



Hailsham Neighbourhood Plan

Consultation Statement

Volume 3: Meetings, presentations and drop-in events

Troy Planning + Design

March 2026



Hailsham Neighbourhood Plan, Consultation Statement

Volume 3: Meetings, presentations and drop-in events

March 2026



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Neighbourhood Plan and Design Code

Summary report of consultation: Meetings, presentations and drop-in events



March 2025



Neighbourhood Plan and Design Code
Report of Consultation:
Meetings, presentations and drop-in events
March 2025

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1. Overview

Introduction

This report presents a summary of consultation that took place from mid-January through to the end of February 2025 and involving:

Throughout the consultation period:

- A survey was available online and in downloadable format from the Town Council website.

Week commencing Monday 3rd February:

- Presentation to the Hailsham Historical and Natural Society.
- Presentation to the Hailsham Chamber of Commerce.

Week commencing Monday 10th February:

- Presentation to the 'Young at Heart' club.
- Public drop-in at James West Centre.
- Public drop-in at The Laurel, George Street.
- Workshop with pupils at Hailsham Community College.

This report presents an overview of the different types of consultation activity and material used before summarising the feedback and considering what this might mean for ongoing work on the Neighbourhood Plan and Design Code.

Awareness raising

The following was undertaken to raise awareness of the consultation activities:

- Organisations and community groups were contacted directly by Councillors to encourage involvement in the consultation exercise and to arrange meetings and presentations to those groups and their members.
- E-mails were sent to those people responding to earlier rounds of consultation indicating they would like to be kept informed of progress on the Neighbourhood Plan.
- News items were posted on the Town Council website and separately, the free standing Hailsham Neighbourhood Plan website.
- A poster was prepared advertising the public drop-in events and inserted into 'Hailsham News'.
- Updates were posted on social media.

Screenshots of the Town Council website as it appeared at the launch of the consultation period, as well as the poster used to advertise the drop-in events, are presented in [Figure 1](#) through to [Figure 4](#). An article was also placed in the Hailsham News, delivered to every postal address in the town ([Figure 5](#)), and links through to the survey posted on the website of the Hailsham Chamber of Commerce ([Figure 6](#)).

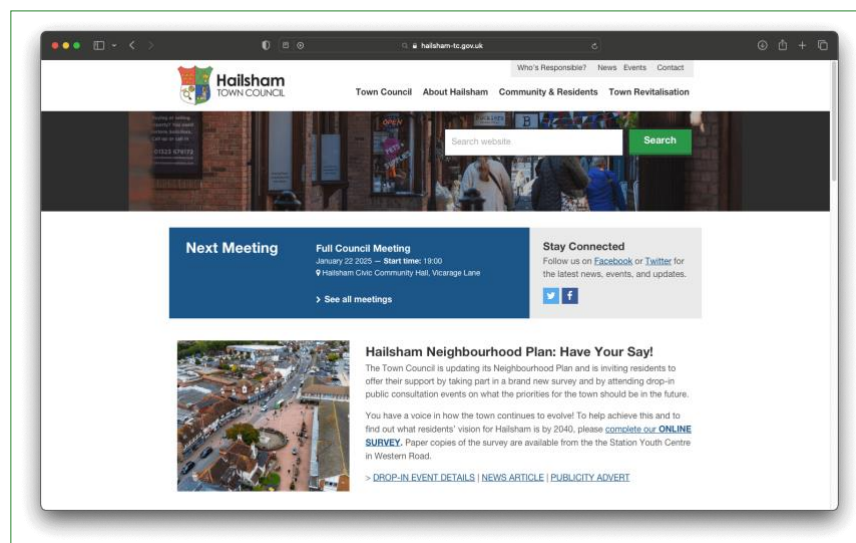


Figure 1: Homepage of the Town Council website at the start of the consultation period, including link through to online version of survey

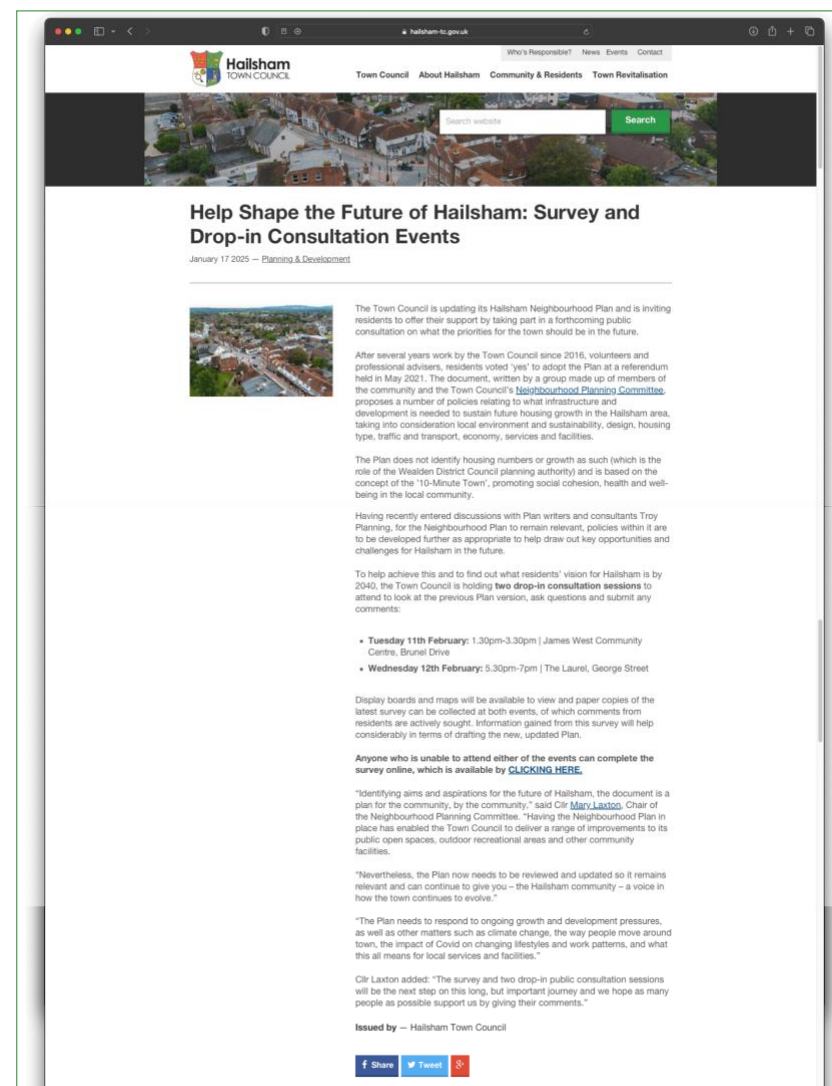


Figure 2: News item on the Town Council website launching consultation



Figure 3: Homepage of the Neighbourhood Plan specific website at the start of the consultation period



Figure 4: Poster prepared to advertise and encourage people to attend one of the drop-in events for the Neighbourhood Plan



Figure 5: News item and advert in the February edition of the Hailsham News, delivered to all postal addresses in Hailsham

