held on 7 May 2008 are correctly recorded and that they be signed by the Chairman.

- 3. The Proposed Relocation of Grange Park School, Leybourne, West Malling to the Wrotham School Site**
(Item. 5)

(1) The report sought the views of the Board on undertaking a Public Consultation concerning a proposal to relocate Grange Park School to a site within the grounds of Wrotham School.

(2) As part of the review and reorganisation of special schools in Kent, Grange Park School in West Malling was re-designated in 2004 from being a school for 55 pupils with 'Severe, Profound and Multiple Learning Difficulties' from the ages of 11-19 years, to become a provision for 'Severe Communication Needs associated with a combination of Autism and Severe Learning Difficulties' for boys and girls aged 11-16. The roll remained at 55. Additional places were added to meet the needs of post-16 provision, based at Holmesdale School in Snodland.

(3) The school was currently based in 1970s single-storey buildings of SEAC construction and was located in Leybourne, West Malling. The buildings were considered inadequate for their re-designated purpose. The site was too restricted to accommodate further mobile accommodation. The existing building footprint now

contained an outside learning environment, and sports facilities. The needs of the particular pupils required small class sizes and the availability of 'break-out' spaces. The site which the school currently occupied was too small to accommodate the facilities which the school required. Recently, the school's utility services had been seriously affected by the adjacent housing development.

(4) Wrotham School was a Specialist Humanities Secondary School, which was situated between the villages of Borough Green and Wrotham. The school gained specialist status for humanities in September 2005. Wrotham was a Foundation School which held its land and buildings in Trust. The proposed relocation of Grange Park School onto the Wrotham School site would not affect the operation of Wrotham School, neither would it occupy too much of the school's site. Grange Park School would be a separate and self-contained school with its own headteacher, governing body and staff. Wrotham School's existing site area was approximately 82,511m². The minimum requirement for a school of its size was 51,440m². Grange Park School would require a site area of approximately 11,825m². There was currently a surplus site area of 31,017m² on the Wrotham site, sufficient space to accommodate Grange Park School in a building with the capacity to accommodate a maximum of 55 pupils.

(5) The Local Authority had been in discussion with the headteacher and governors of Grange Park School during recent years about the school's location. Other site options had been considered during this period, but they had proved to be inappropriate. Wrotham School was recently identified as a suitable site for the relocation of Grange Park School. Early discussions had taken place with both headteachers and Chair of Governors regarding the possible relocation. The governing body at Wrotham School agreed, in principle, with the proposal.

(6) The proposal was to relocate Grange Park School from its existing site in Leybourne, West Malling, into a new 2,000sqm school building on the Wrotham School site with a target date of September 2009. The new school would be built to accommodate 55 boys and girls from the ages 11-16 and would be designed to be a 'school for the future', able to meet the requirements of the curriculum now and in the future. There were three potential locations for the new school on the Wrotham school site. Jacobs Babbie had been commissioned to carry out the feasibility studies on all three locations.

(7) The local members, Mrs S Hohler and Mrs V Dagger fully supported the proposal and their views were set out in the report.

(8) The capital costs of building the new school would be in the region of £4m. It was expected that the funding to facilitate the new build would come from the Special School Review budget. There would not be any costs involved in acquiring land from the Governing Body of Wrotham School. All staff and pupils would transfer across to the school at its new site and it was not anticipated that job contracts would be affected.

(9) The Board supported the proposal that there should be a public consultation on the possible relocation of Grange Park (Special) School from its existing site at Leybourne, West Malling to an identified site at Wrotham School.

4. Portal House (Special) School Proposed Relocation - Outcome of Public Consultation

(Item. 4)

(1) Further to Minute 4 of 10 January 2008, the report set out the results of the public consultation on the proposal to relocate Portal House School. It sought the views of the Board on the issuing of a public notice to relocate the school to purpose built accommodation on the site of the former Newington Infant School in Ramsgate.

(2) The proposal was to relocate Portal House School from its existing site at St Margaret's-at-Cliffe near Dover to the site of the former Newington Infant School, on the Newington Estate in Thanet. Potentially, staff at Portal House would transfer to the new location. There would be no compulsory redundancies.

(3) The consultation document was distributed to staff, governors and parents at the schools, County Councillors, Member of Parliament, the Parish Council, the Diocesan Authorities, local libraries, the District Councils and others in accordance with the agreed County policy. The document was also posted on the KCC website. Prior to discussion on this item, an amended Appendix 4 was circulated relating to the summary of written responses.

(4) Views of the local members, Mr A Poole and Mrs E Green were set out in the report.

(5) During discussion Mrs Angell expressed a wish for the Board to be provided with a dot map. Dr Craig undertook to inform Area Education Officers that such maps should be included in future.

