

"Mr Examiner, my name is Paul Claussen and I am the other (Senior) ward member for the Mattishall Ward which includes Yaxham and I have asked the Yaxham representatives to read this short statement on my behalf at Matter 14 Agenda Item 22.

First, to correct an unintentionally misleading comment on page 86 of the Council's Matter 14 submission, paragraph 12. It states that Yaxham has "lost its Local Service Centre Status". This is untrue in that Yaxham has never been a Local Service Centre. It was newly proposed to be an LSC in the 2015 LSC Topic Paper, but after much diligent work by Yaxham it was shown that much of the information used for that decision was inaccurate or just plain wrong. In February 2017 the Council's Local Plan Working Group therefore removed the proposal that Yaxham be newly designated as an LSC, which was later confirmed by the Cabinet and the Council.

Second, what you heard, Sir, on Tuesday [Matter 13, 5th June 2018] was that the facts have changed since that decision that only serve to reinforce the decision that Yaxham should not be a new LSC. The County Council has amended its view to confirm that the Primary School is full, once current permissions are built - and not including the contested Appeal site reported Tuesday. The only shop in the parish has now closed and you heard the statement from the management that it will not be re-opening. So on any meaningful definition of sustainability, Yaxham has even less services than in February 2017 and should not be an LSC.

Third, I can confirm that as a member of the Cabinet, the only Policy Map changes proposed and agreed for Yaxham when the Neighbourhood Plan was "made" in June last year were the additions of the Strategic Gap and 4 newly designated Local Green Spaces. No changes to the Settlement Boundaries of Yaxham or Clint Green were proposed or agreed by either Cabinet or Council.

Lastly, I take this opportunity to underline that this is the view supported by 92% of the electorate as recorded in the Neighbourhood Plan Referendum, representing a different view to that made during this examination by my fellow ward member Pablo Dimoglou.

Thank you for allowing this Statement to be read on my behalf."