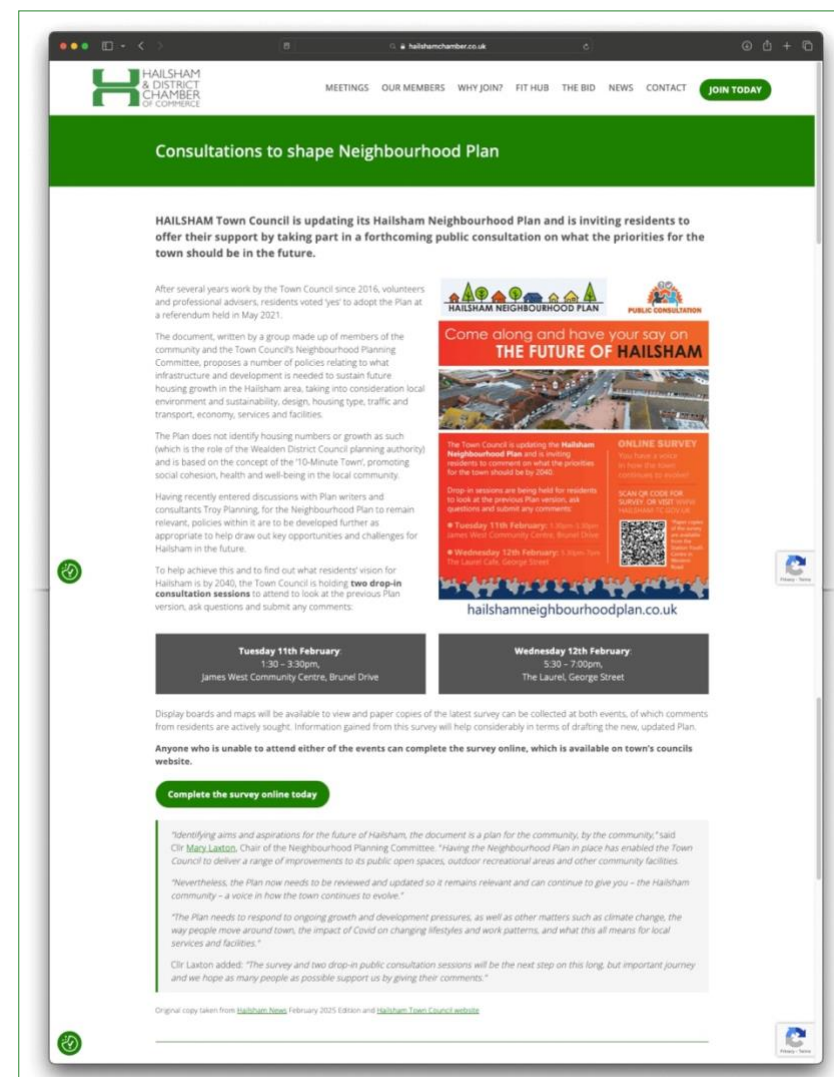


Figure 6: News item on the Hailsham Chamber of Commerce website

Presentation material

Representatives from the Town Council were invited to attend the February meetings of the Hailsham Historical and Natural Society, Chamber of Commerce and 'Young at Heart' club. Around 100 people were in attendance at the Historical and Natural Society, and 50 at the session with the Chamber of Commerce. The Chamber has around 130 members and copies of the presentation material were circulated to all. Around 55 people were in attendance at the Young at Heart event.

A presentation was made to each of the groups, introducing the Neighbourhood Plan and providing an overview of its role and status, why the Plan is being updated and a Design Code prepared. It included an overview of key points for consideration in the production of a Neighbourhood Plan.

Attendees were encouraged to complete a survey which invited them to set out their vision for Hailsham in 2040, and the key actions they would like to see to achieve this. The survey also asked attendees to identify their priorities for change in the Town Centre, and to identify their favourite place, aspect or feature of Hailsham. For the Young at Heart event display posters were made available for people to view and respond to.

A copy of the presentation and survey is included in Appendix A.

Workshop material

A session was held with the Year 11 Geography pupils at Hailsham Community College. This included an introduction to and overview of 'planning', the role and purpose of neighbourhood planning, why a Neighbourhood Plan was previously prepared for Hailsham and why it is now being updated.

Part of the session allowed for interactive feedback, inviting pupils to name their favourite places and explain why, to feedback on whether they think the idea of Hailsham being a 'ten-minute town' (as presented in the previous Neighbourhood Plan) remains relevant, and, making use of a visual preference survey, what type of design examples of residential development they prefer.

The session also involved a workshop style activity, breaking participants into smaller groups to focus on Hailsham Town Centre and explore those things they like and think that work well in the centre, those that work less well, and those things they think need to happen to improve the town centre.

A copy of the presentation and other supporting material used for the purposes of the workshop is included in Appendix B.

Drop-in material

Two 'drop-in' events were held, at the James West Centre and The Laurel Café in the Town Centre.

Six large panels were displayed at the events, inviting people to provide feedback on their vision for Hailsham and how it should be achieved.

A large map of Hailsham (and neighbouring Hellingly), and growth areas around this, was also displayed. Attendees to the drop-in events were invited to mark this up, identifying specific places and opportunities for change and improvement, related to green infrastructure, community facilities and the movement network.

As with the workshop with pupils at Hailsham Community College, attendees were asked whether the idea of the ten minute town remains relevant, and which example images of design and development that prefer.

Attendees were invited to write directly onto the display boards, and or make use of coloured sticky dots to indicate their thoughts.

Copies of material displayed at the drop-in events are presented in Appendix C.

'Open' survey

A two-page survey was made available for people to complete. The questions on this matched those presented on the display material used for the purposes of the drop-in sessions. The survey was thus useful in capturing the feedback of those unable to attend the drop-in sessions. It also allowed attendees to the drop-in events to provide further feedback.

The survey was made available for download via the Town Council website. An online version was also available for people to complete.

A copy of the downloadable, print version of the survey is included in Appendix D.

A selection of photos from the various events are shown in [Figure 7](#).



Figure 7: Selection of photos from consultation events. All faces obscured for privacy purposes.

2. Consultation responses

Overall level of response

During the course of the consultation around 300 people were spoken with or in attendance at various presentations and workshops. There were 107 responses to the survey in total, with many others providing feedback directly onto the display posters.

Of those who responded to the survey and completed the relevant sections of this:

- The vast majority (97%) identified as being residents of Hailsham.
- Based on post code information provided, responses were received from across Hailsham as a whole, with some from neighbouring Hellingly too (Figure 8).
- A large proportion of respondents (47%) identified as being in the over 65 age group, with another 22% aged 56-65. Other age groups were fairly evenly represented. The workshop with students at Hailsham Community College was purposely held to reach out to the younger generation.

Selected images of the posters used to gather ideas and responses at the drop-in events are presented in Figure 9 – Figure 11.