(6) Mr Dance informed Members that there were now two further sites available, and requested the Board's support to investigating their suitability prior to any decision being made. Time was of the essence, and should a different site be more favourable, Members would be consulted informally. A report on the outcome would be submitted to a future meeting of the Board.

(7) The Board agreed that the two further sites be considered and a report be submitted to the July meeting if that was possible within the timescale.

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By: Director - Operations
To: School Organisation Advisory Board – 17 July 2008
Subject: GOAT LEES – PARENTAL REPRESENTATIONS FOR NEW SCHOOL PROVISION
Classification: Unrestricted

Summary: To consider parental representations for new school provision in Goat Lees, Ashford and recommend a way forward.

Introduction

1. (1) The Education Act 2006 imposed a new duty on Local Authorities to consider parental representations regarding school organisation in their area. These representations may arise due to perceived shortages of places in a location, or due to concerns at the quality of provision.

(2) Local Authorities are expected to consider representations received and respond accordingly. Appropriate responses include making the funding available to enable new provision to be created, fresh starting underperforming provision, or closing it to raise the capital for expanding better provision/creating new provision elsewhere, or rejecting the parental representation. If new provision is created, the Local Authority would normally be expected to run a competition to seek a promoter, although it is possible that in these circumstances the Secretary of State might consider an exemption and allow a parents group to promote the school without a competition.

Background

2. (1) In February 2008, this Board recommended that a public consultation be undertaken regarding new school provision in Repton Park in Ashford. This estate is under construction, with 1250 houses being built, in addition to the 85 replacement dwellings already built. The consultation meeting was attended by a number of residents from the Goat Lees estate in Ashford, which is about one and a half miles from Repton Park. The M20 separates these two estates.

(2) The Goat Lees estate was constructed between the years 1998 and 2005. 732 properties have been built. A developer contribution of a 1FE school site was provided. The condition is that a school must be substantially procured within 12 years of the commencement of the relevant phase of development or the site returned. For the avoidance of doubt, it is assumed that 1 January 2012 is the trigger day for returning the site (although legally it may be later).

(3) The residents from Goat Lees attended the consultation on Repton Park to make representations for a new school in their community. They were not opposed to a school being provided in Repton Park, as they recognised the

importance of such provision, and the impact a school has on creating a sense of community. The absence of a school in Goat Lees had, in residents' views, impacted negatively on their quality of life. Concerns were also raised about the perceived lack of availability of local provision and the increased car use as a consequence.

(4) In response to the residents' concerns, officers agreed to arrange a separate meeting in Goat Lees to discuss the matter further and agree a way forward.

Goat Lees Meeting

3. (1) The Local Member, Mr Richard King chaired the meeting. Mrs Elizabeth Tweed also attended as her division borders on the estate. The Ward Member from Ashford Borough Council, Mrs Rita Hawes, and the Parish Councillor (Boughton Aluph and Eastwell Parish Council) Mr John Hawes were in attendance. Around 23 members of the public attended, a number of whom came to the Repton Park meeting too.

(2) Leaflets advertising the meeting were hand delivered by volunteers to all addresses in the Goat Lees estate, and displayed in the local shop and at the community centre.

(3) In order to promote a discussion with the residents and interested parties, a presentation was made, following a similar format to that used in Repton Park.

Residents Views

4. (1) The majority of those attending appeared to be parents of pre-school children, who were keen to have a school in the community by the time their children started school. Details of the points raised by attendees are included at Appendix 1, but the key points are set out below:

- Children should be able to walk to school;
- Concerns that their children would not be able to obtain places at nearby primary schools in the future;
- The estate had been designed with cycle paths to facilitate safe walking and cycling within the locality;
- Anti-social behaviour in the area was attributed to the lack of community cohesion, something created by the absence of a school;
- If a school was not built, further housing would be created on the site;
- There were plans for up to 750 houses on the neighbouring Police Training Ground, which would generate an estimated 95 to 133 pupils of primary school age. These children would not have school places if the site had been handed back to the developer; and
- Further housing in the Kennington area had been earmarked in the Greater Ashford Development Framework, where there was little surplus school capacity.

(2) Residents agreed to survey local households to accurately establish the number of pre-school and school aged pupils in Goat Lees. Volunteers conducted 300 interviews, 21 leaflets were returned and 337 signatures collected in support of a new school.

(3) The survey covered about half of the houses in the estate. It therefore provides a helpful, albeit incomplete, picture which moves toward actual detail rather than the statistical modelling used by the Local Authority. The organisers found that there were:

- a) a higher proportion of under 5s compared with children aged 6 years and over (see Appendix 2)
- b) a significant number of households were planning to have children in the next couple of years (Appendix 3).

