

Steering Group Meeting - 22nd November 2017 - Ticehurst Village Institute – 6.30p.m.

Apologies for absence: Stephen Burley, Peter Reeves, Daniel Studholme and Glynis Tucker

Present: John Pilcher, John Poole, David Goodale, Sheena Carmichael, Liz Young, Anthony Lloyd, Robin Tait, James Robson, Ann Cook, and Caroline Morris (joined the meeting an interested resident from Flimwell) Rod Rigby, Sheila Crawley and James Galpin also attended the meeting as representative parish councillors.

SC requested that all members of the group provide their final comments on the draft plan - Policies R1 and R2 in particular.

She also reported that Sedlescombe had to wait for 8 months after Regulation 16 to receive the public examiner's report. There had been a dispute over a designated green space that Rother had then granted a planning application on. Sedlescombe challenged the permission through the judicial review process but failed to overturn the decision. They did however achieve protection for part of the site.

After Regulation 14, the plan can be altered in response to comments but thereafter having reached Regulation 16 there will be no further opportunity to alter the plan – it will go to RDC and then to the planning examiner.

Frank Rallings is now working two days a week at Rother District Council assisting with the Neighbourhood Plans, having returned to the district on a part time basis. He has been very useful and very helpful recently.

Comments from AONB management team have been received, (especially on rural policies) and some alterations made to the draft as a result.

Diane Russell (conservation officer at RDC) has made useful and positive comments which again have fed into some of the alterations.

Call for sites justification paper has been worked on by FN and JPi and submitted to RDC for comment and strengthening. It was felt that both Policies H1 and H2 should be sent. It is understood that Banky Field is on the point of exchange.

Policy H1 - It was unanimously voted that this was now fit for purpose.

The green spaces and development boundary were amalgamated on to one map for the purpose of the meeting.

It was agreed that the extended carpark area to rear of the Bell should be extended as white rather than as green space - JP and AL to measure and add to the map on 23rd November 2017.

Flimwell - the Wardsdown area has been designated as green space and at Stonegate there is no change.

DG commented that he felt the draft was excellent and addressed all issues raised by the public during the NP process.

Narrative about the public realm works has been improved using suggestion supplied by Diane Russell RDC.

Rural Policies: One of the points that RDC made in R4 was to include the provision of a footpath linking Flimwell and Ticehurst at Dale Hill. Agreed to leave that in as an aspirational point.

Combined R 1 and R2 - R2 was about views but it does not defined specific views - 'views from the ridges should be protected' yellow highlighted areas on the maps circulated.

James Robson requested that thought should be given to the wording for having design impact statement submitted with planning applications – SC to amend.

Executive Summary: LY and SC to draft a summary.

Members were asked for comment prior to it going to the Parish Council on 5th December 2017 – There would also be the opportunity to comment individually during the Regulation 14 period.

E 4 and E 5 had been amalgamated and this was felt to be an improvement.

The SG will send out a letter in advance to advise people of the time frame of the Regulation 14 period - It was agreed that a four page summary referring to the full document would be effective rather than a one sided page which would have to be a bit abrupt and brief. The referencing to the full document is vital to avoid any challenge at a later stage. It was felt important to remind people what the NP is and encourage them to go on line to see the whole document.

Hard copies will need to be printed - one in each pub and most of the shops. It was felt that producing News and Views as the whole draft plan would reach a good audience. SC to speak to the editor for advice.

2nd January to 14th February = consultation period for Regulation 14.

1st and 2nd February 2017 - Feria will be running an event during this period in the Village Hall Ticehurst - hospitality to be provided. Towards the end of the consultation period.

Communications plan:

1500 questionnaires went out 200 returned - best results were with street champions in the centre of the villages. Outlying areas will receive postal copies.

Street champions have been shown to work and it was felt that pop up posters reminding people of the time frame and need to respond (eg Goudhurst) would also be effective.

RT pointed out that there is a data base of over 300 subscribers to the web site. It was agreed to ask if they have additional contacts that they could provide to widen the distribution .

CM was asked to create a communication plan.

Street champions - volunteers or suggestions to LY. The more people that come forward will result in a better response.

It was suggested asking the primary schools to send out documentation with their weekly news sheets.

It was agreed that arresting posters would be needed and positioned at every entry to the parish and residential roads and cul-de-sacs. DG suggested using the templates designed by Bill Talbot.

Date of the next meeting: AC to find out what dates are available. It was suggested going for a 5.00 pm meeting before Christmas – and subsequently set for 5.30 pm on 18th December 2017.