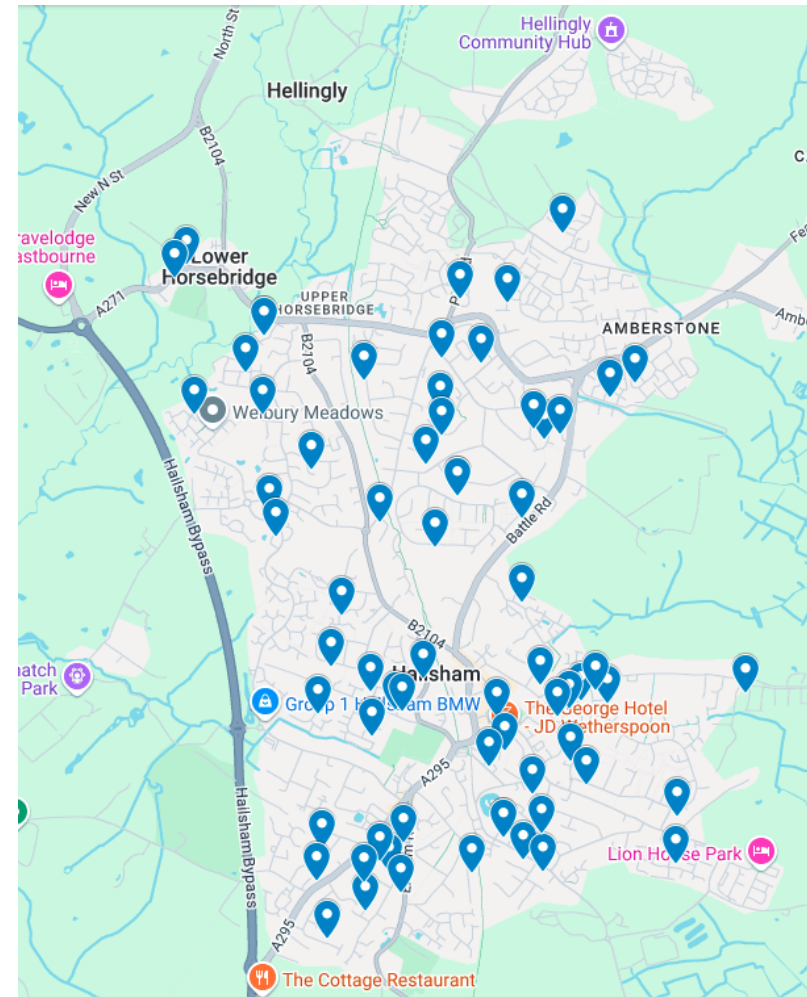


Figure 8: Map showing location of the majority of respondents to the survey (based on those who provided post code date). Map source: Google Maps

What do you like most about living in Hailsham?

What do you think? Please write a note in any of the boxes to tell us what you like most about living in Hailsham.	I love... SHOPPING FACILITIES IN CENTRAL AREA It's really nice, good shops, nice & good community	I really value... FREE PARKING ✓ FREE PARKING ✓ FREE PARKING ✓	My favourite thing is... CUCKER TRAIL ✓ Cuckoo ✓
I love... Free parking, Hailsham Centre, Cinema, Hailsham Forum, Cuckoo Trail, nice people	I really value... Cuckoo Trail, Bus service, Social Community Group, Hailsham Forum, nice people	My favourite thing is... Easily accessible to bus, good bus service	I love... the Cinema, the Leisure Centre, Western Rd. Rec
I really value... Cinema, Very important community, good bus service, Hailsham Forum, independent shops	My favourite thing is... Cuckoo Trail, Cinema, Compact town centre, Free parking, Community spirit, good bus service	I love... The variety of independent shops, Hailsham Green, Park, Hailsham Forum, Hailsham Centre	I really value... Being able to walk, the fact that verges are not cut in the Spring, it would be nice if they were left a bit longer
My favourite thing is... Cinema & Cuckoo trail, Cinema - building for book!	I love... Being able to get most things in the town, QUIET, NATURE	I really value... Variety of independent shops, CINEMA, LEISURE CENTRE	My favourite thing is... the Parkland, having a leisure centre, free car parking
I love... Friendly people, shopping, the cinema, cinema shops, cinema town	I really value... Free parking, Hailsham Forum, Hailsham Centre, the fact	My favourite thing is... Hailsham Forum, Western Rd. Rec, the fact that it's a nice area	Want to say more? Please complete the survey to tell us more. This can be completed online.

to find out more and complete a survey, visit: www.hailsham-tc.gov.uk

Figure 9: Consultation poster with comments added

A vision for the future: what should Hailsham be like in 2040?

What do you think? Please write a note in any of the boxes to tell us what your vision for Hailsham is.	We really need... More infrastructure to cope with increasing traffic & population CIVIC PRIDE better traffic flow, better public transport, better public services	It would be nice if... Infrastructure was thought of as planned before building new estates City could exist with relaxing and social behaviour	Hailsham should be... Better to be a small town, better to be a small town, better to be a small town, better to be a small town
We really need... Better infrastructure, better infrastructure, better infrastructure, better infrastructure	It would be nice if... Better infrastructure, better infrastructure, better infrastructure, better infrastructure	Hailsham should be... Better infrastructure, better infrastructure, better infrastructure, better infrastructure	We really need... Better infrastructure, better infrastructure, better infrastructure, better infrastructure
It would be nice if... Better infrastructure, better infrastructure, better infrastructure, better infrastructure	Hailsham should be... Better infrastructure, better infrastructure, better infrastructure, better infrastructure	We really need... Better infrastructure, better infrastructure, better infrastructure, better infrastructure	It would be nice if... Better infrastructure, better infrastructure, better infrastructure, better infrastructure
Hailsham should be... Better infrastructure, better infrastructure, better infrastructure, better infrastructure	We really need... Better infrastructure, better infrastructure, better infrastructure, better infrastructure	It would be nice if... Better infrastructure, better infrastructure, better infrastructure, better infrastructure	Hailsham should be... Better infrastructure, better infrastructure, better infrastructure, better infrastructure
We really need... Better infrastructure, better infrastructure, better infrastructure, better infrastructure	It would be nice if... Better infrastructure, better infrastructure, better infrastructure, better infrastructure	Hailsham should be... Better infrastructure, better infrastructure, better infrastructure, better infrastructure	Want to say more? Please complete the survey to tell us more. This can be completed online.

to find out more and complete a survey, visit: www.hailsham-tc.gov.uk

Figure 10: Consultation poster with comments added

- Infrastructure improvements, including more GP surgeries, improved public transport and better road layouts.
- Support for local businesses, supporting independent shops and cafes to locate in Hailsham with reduced business rates and provision of grants.
- To limit new housing developments, ensure affordable housing is provided where housing takes place, and to maintain green spaces.
- To create more green spaces and community hubs, and enforce traffic and parking regulations.

The Town Centre

Respondents were asked to outline their priorities for the town centre. Key points are summarised as:

Revitalising the Town Centre:

- Pedestrianise the high street to create a more pleasant shopping experience.
- Attract a diverse range of shops, including independent retailers and cafes.
- Improve the cleanliness and maintenance of public areas.

Support for Local Businesses:

- Reduce business rates and provide grants to support local businesses.
- Encourage the establishment of pop-up shops and markets to attract visitors.
- Promote local artisans and crafts to enhance the town's unique character.

Cultural and Recreational Facilities:

- Develop more entertainment venues, such as cinemas and theatres.
- Support arts and cultural events to engage the community.

Wider ideas

Other ideas for the Hailsham as a whole are summarised as:

Green Spaces and Parks:

- Create more parks, community orchards, and allotments.
- Plant more trees and to enhance the town's greenery.
- Develop living walls and green corridors to improve air quality and the look of the town.

Community Hubs and Facilities:

- Establish community hubs with facilities for various activities and events.
- Encourage the development of community centres and spaces for social gatherings.

Sustainability and Eco-Friendly Initiatives:

- Promote the use of solar panels and rainwater recycling in new developments.
- Encourage eco-friendly transport solutions like cycling and walking.
- Implement policies to protect wildlife and promote biodiversity.

Healthcare Facilities:

- Build a new health centre or polyclinic to provide comprehensive healthcare services.

- Increase the number of GP surgeries and ensure better access to medical care.

Public Transport:

- Develop a railway station to improve connectivity.
- Enhance bus services and create dedicated bus lanes to reduce traffic.

Improved Road Infrastructure:

- Redesign and restructure roadways to alleviate congestion, including the introduction of roundabouts and better traffic management systems.
- Ensure roads are wide enough for buses and other large vehicles.