Need for School Provision

5. (1) Ashford is identified as a growth area by the Government with 30,000 houses expected to be built in the period 2001 to 2031.

(2) Appendix 5 shows the current school provision in Ashford and the Goat Lees site (labelled proposed school site). Appendix 6 provides details of the school places available. This indicates that within one mile of the site there were 37 vacant places against the January 08 school rolls. This is forecast to be 38 vacant places in 2011/12. The schools within one and two mile radii are full (two surplus places as a group) and again this is forecast to be the situation in 2011/12. The proposed school in Repton Park is intended to help alleviate this pressure and ensure that the pupils from the Repton Park development can access a local school.

(3) The Goat Lees development is built out. On the face of it the local schools can accommodate the existing and future pupils. Appendix 4 shows which maintained schools the current pupils who live in Goat Lees attend. This suggests that 68% of children attend a school within 2 miles. 86% attend a town school within 2 miles or Challock or Lady Joanna Thornhill primary schools which are the nearest village schools.

(4) The residents survey identified 159 children aged 5 to 11 years old. However, PLASC records show 250 children live in the estate and attend Kent maintained primary schools (see Appendix 4). These 250 children are included in our forecasts.

(5) KCC's statistical modelling would expect up to 180 pre-school children to live in the estate (new housing rate) and for this number to drop to around 105 pre-school aged children as the development matures (stock housing rate). Residents identified 104 children aged under 5 years, with 92 children planned within the next 5 years. Pre-school population data from the Primary Care Trust (PCT) indicates there are 135 pre-school children in the estate, resulting in between 31 and 36 reception aged children per year until 2011. Our forecasts use the PCT's data.

(6) The Greater Ashford development framework proposes 600 houses in Bockhanger Wood and 450 houses in Kennington during the period 2011-21. In the period 2021 – 2031 it proposes a further 200 homes in Bockhanger Wood.

Clearly these developments are speculative at this point and currently do not have any defined status in planning terms.

(7) Further, imminent development may occur at the Police Training Ground. Indications are that between 500 – 700 dwellings might be built on site. The development would be expected to produce between 95 – 133 pupils of primary school age (assuming 10% 1 bed flats, 30% 2 bed flats, and 60% houses). Again the development currently has no official status in planning terms. The Local Authority has also been approached for information on school places in connection with two development areas on the urban fringe on the A28 (600 houses). If any of these developments progressed there would be a shortfall of school places in the area. The difficulty, is knowing if, and when, planning permission might be granted on these sites, and when the house building would start, particularly in the current economic climate.

Area Education Officer's comments

6. (1) It is understandable that some residents of Goat Lees are campaigning for a school to be built as they anticipate this would meet the needs of families in the estate with primary aged children.

(2) Our forecasts include the 250 pupils currently living in the estate and attending school. These include the PCT data which corresponds to the pre-school population our modelling would expect. Clearly, the estate produces sufficient pupils to fill a 1FE school, but currently these pupils are able to access school places in nearby schools. Therefore, the need for a new school hinges on imminent further housing or reducing capacity at other schools.

(3) In view of the significant possibility of further housing development in the area, it would seem sensible to plan for a school on the Goat Lees site, and be ready to move forward quickly. It is therefore suggested that we conduct a public consultation on the need for a new school when a planning application for housing on either the Police Training Ground, or the sites on the A28, comes forward. This is earlier than normal, but does not commit the Authority to commissioning a school. A school competition (assuming no exemption is received) could then commence as soon as planning consent is granted and work starts on site.

Views of the Local Members

7. Mr Richard King is the Local Member for Ashford Rural West. Mrs Elizabeth Tweed is the Local Member for Ashford Central and her division borders on the Goat Lees estate. Both are fully supportive of the recommendation.

Views of the Cluster Board

8. The school site sits within the Ashford One Local Children's Partnership area. The Board has not yet been approached regarding the proposal.

Views of the Ashford Borough Council

9. At this stage the Council has not been approached, but previous discussions would indicate a desire to see the site used for a school or community facility.

Views of the Parish Council

10. The Council has not been approached at this stage, but has regularly requested updates on progress to delivering a school on the estate.

Resource Implications

Capital

11. (1) The school site in Goat Lees has been provided via developer contributions. Currently approximately £1.9m is available from cash contributions from developers of sites across Ashford which could be allocated to this project. We would anticipate a further £1.2m being collected from the Police Training Ground (assuming 500 dwellings and a 67:33 ratio of houses to flats). *Clearly this figure will be subject to negotiation by Ashford Borough Council and dependent upon the number and mix of housing.* A 1FE school currently costs between £3.5m and £3.9m with a possible further £350K for nursery provision. Inflation will increase these costs.

