

EAST HOATHLY WITH HALLAND PARISH COUNCIL



Mr C Lant - Chief Executive
Wealden District Council Council Offices
Vicarage Lane
Hailsham
East Sussex
BN27 2AX



22nd June 2017

Dear Mr Lant

APPLICATION FOR THE DESIGNATION OF A NEIGHBOURHOOD AREA

East Hoathly with Halland Parish Council as a public body constituted by Law, is a relevant body for the purposes of Section 61G of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, and hereby applies for the designation of the whole of East Hoathly with Halland Civil Parish as a Neighbourhood Area in the creation of a Neighbourhood Plan.

The application is being made under the Localism Act 2011 as governed by Part2/Section 5 of the 2012 Regulations. At a meeting of East Hoathly with Halland Parish Council a resolution was passed for the creation of a Neighbourhood Plan and it was furthermore resolved that the whole of the Parish should be designated as the Neighbourhood Area.

The Parish Council resolved that a Steering Group should be formed to carry forward the Neighbourhood Plan. The Steering group would consist of five parish Councillors and ten residents of the Parish who would represent local organisations and businesses. The Parish Council also agreed to appoint the Chair of the Steering Group. The Chair of the Steering Group is Diane Knill currently Vice Chair to the Parish Council who can be contacted at [REDACTED]

The Steering group was asked to identify relevant strategic policies for the Neighbourhood Plan. Working parties would be formed to address the relevant policies. The working parties would consist of a Leader who would also be a member of the Steering Group and residents from the Parish who had a particular interest or skill within the area of the Strategic Policy under consideration. The Working Groups would report directly to the Chair of the Steering Group.

Terms of Reference for the Steering Group were agreed by the Parish Council, a copy of which is attached. The Steering Group would refer any recommendations made at meetings of the Steering Group to the Planning Committee of the Parish Council. No decision making powers have been delegated to the Steering Group.

Public Consultation on the Neighbourhood Area and Neighbourhood Plan will be advertised through the Parish Council Web site and Parish Noticeboards. Other avenues for publicity will also be the Halland Voice, the annual Parish Newsletter, the Parish Magazine, and the Village Web site. Social media such as Facebook and Twitter and public meetings may be used when necessary.

The Parish Council will shortly be appointing a Planning Advisor who will work with the Steering group throughout the process.

I would be grateful if you could let us know of any further information which you require and if you would like to meet with representatives of the Parish Council and Steering Group to discuss our approach and our provisional time table.

Yours sincerely,

A solid black rectangular box used to redact the signature of Mrs Karen Crowhurst.

Mrs Karen Crowhurst – Clerk to Ringmer Parish Council.

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENT FOR SUBMISSION TO WEALDEN DISTRICT COUNCIL

East Hoathly with Halland Parish

East Hoathly with Halland Parish Council is resolved to prepare a Neighbourhood Development Plan which will include the whole of the civil parish within the Neighbourhood Plan. The Neighbourhood Development Plan will supersede the East Hoathly with Halland Village Plan last revised in 2008.

The Parish of East Hoathly with Halland is predominantly a rural parish with two principle areas of settlement e.g the villages of East Hoathly and Halland. The two settlement areas are separated by a major trunk road (the A22) and the busy Lewes to Heathfield Road the B2192. The B2192 also divides Halland Village.

Although the two settlements lie only 1 mile apart communication for pedestrians between the villages is restricted. There is no pedestrian footway along the A22 and the absence of an all weather footway elsewhere between the two villages restricts easy communication except by car.

Nevertheless the Parish Council do not consider it necessary to separate the two settlements in the context of the Neighbourhood Plan and the Parish will be considered as an integral unit. Where one of the villages has an issue particular to that settlement, it will be considered separately but in context within the Neighbourhood Plan.

East Hoathly with Halland Parish Council has set up a Steering Group to prepare the Neighbourhood Plan for submission to Wealden District Council. The Steering Group currently consists of five Parish Councillors and ten residents of the Parish. The latter represent local organisations and businesses. The Group is chaired by Diane Knill, Vice Chair to the Parish Council.

The Steering Group will throughout the process operate under the aegis of East Hoathly with Halland Parish Council. It is not empowered to make major decisions or incur expenditure without the consent of the Full Parish Council.

The Local Community will be involved in the Neighbourhood Plan throughout the process through a number of channels which will include: The Parish Council web site, The Village Web site, the Parish Magazine, Halland Newsletter, Social Media and various noticeboards etc throughout the parish. The Community will be invited to comment throughout the process by letter, e mail or through public meetings.

While recognising that both East Hoathly and Halland are essentially commuter villages the Parish Council considers that the overall aim of the Neighbourhood Plan is to preserve and enhance the rural character of the parish and protect the Parish and its villages from excessive development.