Housing:

- Limit new housing developments to preserve green spaces.
- Ensure new housing includes affordable and social housing options.
- Design housing with adequate green spaces and parking facilities.

These ideas reflect the community's desire to balance development with the preservation of Hailsham's character and environment, while also improving infrastructure and services to support a growing population.

The ‘ten-minute town’

The consultation material presented the ‘ten-minute town’ graphic prepared for the first Neighbourhood Plan alongside explanatory text. Respondents were asked whether the concept remains relevant, or not, or whether it is partially relevant but needs updating.

Respondents overwhelmingly supported the concept, with more than 80% of all respondents saying it either remains relevant, or it is relevant but could be updated (Figure 12).

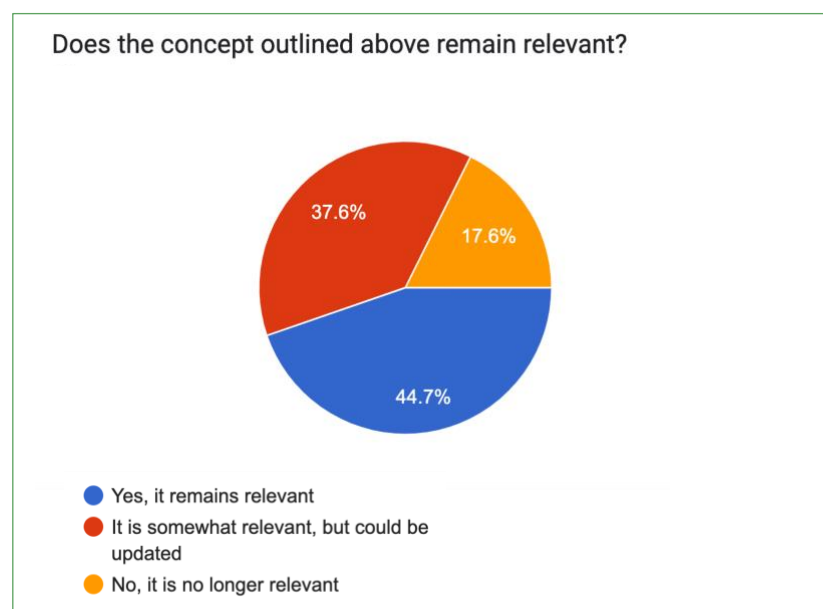


Figure 12: Responses to survey asking whether the ‘ten-minute town’ concept remains relevant

In terms of those who provide comments to expand upon their answer, positive aspects of the concept were considered to include its support for accessibility and convenience for all, that it encourages walking and cycling, reducing car dependency. Others liked the idea of having essential services and amenities within a short distance of the home, fostering a stronger community feel.

Some felt that the idea was good in theory, but that with the ongoing growth of the town and burden on services, it is difficult to access the services needed, and not within ten minutes.

A few felt that the concept was part of a wider strategy instigated at the global level to restrict freedom of movement.

In terms of how the concept might be improved, respondents suggested:

- Improving public transport links and creating dedicated cycle lanes to make the ten minute town concept more achievable.
- Provision of more green spaces, parks and community facilities to make the town more liveable and attractive.
- Encouraging local businesses and reducing the number of charity shops, take-aways and nail bars in favour of more diverse retail options to enhance the vibrancy of the town centre.

Visual preference

The consultation material illustrated eight different types of house and street design. Respondents were invited to indicate their preferred images.

None of the images were of homes in Hailsham. All images were relatively similar in terms of house size, but representing different periods of development, from Victorian cottages through to 1930's semi-detached housing, 1960's and 1970's housing, through to more modern residential development.

Preferences are indicated in [Figure 13](#), showing the preferred examples (marked with a tick) and least preferred (marked with a cross).

Respondents said they preferred those example images that have a sense of space and incorporate greenery, with a mix of materials adding interest.

Conversely, the reasons for not preferring a particular example were associated with the perceived lack of space and greenery within the development.

The example images show that some of the house types are similar, but that respondents reacted differently to them. This indicates the importance of the quality of the public realm, greenery and use of materials to help create interest and character.



Figure 13: Outcomes of visual preference survey

3. Conclusions

Based on the feedback to consultation, this section presents a draft updated vision statement for the Neighbourhood Plan, and identifies key ideas that might be taken forward to help deliver the vision. Some of these are directly related to land use and development, and could thus comprise new or updated policies in the Neighbourhood Plan. Others represent wider ideas and aspirations that are not necessarily related to development but which could potentially be delivered through other means, e.g.: partnership working with delivery and service partners.

An updated vision for Hailsham

Based on responses received, and looking forward to 2040, the vision in the existing Neighbourhood Plan could be updated. The suggested update is presented in the adjacent box. It retains but reframes key aspects from the made Neighbourhood Plan in terms of self-sufficiency, infrastructure provision, an attractive, vibrant town centre, sense of community, good transport connections and green spaces.

In 2040, Hailsham is a vibrant, self-sufficient town that harmoniously blends its rich heritage with modern amenities. Our community thrives on strong local connections, supported by a robust infrastructure that ensures seamless mobility and access to essential services.

Hailsham is renowned for its green spaces and commitment to sustainability, with abundant parks, community food growing opportunities and eco-friendly initiatives that enhance our environment and quality of life. Our town centre is a bustling hub of independent shops, cafes, and cultural venues, offering a diverse and engaging experience for residents and visitors alike.

We prioritise the well-being of our community by providing comprehensive healthcare facilities, excellent educational institutions, and a variety of recreational opportunities. Our transport systems are efficient and well-maintained, ensuring easy access to all parts of the town, for all of our residents and visitors.

Hailsham is a place where people of all ages feel safe, supported, and connected. We celebrate our unique character and work together to create a future that is inclusive, prosperous, and resilient.

Overarching concept

The overarching concept of Hailsham being a ‘ten-minute town’ remains relevant and should continue to frame policies and ideas within the Neighbourhood Plan.

To help take this forward it is important that new development is well-integrated within the existing structure of the town and that essential infrastructure is provided that supports day to day needs. This includes health care, green infrastructure, a more diverse retail offer and improved means of access for all.

Policy and project ideas

Based on the feedback and ideas received the following ideas have been identified for inclusion in the Neighbourhood Plan:

Housing development:

There is concern about the scale and quantum of housing that has and continues to take place in Hailsham. Where new development does take place it should:

- Seek to preserve green spaces, making use of previously developed land.
- Provide a mix of housing types, including affordable and social housing options.
- Be well-integrated with the existing built form.
- Be designed to incorporate useable green spaces and achieve high standards of sustainability, including features such as solar panels and grey water recycling.
- Be designed in such a way that parking is well-integrated in the development and that landscaping and vegetation is provided in streets and front gardens.

Sustainability:

The Neighbourhood Plan should support high standards of sustainability and energy efficiency in new development, as well as encouraging the retrofitting of existing buildings to help respond to climate change.

The Plan should also support use of active and public transport, making walking and cycling safe and attractive to all, and efforts should be made to protect wildlife and promote biodiversity.

Closely linked to this, efforts are required to provide new parks and green spaces across the town. Street tree planting and the use of green walls would help provide a connected network of green spaces and generally improve the attractiveness of the town. A more diverse range of green space types should also be provided across the town, including play space and food growing opportunities.

Community facilities:

One of the key messages from consultation was that supporting infrastructure must be provided alongside development, with many existing facilities currently under pressure. As such, the Neighbourhood Plan should look to:

- Establish community hubs with spaces for various activities and social events, and which help foster a strong sense of community.
- To encourage the provision of a new health centre to provide comprehensive healthcare services, increasing the number of doctor's in Hailsham and improving access to health care for all. This could include provision of a minor injuries unit to reduce the burden on hospitals elsewhere and the need for people to travel further afield.