Revenue

(2) The revenue costs of a new school would be met from the Dedicated Schools Grant.

Equality Issues

12. (1) The proposal to consult on the need for a school does not in itself present any equalities issues, provided adequate consideration is given to ensuring consultation process is accessible to all members of the community.

(2) The school will be fully accessible, thereby increasing the range of provision available to pupils with a physical disability.

(3) If it is decided to proceed with creating a new school, an assessment will be made of the equalities issues arising from any proposal received.

Transport and Environmental Impact including Community Implications

13. (1) The majority of pupils expected to attend the school would live on Goat Lees. Over time, the number of children being transported by parents out of the estate would diminish thereby reducing the environmental impact.

(2) In line with Government expectation the school would be built to the rigorous environmental standards. Consideration would be given to the biodiversity issues during design and construction phases and the curriculum development.

School Effectiveness

14. (1) Creating a new school in Goat Lees could affect the rolls of the neighbouring schools, and have negative implications for school standards. It is important, therefore, that any new school is only provided if the need exists or

appropriate management action is taken to mitigate the impact on neighbouring schools.

(2) Any proposal to promote a new school would be assessed to ensure the promoters had the necessary experience or support to deliver high quality provision.

Proposed Timetable

15. (1) It is not possible, at this point, to give a timeline with dates, because the start date is not known. The timeline below sets out the process that we are likely to have to follow together with an indication of the length of time each stage takes:

Stage	Length of time	Cumulative timeline
Planning application received for housing	0	0
Undertake public consultation on need for school in Goat Lees	6 weeks (excluding school holidays)	6 weeks
Report back to SOAB	6 weeks	12 weeks
Planning Permission Granted	Unknown	Unknown
Cabinet Member agrees to school competition	2 weeks	2 weeks
Competition Notice issued	2 weeks	4 weeks
Competition Closes	16 weeks	20 weeks
Consideration of proposals and place 2 nd notice	3 weeks	23 weeks
Publish 2 nd Public Notice	6 weeks	29 weeks
Public views reported to SOAB	4 weeks	33 weeks
Cabinet Member decides competition	Immediately	33 weeks

(2) The above timeline does not include the design, planning and build processes for the school building. These could run in parallel with the above process if there was an urgent need.

Recommendation

16. The Board is asked to recommend that a public consultation on the need for school provision in Goat Lees be undertaken once a planning application has been received relating to either, the Police Training Ground or land on the urban fringe off the A28 in Ashford.

David Adams
Area Education Officer
Ashford and Shepway
Tel: 01233 898559

The Local Member is Mr Richard King.

Background documents:

- (1) Education & Inspection Act 2006
- (2) DCSF document, 'Duty to Respond to Parental Representations about the Provision of Schools'.

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**PROVING A NEW PRIMARY SCHOOL IN
GOAT LEES, ASHFORD, KENT**

**Summary of the public meeting held on 21 April 2008
At Community Centre at Goat Lees, Ashford, Kent**

Issue or Comment	Response
<p>The site will go back to the developer and houses will be built on it. A school is central to a community.</p> <p>How can we achieve a school on site?</p>	<p>Legislation places a duty on Kent County Council to consider parental representations. These can relate to concerns about the quality or availability of provision. It does not seem to be being suggested that local schools are not good enough, so to open a school here we would need more pupils, or to close a school elsewhere as a result.</p> <p>The process of opening a school is not straight forward. A competition has to be run to see if anyone/any organisation wishes to promote the school. This could be a parents group, or a company.</p>
<p>Your problem is you won't commit to building a school, so developers won't give you money for it. If you said you were going to build it, I'm sure people would give you the money.</p>	<p>Basic need funding is one way of obtaining money for creating additional places, but the ability to show a future deficit of places is critical to attracting the agreement from Government that KCC can borrow this money. 1,2 and 3 miles radii are used in this calculation. Ashford Borough Council have traditionally been good at seeking developer contributions on KCC's behalf to support the creation of new school places, so we would anticipate further developer contributions being sought where there is a case for requesting these. There is £1.9M of developer contributions that could be used on this site.</p>
<p>If 500-700 houses are built on the Police Training Ground, would that generate the need for a school at Goat Lees</p>	<p>I hope it would create a case for a 7 class school.</p>
<p>If local residents wanted to enter a competition, are the figures in the public domain.</p>	<p>All the information I have presented is public, copies are available. The papers to SOAB are public too, as are the meetings.</p>

