

# BRIMSCOMBE & THRUPP PARISH COUNCIL



## STATEMENT ON BRIMSCOMBE PORT PROPOSALS - 1 Feb 2011

We are delighted that so many people participated in the public consultation on the future of Brimscombe Port hosted by the Parish Council and District Council 20-22 January. Approximately 70 people attended the public meeting, 90 people attended the drop-in sessions and 25 teenagers were consulted through the youth club.

We note that a high proportion of feedback respondents were generally supportive of redevelopment but with a large number considering the current proposals are too tall and have too high a proportion of flats. We also note that many respondents liked the lay-out of the water, especially the island scheme and the provision of a community enterprise centre at the heart of the development.

The Parish Council and District Councillor are broadly in favour of the proposals, seeing the redevelopment of the Port as a once in a lifetime opportunity to create an exciting heart to our community. However these changes will be with us for generations, so it is vitally important that we get them right.

We do have some concerns about the proposals, which we would like to see changed before we can support the outline planning application. These are:

- The overall density and height of the development, with the majority being 4-5 storeys, is too high.
- There are too many flats (214), which we think will be difficult to sell – we believe fewer units and a broader mix of housing would be more appropriate. It remains important that 30% of housing should be affordable
- The current allocation of only 17% of the floor-space to employment/commerce/retail use doesn't provide enough jobs. We would like to see all existing jobs on the site protected and 30% of new floor-space allocated to employment.
- More work needs to be done on both the parking and traffic implications of the proposals.

Other issues, like whether the design is modern or traditional and the amount and design of green/public space, will be addressed through further consultation at the detailed planning application stage.

Please continue to support us in this important matter.

Handwritten signature of Bill Harvey in black ink.

Bill Harvey  
Parish Council Chairman

Handwritten signature of Martin Whiteside in black ink.

Martin Whiteside  
District Councillor