- Enhance the quality of recreational facilities for all age groups, including sports and leisure centres.
- Encourage volunteerism and community participation in local projects.
- Ensure that community voices are heard in planning and development decisions.

The Town Centre:

Consultation comments recognised the importance of the Town Centre, that it provides a range of important uses and facilities, but that it could be improved, both in terms of the retail offer and the overall attractiveness of the environment. Ideas emerging from the consultation for inclusion in the Neighbourhood Plan are:

- The High Street should be pedestrianised, creating a more attractive shopping experience. The overall cleanliness of the town centre and public spaces should be improved, with regular maintenance undertaken.
- A wide range of retailers and services should be attracted to the town centre, including independent retailers and uses that support a family friendly evening economy, with the presence of uses such as hot-food takeaways and nail bars minimised.
- Encouragement should be given to the use of pop-ups and the establishment of regular markets to attract visitors to the town.

- Local businesses should be supported through a reduction in business rates and awarding of grants to support the establishment of new businesses.
- Arts and cultural events should be supported, making the most of existing assets (such as the Cinema), and a wider variety of entertainment venues or spaces provided.

Accessibility:

Many of the responses focussed on issues associated with the road network and the impact of traffic congestion in the town. At the same time, many said they welcome the provision of free parking. These are intrinsically linked. However, it is recognised that many people will continue to drive, and need to, but that variety of choice should be provided so that people can travel by other means. Ideas and suggestions were:

- Bus services should be improved, including new and more frequent bus routes and provision of real-time travel information.
- A safe, connected network of pedestrian routes and cycle lanes should be provided that makes travel by these modes an attractive proposition for people.
- Provision of a railway station, or reinstatement of the former railway, should be investigated, providing improved connectivity with adjacent towns and cities.
- Traffic management solutions should be investigated that help alleviate congestion in and around Hailsham.

- Where new residential development takes place, streets should be of sufficient width to accommodate bus routes and where parked cars do not cause obstruction.

Taking these ideas forward into the update of the Neighbourhood Plan (indeed, some are already within the made Plan, but could be updated accordingly) will help move towards the vision of Hailsham becoming a vibrant, self-sufficient town that balances development with the preservation of its character and environment.

Appendix A: Presentations

This appendix includes copies of the slides presented at the meetings with the Hailsham Historical and Natural Society, Chamber of Commerce and 'Young at Heart' club.




Hailsham Neighbourhood Plan & Design Code

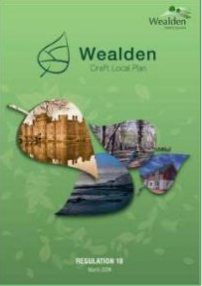
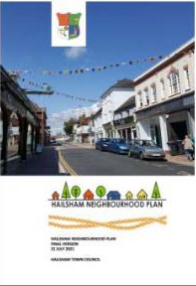
Jon Herbert
Troy Planning + Design

Councillor Mary Laxton
Hailsham Town Council




The Development Plan

Strategic direction and locally specific policies

National District Local (Town and Parish Councils)

Required ← Optional

Figure 14: Presentation made to groups, slides 1 - 2




Neighbourhood Plans

A powerful tool for community-led 'placemaking'

Policies :	Apply where planning permission is required for development or land use change Do not apply to permitted development Alignment with national and Wealden policy
Projects :	Wider ideas and aspirations Can direct neighbourhood portion of Community Infrastructure Levy (25%) to these Work in partnership with WDC / ESCC etc to deliver these
Codes :	Establishing design requirements to be met in new development Providing clarity on design expectations to help create good, attractive and inclusive places Used alongside policies to inform planning applications




Neighbourhood Plans

A powerful tool for community-led 'placemaking'












- Led by the community
- Focus on local issues
- Don't duplicate national / strategic policies
- Must be development / land use related policies
- Focus on where you can affect positive change
- Simplicity: fewer policies are more powerful
- Can include projects
- An expression of the community's manifesto for the area

