

STATEMENT FOR THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING : 141221

1. We would like to ask what legal advice the Cotswold District Council has provided to the Town Council or the Town Council has independently obtained, regarding the legality of the offer from the owners, and when this will be made public?

2. We would like the Town Council to demonstrate how the Craves/Leasows working party has followed the Nolan principles', the basis of the ethical standards expected of public office holders, particularly of openness, objectivity and integrity.

3. We believe the town needs to be fully and properly informed of the issues and that there should be a public debate before a proposal can be put to a public referendum. We ask the Town Council to provide full, balanced and contextual information, and then conduct a public meeting allowing the town to engage in the debate prior to any referendum.

4. Due diligence and transparency dictates that full and contextual information should be offered to everyone in the Town. The Campden Society believes this should include:

- a) the written offer from the landowners and the legal advice obtained to appraise this;
- b) the process, funding, and Local Plan implications for the Options Appraisal (evaluating housing need, environmental impact etc.);
- c) the implication of moving the development boundary without substantial benefit to the town as this would set a precedent for future developments and may compromise the Council's ability to carry out its duties effectively; and
- d) the documentation which shows that neither The Craves nor the Upper Leasows are seen by Cotswold District Council as potential development sites and it is therefore highly unlikely there will be support from CDC regarding this offer.

Without this due diligence, the Campden Society believe that paying for a referendum at this point the Town Council may be open to accusations of misuse of public funds.