<p>1,000 houses a year in Ashford will generate the need for new schools. We want our school. Clearly there was though to be a need for it or you wouldn't have asked for the site.</p>	<p>Our modelling for determining the number of primary aged pupils being generated by new houses has been revisited and the expectation reduced. A need for a school in Goat Lees was identified using the old pupil product model.</p>
<p>The site has been built to be sustainable, for example safe walking routes. It is an ideal location for a primary school.</p>	<p>We are conscious of this. We have tried to help generate a case for the school by removing capacity in other locations.</p>
<p>Fairview homes are progressing discussions about the Police Training Ground. Site investigations have started.</p>	
<p>There is a growing concern that families will not be able to get their children in to local schools in the future.</p>	<p>The forecasts suggest this will not be the case, and data indicates that a greater proportion of younger children are in more local schools. This suggests that the original pupils had to access spaces where these existed (as casual admissions), but subsequent admissions via year R were able to access local schools, presumably by displacing more distant pupils.</p>
<p>What is the timescale for moving this forward</p>	<p>I propose to take a paper about your views to SOAB in July. The Board will advise on what action, if any, the Local Authority should take.</p>

Current Primary Aged Pupils in Goat Lees Estate

86% of pupils attend a local school, which is 214 pupils

School Name	Distance from Goat Lees	No. of Pupils	% of Pupils
Downs View Infant		68	27.2
Kennington CE Junior		57	22.8
Phoenix Community Primary		11	4.4
	Less than 1 Mile	136	54.4
St Teresa's Catholic Primary		16	6.4
St Mary's CE Primary, Ashford		14	5.6
Victoria Road Primary		2	0.8
Godinton Primary		1	0.4
	Less than 2 Miles	33	13.2
Lady Joanna Thornhill (Endowed) Primary		39	15.6
East Stour Primary		4	1.6
Willesborough Junior		3	1.2
Great Chart Primary		2	0.8
St Simon of England RC Primary		2	0.8
Willesborough Infant		2	0.8
Linden Grove		1	0.4
	Less than 3 Miles	53	21.2
Challock Primary		9	3.6
Stelling Minnis CE Primary		5	2
Bodsham CE Primary		3	1.2
Smeeth Community Primary		3	1.2
Hawkinge Primary		2	0.8
Pluckley CE Primary		2	0.8
Brenzett CE Primary		1	0.4
Brook Community Primary		1	0.4
Sheldwich Primary		1	0.4
St Mary's CE Primary, Chilham		1	0.4
	Over 3 Miles	28	11.2
TOTALS		250	100

54% attend a school within 1 mile
68% attend a school within 2 miles
89% attend a school within 3 miles

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By: Director - Operations

To: School Organisation Advisory Board – 17 July 2008

Subject: SCHOOLS APPLYING FOR FOUNDATION/TRUST STATUS

Classification: Unrestricted

Summary: To inform Members of SOAB of the current situation regarding Foundation/Trust proposals

FOR INFORMATION

Background

1. (1) A paper was presented to SOAB on 17 October 2007 informing Members of the Government's encouragement of all schools to consider Foundation/Trust status, and of the 'fast track' procedures to achieve it. These procedures require a governing body to consult 'interested parties' (including the LA) over a minimum of a four week period, before determining themselves.

(2) Unless there are very good reasons not to do so, the change of status will be approved.

(3) It was agreed that as the consultation period will not normally allow the LA time to prepare paperwork for SOAB for a view, that:

- (a) Unless there are very good reasons to the contrary the presumption will be that the LA will not oppose any governing body wishing to move to Foundation or Trust status;
- (b) The Director (Operations) will consult with the Cabinet Member and local Member(s) before responding to a consultation on Foundation or Trust status;
- (c) Responses will be reported to the next available SOAB.

Determinations

2. (1) Since the last report to the Board there have been no new determinations reported to the local authority.

Consultations

3. Since the last report, the Governing Body of **Folkestone School for Girls** has informed us that they are consulting formally over a four week period (23 June – 23 July 2008) on moving the school from Foundation to Trust status. Their proposed Trust partners are Canterbury Christ Church University, The Creative Foundation and KCC. The governing body is also seeking an additional trust partner with expertise in ICT.

Recommendations

4. Members are asked to support a letter being sent to the Governing Body of Folkestone School for Girls to inform them that Kent County Council will not oppose their proposal.