Figure 15: Presentation made to groups, slides 3 - 4

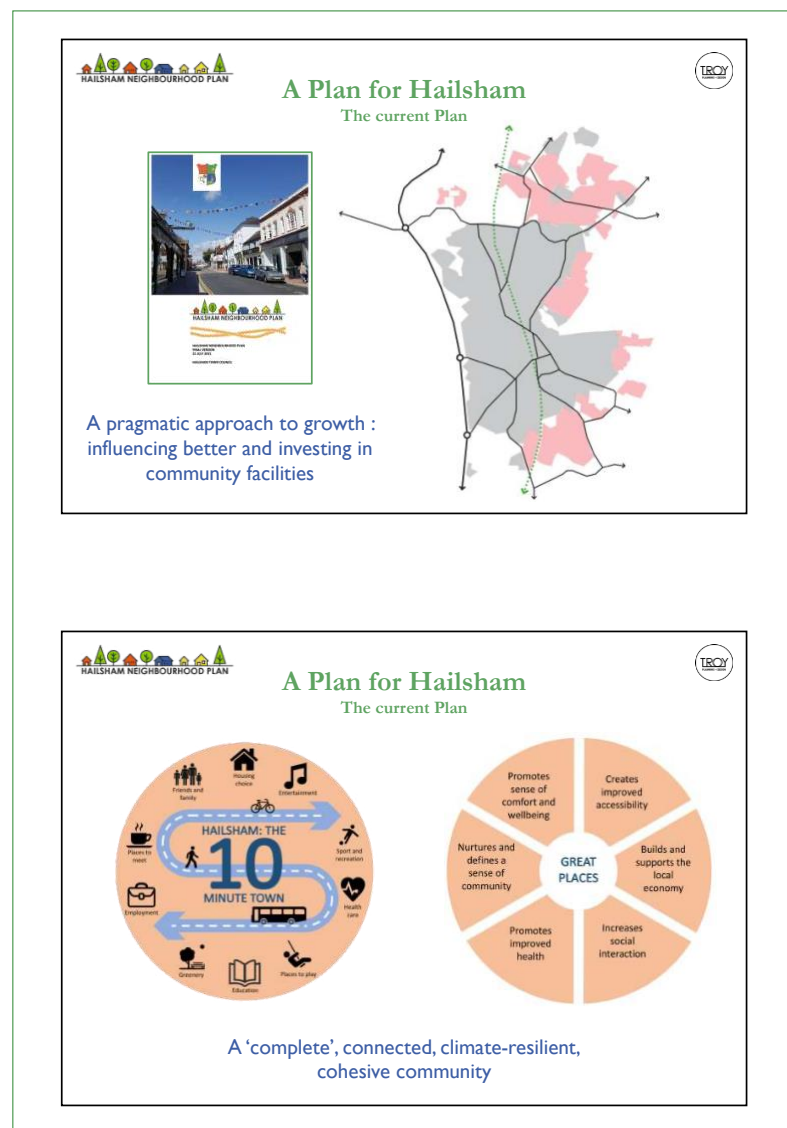


Figure 16: Presentation made to groups, slides 5 - 6

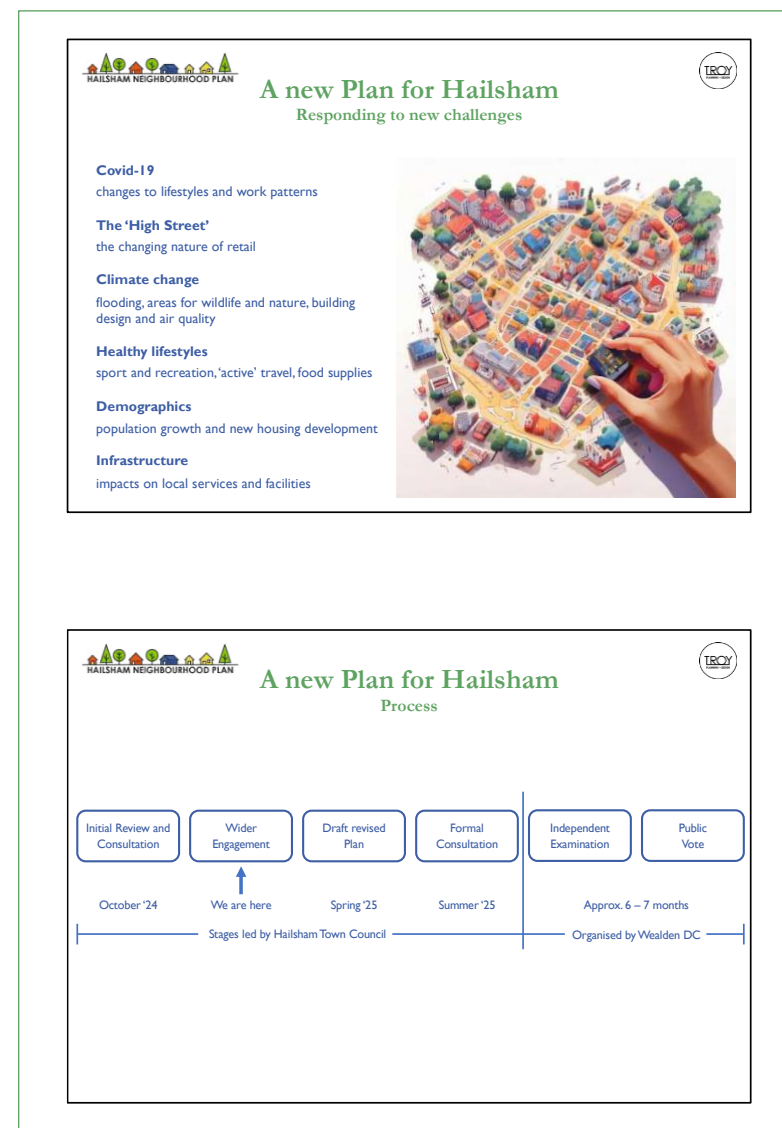


Figure 17: Presentation made to groups, slides 7 - 8




In 2040 Hailsham is...?

Help inform the new Neighbourhood Plan

- What is your vision for Hailsham in 2040?
- How do we get there? What are your top three actions needed to achieve your vision?
- Thinking specifically about the Town Centre, what changes would you like to see take place? What are your top three priorities?
- What is your favourite place, building or aspect of Hailsham? Why?
- Consultation is open until Friday 28 February
- Please complete a survey now or return to the Town Council



Come along to the drop-in events at the James West Centre
(11th Feb, 1:30pm - 3:30pm)
and The Laurel, George Street
(12th Feb, 5:30pm - 7:00pm)

www.hailsham-tc.gov.uk




Thank you!

Figure 18: Presentation made to groups, slides 9 – 10

Appendix B: Workshop

This appendix includes copies of:

- Presentation slides used to introduce the workshop to pupils at Hailsham Community College.
- Interactive questions posed during the presentation.
- Map of Hailsham Town Centre used for group working session during the workshop.




Hailsham Neighbourhood Plan & Design Code

Jon Herbert
Troy Planning + Design

Councillor Mary Laxton
Hailsham Town Council




Planning '101'

What is 'planning'?

What is a 'development plan'?

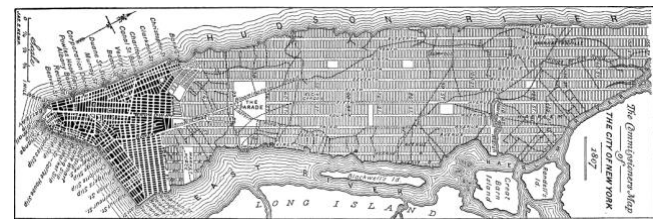
What is 'planning permission'?

Figure 19: Presentation made to pupils at the College, slides 1 - 2




Famous Plans

The New York Grid : Major growth and expansion






Famous Plans

Edinburgh New Town: Growth and expansion

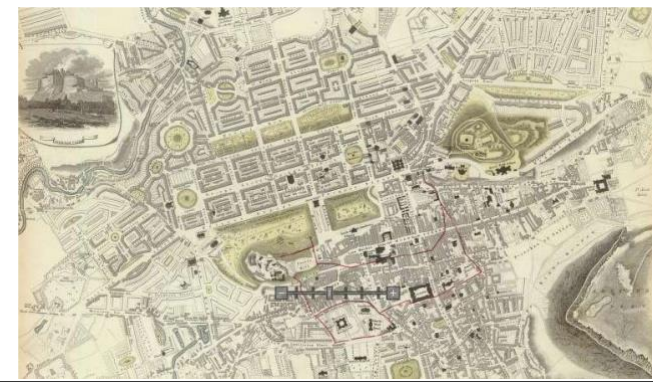


Figure 20: Presentation made to pupils at the College, slides 3 - 4



Famous Plans

Paris: Improved living conditions ('slum clearance')





Famous Plans

London: Rebuilding after the Great Fire

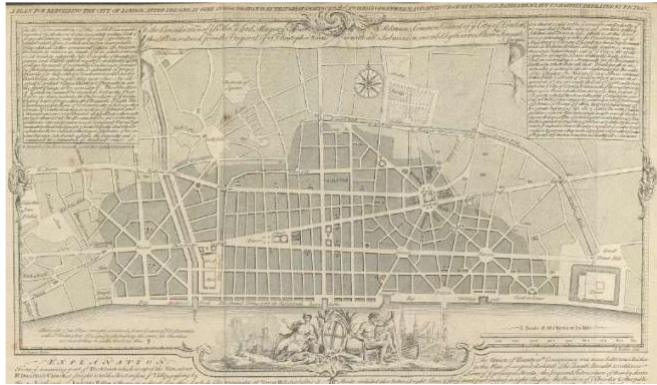
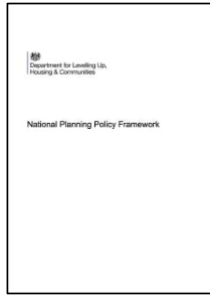
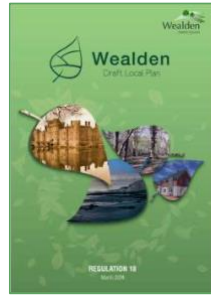
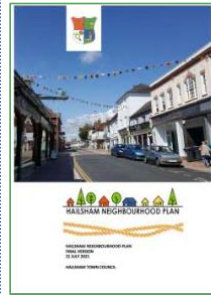


Figure 21: Presentation made to pupils at the College, slides 5 - 6



Development Plans

National District Local (Town and Parish Councils)

Required ← Optional



Neighbourhood Plans

A powerful tool for community-led 'placemaking'



Green Infrastructure



Climate Change



Movement



Landscape



Heritage



Design & Local Character



Economy & Employment



Housing



Community Facilities



Retail Uses

- Led by the community
- Focus on local issues
- Don't duplicate national / strategic policies
- Must be development / land use related policies
- Focus on where you can affect positive change
- Simplicity: fewer policies are more powerful
- Can include projects
- An expression of the community's manifesto for the area

