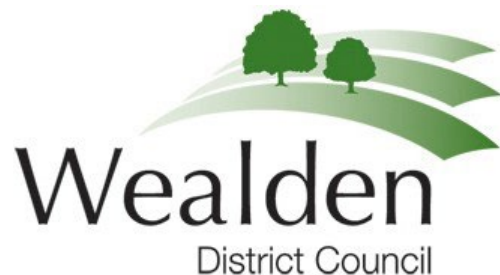


WEALDEN DISTRICT COUNCIL CONSULTATION

Wadhurst Neighbourhood Plan Regulation 16 Consultation

Consultation Response Form

Consultation Period
5 June 2023 – 17 July 2023



Introduction

Wealden District Council is publishing the Wadhurst Neighbourhood Plan for consultation in accordance with Regulation 16 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (as amended). The purpose of this consultation response form is for you to make your comments on the draft Wadhurst Neighbourhood Plan.

Under Regulation 16 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (as amended), we are required to undertake a six-week consultation on the Neighbourhood Plan. This will be the last opportunity to comment on the Plan before it is submitted for independent examination. The consultation on the Wadhurst Neighbourhood Plan is open between **9am on 5 June 2023 and 5pm on 17 July 2023**.

The documents submitted by Wadhurst Parish Council include:

- Wadhurst Neighbourhood Plan 2016-2039. Submission Plan (April 2023).
- Wadhurst Neighbourhood Plan 2016-2039 Appendix A- Identifying Green Gaps.
- Wadhurst Neighbourhood Plan 2016-2039 Appendix B- Wadhurst Design Code (March 2023).
- Wadhurst Neighbourhood Plan 2016-2039 Basic Conditions Statement (April 2023).
- Wadhurst Neighbourhood Plan 2016-2039 Consultation Statement (April 2023).
- Wadhurst Neighbourhood Plan Pre-submission Stage Sustainability Appraisal (November 2022).
- Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Screening Opinion Wadhurst Neighbourhood Plan and Wadhurst Design Code (Pre-Regulation 14) (October 2022)
- Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) Screening Report Wadhurst Neighbourhood Plan (Pre-Regulation 14) (October 2022)
- Map identifying the area to which the proposed neighbourhood development plan relates.
- List of evidence base documents
- The Future - What Parishioners Want.
- Wadhurst Neighbourhood Plan - Community Aspirations.

Viewing the Neighbourhood Plan

The Neighbourhood Plan and the supporting documents are available to view on the following website;

<https://consult.wealden.gov.uk/kse>

Printed copies of the Neighbourhood Plan and the supporting documents can be viewed at the following locations:

- Carillon Cottage, High Street, Wadhurst, TN5 6AA (Open Monday to Saturday 9:30am - 12:30pm)
- Piccolo Café, High Street, Wadhurst, TN5 6AJ (Open Monday to Saturday 9am- 4pm, Thursday to Saturday - 5.30pm-9pm)
- Jempsons Supermarket, High Street, Wadhurst, TN5 6AJ (Open Monday to Saturday 7am to 9pm)
- Wadhurst Library, High Street, Wadhurst, TN5 6AP (Open Monday 2pm- 4.30pm, Wednesday 10am-1pm, Friday 2pm- 4.30pm, Saturday 10am-1pm)
- Wealden District Council, Council Offices, Vicarage Lane, Hailsham, BN27 2AX (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 8.30am-5pm, Wednesday 9am - 5pm).

How to Comment on the Neighbourhood Plan

- By post: print and complete this form and send it to Planning Policy, Wealden District Council, Vicarage Lane, Hailsham, BN27 2AX
- By email: complete this form and send it to Nplans@wealden.gov.uk

You can make comments on any of the information submitted for the consultation. Please make it clear which document you are commenting upon alongside the paragraph/page number. Your comments should address whether the Neighbourhood Plan meets the basic conditions. These are outlined in the Regulation 16 Guidance Notes.

Queries.

If you have any queries relating to the consultation or submitting your comments, please contact the Planning Policy Team on (01892 602008) or email Nplans@wealden.gov.uk

If you or somebody you know, would like this form in large print, braille, audio tape/CD or in another language, please let us know.