Ian Craig
Director (Operations)
01622 694173
ian.craig@kent.gov.uk

Background Documents:

- School Standards and Framework Act; DFES 1998
- Education and Inspection Act; DFES 2006
- Changing Category to Foundation; DCSF 2007
- School Organisation; Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools in England Regulations; DCSF 2007
- Schools Applying for Foundation/Trust Status;
SOAB - 17 October 2007/14 November 2007/
10 January 2008/7 February 2008/2 April 2008/7 May 2008

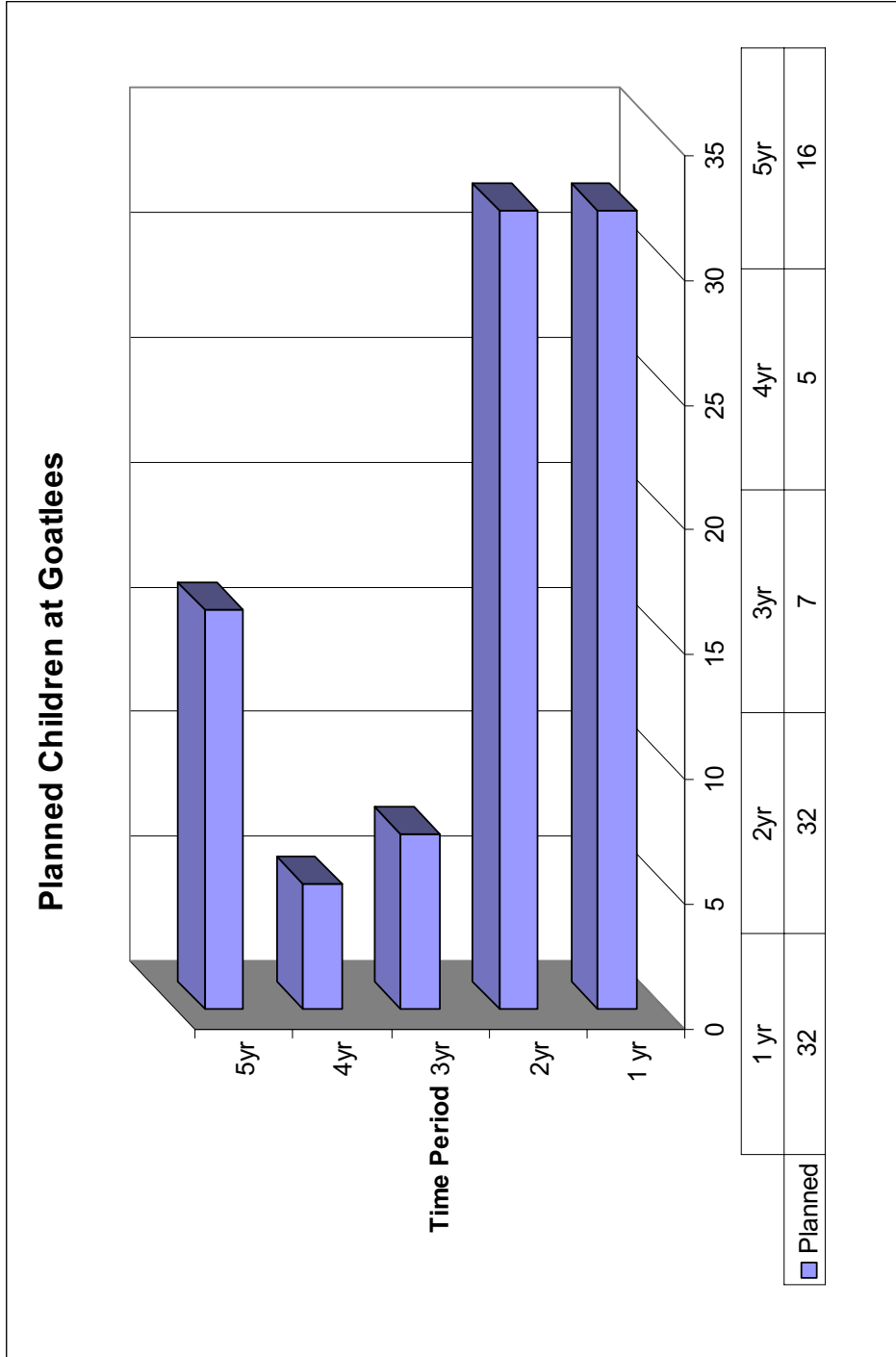
**PROVING A NEW PRIMARY SCHOOL IN
GOAT LEES, ASHFORD, KENT**