Figure 22: Presentation made to pupils at the College, slides 7 - 8



Neighbourhood Plans

A powerful tool for community-led 'placemaking'

- 3,067 communities have or are working on a Neighbourhood Plan
- Around 9 million people in England live in a Neighbourhood Plan area
- 1,215 Neighbourhood Plans have been 'made' as part of the development plan
- Average 88% vote in favour of the 'made' plans at referendum
- Strong community interest and support



Image source: The Guardian / Mark Kerrison / Demotix / Corbis

Moving from a reactive to a proactive approach to planning



A Plan for Hailsham

The current Plan

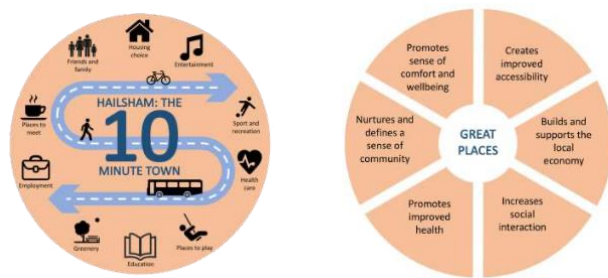


A pragmatic approach to growth : influencing better and investing in community facilities



A Plan for Hailsham

The current Plan



A 'complete', connected, climate-resilient, cohesive community



A new Plan for Hailsham

Responding to new challenges

- Covid-19**
changes to lifestyles and work patterns
- The 'High Street'**
the changing nature of retail
- Climate change**
flooding, areas for wildlife and nature, building design and air quality
- Healthy lifestyles**
sport and recreation, 'active' travel, food supplies
- Demographics**
population growth and new housing development
- Infrastructure**
impacts on local services and facilities



Figure 23: Presentation made to pupils at the College, slides 9 - 10

Figure 24: Presentation made to pupils at the College, slides 11 - 12





Any questions?





Group mapping exercise Hailsham Town Centre

Key questions:

- What do you like / what works well in the Town Centre?
- What doesn't work well in the Town Centre?
- What would you do to improve the Town Centre? Tell us **how**

Think about:

- How you use the Town Centre
- How you get to the Town Centre
- How easy it is for you to get around once you are in the Town Centre
- The mix of shops and services
- The quality of spaces in the Town Centre
- The quality and appearance of buildings

Figure 25: Presentation made to pupils at the College, slides 13 - 14

Figure 26: Presentation made to pupils at the College, slides 15 - 16





Hailsham Town Centre

The not so good....?






Key questions:

Think about:





Feedback

And next steps

Group feedback:

What do you like / what works well in the Town Centre?

What doesn't work well in the Town Centre?

What would you do to improve the Town Centre?
Tell us **how**

Next Steps

We will:

Review all feedback alongside wider consultation

Use this as a basis to update the Plan

Ask for input on this later in the year

Keep involved:

Complete the survey online

Tell your friends and family




Figure 27: Presentation made to pupils at the College, slides 17 - 18

Figure 28: Presentation made to pupils at the College, slides 19 – 20




What is your favourite place?

Why? What makes this so special?




What is the best thing about Hailsham?

Figure 29: Interactive questions posed during workshop (questions 1 and 2)






Is this idea still relevant?

A 'complete', connected, climate-resilient, cohesive community




Which design examples do you prefer?

Figure 30: Interactive questions posed during workshop (questions 3 and 4)



Figure 31: Interactive questions posed during workshop (images associated with question 4)



Figure 32: Map base used for purposes of group breakout sessions during the workshop with pupils at Hailsham Community College

Appendix C: Drop-in events

This appendix includes copies of:

- The welcome and introductory note available at the drop-in events to explain the purpose of the Neighbourhood Plan consultation
- Posters utilised at the public drop-in events to gather ideas and responses.

Welcome

Thank you for coming along to this event about the Hailsham Neighbourhood Plan.

The existing Hailsham Neighbourhood Plan was adopted in 2021. We are now looking to update this and, alongside it, prepare a new Design Code for Hailsham.

This event is an opportunity for you to tell us your priorities for the future of Hailsham. Your thoughts, ideas and comments will help us update the Neighbourhood Plan.

Work on the existing Neighbourhood Plan originally commenced in 2016 with extensive community engagement to identify aims and aspirations for the future of the Hailsham. It is a 'Plan for the Community, by the Community'.

The Neighbourhood Plan was set in the context of major new growth being proposed and how the benefit of that might be captured for the local community. Having the Neighbourhood Plan in place has enabled the Town Council to deliver a range of improvements to open spaces, play and other community facilities.

However, the existing Neighbourhood Plan is almost ten years old.

The Neighbourhood Plan needs to be updated so that it remains relevant and can continue to give you – the Hailsham community – a voice in how the town continues to change and evolve. It needs to reflect ongoing growth and development pressures as well as other matters, such as climate change, the way people move around town, the impact of Covid on changing lifestyles and work patterns, and the impacts of all of this on local services and facilities.



Hailsham
TOWN COUNCIL

Please take part in the survey and help us update the Neighbourhood Plan.

We'd like to know:

- What you like most about living in Hailsham.
- What your vision for Hailsham is. What should it be like in 2040?
- What needs to happen to achieve your vision.
- Whether the idea of the 'ten-minute town' is relevant in Hailsham.
- What your views on the design of development are.
- Whether you have any specific ideas for change or improvement.

Please review and add comments to the material displayed. If you agree with comments made by other people please feel free to let us know - you can add a sticky dot, tick or similar to indicate your support.

And please do ask if you have any questions or further comments you wish to make. After all, this is 'your plan'.

If you'd like more time to think about your responses, you can complete an online survey accessible via the Town Council website:

<https://www.hailsham-tc.gov.uk>

Thank you!

What do you like most about living in Hailsham?

What do you think?

Please write in any of the boxes to tell us what you like most about living in Hailsham.

I love...

I really value...

My favourite thing is...

I love...

I really value...

My favourite thing is...

I love...

I really value...

My favourite thing is...

I love...

I really value...

My favourite thing is...

I love...

I really value...

My favourite thing is...

I love...

I really value...

My favourite thing is...

Want to say more?

Please complete the survey to tell us more. This can be completed online.

Figure 33: Introductory sheet provided at events

Figure 34: Display poster and question sheet, page 1

A vision for the future: what should Hailsham be like in 2040?

What do you think?

Please write in any of the boxes to tell us what your vision for Hailsham is

We really need...

It would be nice if...

Hailsham should be...

We really need...

It would be nice if...

Hailsham should be...

We really need...

It would be nice if...

Hailsham should be...

We really need...

It would be nice if...

Hailsham should be...

We really need...

It would be nice if...

Hailsham should be...

We really need...

It would be nice if...

Hailsham should be...

Want to say more?

Please complete the survey to tell us more. This can be completed online.

What needs to happen to achieve your vision?

What do you think?

Please write in any of the boxes to tell us what actions need taking to help realise your vision for Hailsham

We must...

We should...

There needs to be...

We must...

We should...

There needs to be...

We must...

We should...

There needs to be...

We must...

We should...

There needs to be...

We must...

We should...

There needs to be...

We must...

We should...

There needs to be...

Want to say more?

Please complete the survey to tell us more. This can be completed online.

Figure 35: Display poster and question sheet, page 2

Figure 36: Display poster and question sheet, page 3

A compact, complete, connected, climate-friendly community



The current Neighbourhood Plan promotes the idea of the 'ten-minute town'.