1. Personal Details

For any comments to be considered you must at least provide your name and address (this can be an email address). Representations cannot be treated in confidence and copies of all representations, along with your name or organisation, will be made publicly available on the Council's website (in due course) and sent to the Examiner. However, the Council will not publish your personal contact information such as telephone numbers, email or private addresses. By submitting your views you confirm your consent to the above and that you accept full responsibility for your comments.

Personal Details	Answer
Title	Ms
First Name	Lynda
Last Name	Wight
Job Title and Organisation (if relevant)	
Address	
Postcode	
Contact telephone number	
Email address	
Interest in the area (for example are you a resident, business owner or do you work in the proposed neighbourhood area)	

2. Comments on the Neighbourhood Plan

Please use the space below to tell us your comments on the Neighbourhood Plan. It would be helpful if you can provide reasons and evidence for your comments. Please use additional sheets if necessary.

The Neighbourhood Plan addresses the primary needs and concerns of residents of Wadhurst Parish expressed by callers to Carillon Cottage, ie level and type of development, problems with infrastructure (mainly health and water), and severe traffic problems.

As a resident of Pell Green, I support the stated aims of maintaining the conservation area and also that of maintaining the distinctive and rural nature of the hamlets which form part of the wider Wadhurst Parish.

Policy WAD7 acknowledges issues with traffic in the High Street (and other retail areas) and also on the roads leading into the village. However, the examples and illustrations used are primarily from the centre of the village and the plan highlights this in 7.14. It does not, give enough weight to the significant issues on the B2100 rural road which runs through the hamlets of Cousley Wood, Pell Green, Primmers Green and into Sparrows Green. There is heavy domestic traffic throughout the day and especially at peak times, increasing use of the roads by large commercial vehicles and a problem of speeding vehicles particularly at night. This is threatening the rural nature of these areas.

The plan implies that the use of this road is especially problematic when traffic is trying to divert from issues on the A21, but it is in fact a problem at any time. In particular many large commercial vehicles (including double-decker buses, heavy construction traffic, and excessively large delivery lorries) are choosing to use this road as their regular route to places other than Wadhurst, despite it being too narrow in places to accommodate the width of these vehicles. This has a detrimental effect not only on the rural nature of the hamlets, but especially on road safety for both pedestrians (who need to cross the road multiple times to keep to pavements) and those entering and leaving the properties along this route.

I acknowledge that some of the measures needed to address this are outside of the remit of the Neighbourhood Plan, but support the recommendations in Section 7.10.

I would suggest that the volume, speed and character of the traffic along the B2100 (and not merely at its junction with other roads in the parish) should be part of the considerations in Policy WAD8.

If congestion is eased in the High Street the measures employed must not have the consequence of encouraging a higher volume of through traffic. Therefore any steps taken to address traffic issues in the centre of the village should integrate with, and not have a consequential negative impact on, the traffic on the surrounding routes and the hamlets along them, especially the B2100 and that this should be made explicit in the Plan.

3. Examination Participation (please tick if appropriate)

☐

I would like to attend the examination in public, should it be deemed necessary by the appointed examiner.

4. Notification of Adoption (please tick if appropriate)

☒

I would like to be notified of the local planning authority's decision on the adoption of the Wadhurst Neighbourhood Plan (under Regulation 19 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012(as amended)

Data Protection Statement

Wealden District Council is committed to ensuring that your privacy is protected and will only use and store your personal data in line with the UK General Data Protection Regulation 2021 and Data Protection Act 2018. We are required to collect and hold your personal information as part of the consultation process in formulating the Neighbourhood Plan. All comments will be publicly available and identifiable by name and (where applicable) organisation. We will not disclose your personal data to any third parties, unless we need to do so to provide a service to you or we are legally required to do so. We may share your personal data with other Council departments in order to provide the service you have requested.

Our Privacy Policy sets out how we collect, use and securely hold your data and can be viewed at: <https://www.wealden.gov.uk/transparency-spending-and-performance/data-protection/privacy-policy/> and our planning policy privacy notice at: <https://www.wealden.gov.uk/transparency-spending-and-performance/data-protection/privacy-policy/>

Signature	Lynda J Wight	Date 7/7/23
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Please print name if submitting electronically