**Summary of the public meeting held on 21 April 2008
At Community Centre at Goat Lees, Ashford, Kent**

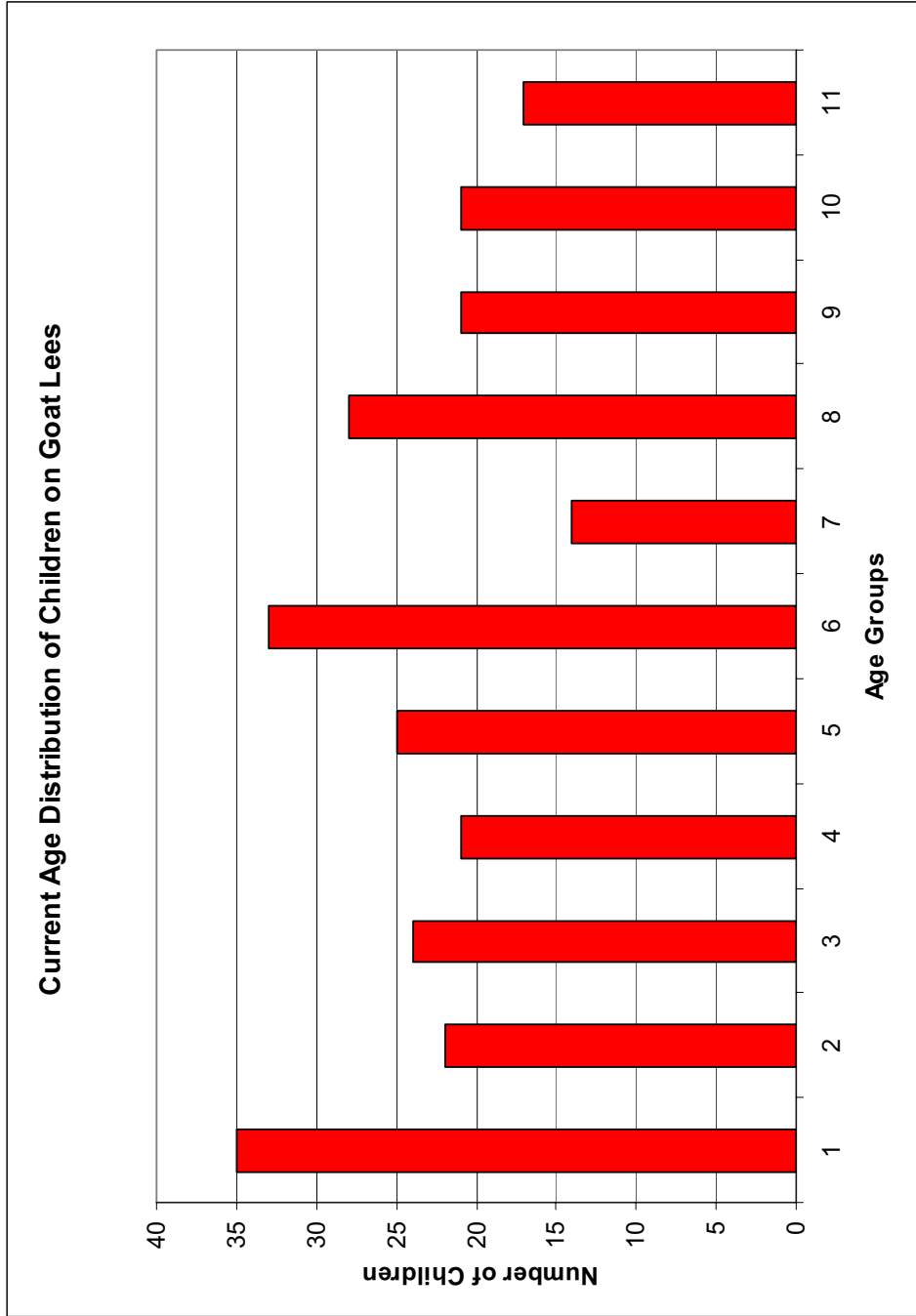
Issue or Comment	Response
<p>The site will go back to the developer and houses will be built on it. A school is central to a community.</p> <p>How can we achieve a school on site?</p>	<p>Legislation places a duty on Kent County Council to consider parental representations. These can relate to concerns about the quality or availability of provision. It does not seem to be being suggested that local schools are not good enough, so to open a school here we would need more pupils, or to close a school elsewhere as a result.</p> <p>The process of opening a school is not straight forward. A competition has to be run to see if anyone/any organisation wishes to promoter the school. This could be a parents group, or a company.</p>
<p>Your problem is you won't commit to building a school, so developers won't give you money for it. If you said you were going to build it, I'm sure people would give you the money.</p>	<p>Basic need funding is one way of obtaining money for creating additional places, but the ability to show a future deficit of places is critical to attracting the agreement from Government that KCC can borrow this money. 1,2 and 3 miles radii are used in this calculation. Ashford Borough Council have traditionally been good at seeking developer contributions on KCC's behalf to support the creation of new school places, so we would anticipate further developer contributions being sought where there is a case for requesting these. There is £1.9M of developer contributions that could be used on this site.</p>
<p>If 500-700 houses are built on the Police Training Ground, would that generate the need for a school at Goat Lees</p>	<p>I hope it would created a case for a 7 class school.</p>
<p>If local residents wanted to enter a competition, are the figures in the public domain.</p>	<p>All the information I have presented is public, copies are available. The papers to SOAB are public too, as are the meetings.</p>