The aspiration is that the shopping basket of services and facilities needed to support day-to-day life are available in Hailsham and are within safe and easy access of the home for everyone of all ages and abilities.

This means schools and healthcare, play space and local shops. It means that a mix of homes should be provided to meet the needs of the community, and that opportunities to access employment should be available to all. It supports safe movement by foot, bike and public transport, for those who can travel that way.

It seeks to promote a socially inclusive and cohesive community. Does the concept remain relevant? Let us know what you think.

Does the concept remain relevant? Please stick it in one of the boxes below

Yes, it remains relevant:

Somewhat relevant, but could be updated:

No, it is no longer relevant:

Do you have any thoughts, ideas or comments about the concept? Please add them below

Please use a sticky note to add any comments here

Strengthening local character through good design

Which of the examples below do you prefer? Please stick it under your preferred examples



Please add comments below to explain which example you prefer, or don't, stating which image the comments refer to

The Town Council is preparing a Design Code alongside the update of the Neighbourhood Plan.

This will establish the requirements to be met in new development, providing clarity on design expectations such that new development helps create good, attractive and inclusive places.

The Design Code will be used to inform, respond to and help determine planning applications for new development.

Add a comment on a sticky note here

Figure 37: Display poster and question sheet, page 4

Figure 38: Display poster and question sheet, page 5

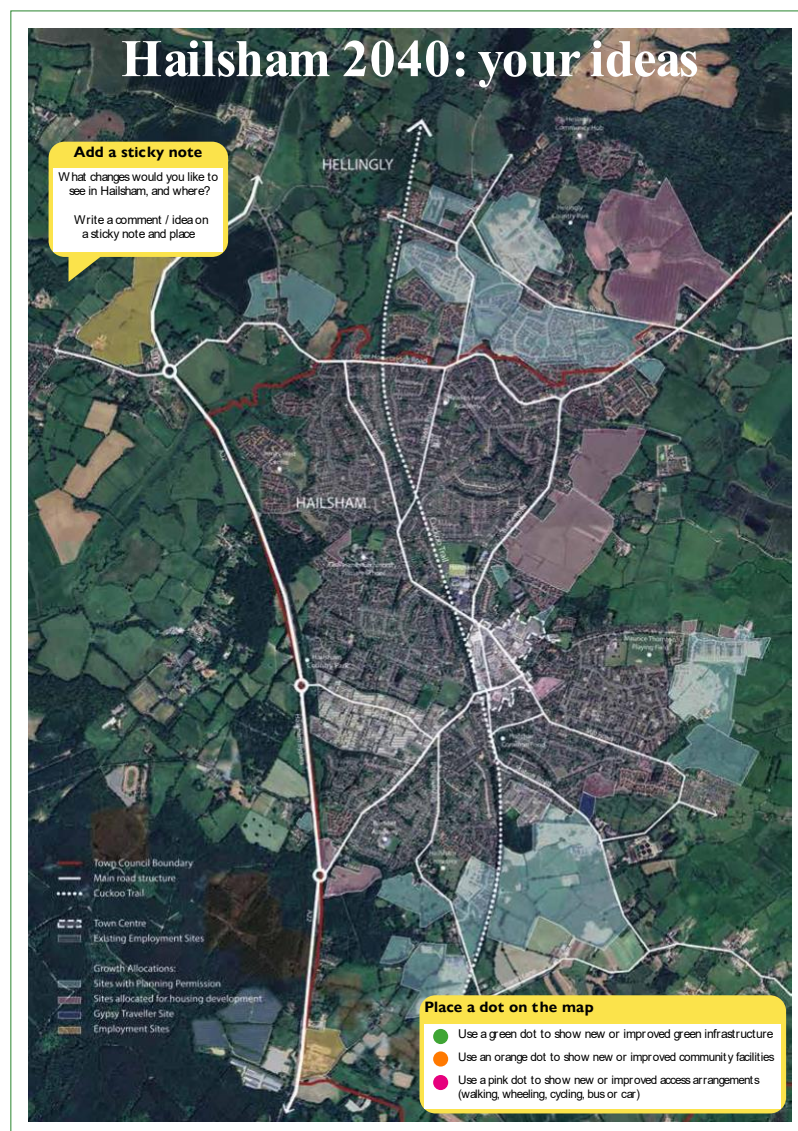


Figure 39: Display poster and question sheet, page 6

Appendix D: Survey

This appendix includes copies of:

- The print version of the survey made available to gather feedback.

Help shape the future of Hailsham

Your Hailsham: Please use this section to tell us what you like about Hailsham and, looking forward to 2040, what your vision for the future of the town is.

What do you like most about Hailsham?

.....

.....

.....

Thinking about Hailsham in 2040, what is your vision for how it should be in the future?

.....

.....

.....

Following from the previous question, what needs to happen to achieve your vision? Please provide up to three key actions:

- i.
- ii.
- iii.

Other comments: The update of the Neighbourhood Plan needs to consider ongoing growth and development in Hailsham as well as matters such as the impacts of climate change, the way people move around, work patterns and lifestyle changes since Covid, and what this means for local services and facilities.

Do you have any other thoughts, comments or ideas for inclusion in the Neighbourhood Plan?

.....

.....

.....

.....

Please tell us about yourself:

Are you a (please tick):

- ☐ Resident
☐ Employee in Hailsham
☐ Visitor
☐ Other

If you ticked 'other' please provide more information here:

How old are you (please tick):

- ☐ Under 18
☐ 18-25
☐ 26-35
☐ 36-45
☐ 46-55
☐ 56-65
☐ Over 65

Please enter your postcode:

If you would like to be kept informed of progress on the Neighbourhood Plan please provide your email address:

.....

Please complete and return to the Town Council by:

Friday 28 February, 2025

Hailsham Town Council
 The Station Youth Centre
 (former Free Church Building)
 Western Road, Hailsham, BN27 3DG

Alternatively, you can scan a copy of the completed form and email to: enquiries@hailsham-tc.gov.uk

Your privacy is very important to us and we endeavour to ensure any information is handled accordingly. Please see our Privacy Policy on the Town Council website: <https://www.hailsham-tc.gov.uk>

A compact, complete, connected and climate-friendly community:

The current Neighbourhood Plan promotes the idea of the 'ten-minute town'.

The aspiration is that the shopping basket of services and facilities needed to support day-to-day life are available in Hailsham and are within safe and easy access of the home for everyone of all ages and abilities.

This means schools and healthcare, play space and local shops. It means that a mix of homes should be provided to meet the needs of the community, and that opportunities to access employment should be available to all. It supports safe movement by foot, bike and public transport, for those that can travel that way.

It seeks to promote a socially inclusive and cohesive community.

Does the concept outlined here remain relevant?

- ☐ Yes, it remains relevant
☐ It is somewhat relevant, but could be updated
☐ No, it is no longer relevant

Do you have any thoughts, ideas or comments in relation to the concept outlined above?

.....

.....

.....

Thinking specifically about the Town Centre, are there any changes you would like to see take place? Please list your top three priorities:

- i.
- ii.
- iii.

Strengthening local character through design:

A Design Code is being prepared to establish requirements for new development so that it helps create good, attractive and inclusive places.

Please look at the images beside and let us know which of these design examples you prefer. You can put a tick under as many, or as few, as you like.



Following from the question above, please add any comments here to explain which examples you prefer, or not, clearly stating which image the comments refer to.

.....

.....

.....

.....

Figure 40: Print version of survey, page 1

Figure 41: Print version of survey, page 2



Neighbourhood Plan and Design Code

Report of consultation: Meetings, presentations and drop-in events
March 2025



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