<p>1,000 houses a year in Ashford will generate the need for new schools. We want our school. Clearly there was though to be a need for it or you wouldn't have asked for the site.</p>	<p>Our modelling for determining the number of primary aged pupils being generated by new houses has been revisited and the expectation reduced. A need for a school in Goat Lees was identified using the old pupil product model.</p>
<p>The site has been built to be sustainable, for example safe walking routes. It is an ideal location for a primary school.</p>	<p>We are conscious of this. We have tried to help generate a case for the school by removing capacity in other locations.</p>
<p>Fairview homes are progressing discussions about the Police Training Ground. Site investigations have started.</p>	
<p>There is a growing concern that families will not be able to get their children in to local schools in the future.</p>	<p>The forecasts suggest this will not be the case, and data indicates that a greater proportion of younger children are in more local schools. This suggests that the original pupils had to access spaces where these existed (as casual admissions), but subsequent admissions via year R were able to access local schools, presumably by displacing more distant pupils.</p>
<p>What is the timescale for moving this forward</p>	<p>I propose to take a paper about your views to SOAB in July. The Board will advise on what action, if any, the Local Authority should take.</p>

Planned Children at Goat Lees



Age Distribution of Children on Goat Lees



Current Primary Aged Pupils in Goat Lees Estate

86% of pupils attend a local school, which is 214 pupils

School Name	Distance from Goat Lees	No. of Pupils	% of Pupils
Downs View Infant		68	27.2
Kennington CE Junior		57	22.8
Phoenix Community Primary		11	4.4
	Less than 1 Mile	136	54.4
St Teresa's Catholic Primary		16	6.4
St Mary's CE Primary, Ashford		14	5.6
Victoria Road Primary		2	0.8
Godinton Primary		1	0.4
	Less than 2 Miles	33	13.2
Lady Joanna Thornhill (Endowed) Primary		39	15.6
East Stour Primary		4	1.6
Willesborough Junior		3	1.2
Great Chart Primary		2	0.8
St Simon of England RC Primary		2	0.8
Willesborough Infant		2	0.8
Linden Grove		1	0.4
	Less than 3 Miles	53	21.2
Challock Primary		9	3.6
Stelling Minnis CE Primary		5	2
Bodsham CE Primary		3	1.2
Smeeth Community Primary		3	1.2
Hawkinge Primary		2	0.8
Pluckley CE Primary		2	0.8
Brenzett CE Primary		1	0.4
Brook Community Primary		1	0.4
Sheldwich Primary		1	0.4
St Mary's CE Primary, Chilham		1	0.4
	Over 3 Miles	28	11.2
TOTALS		250	100

54% attend a school within 1 mile
68% attend a school within 2 miles
89% attend a school within 3 miles

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School Places Within 3 Miles of Goat Lees Site

School	Status	Type	No. of Year Groups	Published Admission No. 2008	School Capacity	Actual		Autumn Term 2007 Forecasts					Surp/Def 2011/12	
						Jan-08	Roll	07/08	08/09	09/10	10/11	11/12		Jan-08
Downsview Infant	Community	Infant	3	* 90	270	256								
Kennington CE Junior	Vol. Controlled	Junior	4	* 90	360	342								
Phoenix Community	Community	Primary	7	30	210	205								
1 mile Radius				120	840	803	837	831	811	799	802	802	3	38
St. Teresa's RC Primary	Vol. Aided	Primary	7	30	210	212								
St. Mary's CE Primary, Ashford	Vol. Controlled	Primary	7	60	420	422								
Victoria Road Primary	Community	Primary	7	30	210	203								
Godinton Primary	Community	Primary	7	60	420	421								
2 Mile Radius				180	1260	1258	1262	1261	1260	1258	1258	1258	-2	2
Lady Joanna Thornhill Primary	Vol. Controlled	Primary	7	60	420	415								
East Stour Primary	Community	Primary	7	60	420	314								
Willesborough Junior	Foundation	Junior	4	* 120	480	512								
Great Chart Primary	Community	Primary	7	60	420	425								
St. Simon of England RC Primary	Vol. Aided	Primary	7	30	210	207								
Willesborough Infant	Community	Infant	3	* 120	360	338								
Linden Grove	Community	Primary	7	60	420	377								
Ashford South (amalgamate 9/08)	Community	Primary	7	60	420	182								
Oak Tree	Community	Primary	7	60	420	172								
John Wesley	Vol. Aided	Primary	7	30	210	113								
Beaver Green	Community	Primary	7	60	420	518								
3 Mile Radius				551	3780	3573	3552	3509	3498	3515	3553	228	227	
Total Pupils within 3 miles				851	5880	5634	5651	5601	5569	5572	5613	229	267	

* Infant and Junior Schools PANs are included as one to avoid double counting

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