

Herstmonceux Parish Neighbourhood Plan 2017-2027 Consultation Statement



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July 2017

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Steering Group

The Parish Council set up the new Herstmonceux Parish Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group in January 2016 comprising of parish councillors and the clerk, Mrs Janet McInnes. This small but effective team was charged with the task of reviving and getting the Neighbourhood Plan through to submission. The group was fully constituted and given clear terms of reference. The Steering Group concentrated on three key topic areas to guide them with their evidence gathering to inform the revised plan.

- Social
- Environment
- Economic

Steering Group membership (January 2016 – July 2017)

Chair Mr Stephen Nash

Vice Chair Mrs Jenny Alder

Clerk Janet McInnes

Members

Mrs Jo Angear

Ms Angela Ashley (resigned as a parish councillor in April 2017 due to relocation)

Mr Malcolm Bradshaw

Mrs Heather Kenward

Mr Ian Stewart

The Steering Group Terms of Reference is attached in Appendix 1

Introduction

This Consultation Statement has been prepared with the aim of fulfilling the legal obligations of the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations 2012, which are set out in the Legislative basis in section 5.0. It included the following: -

1. Details of the persons or bodies consulted and how they were consulted.
2. Summary of the main issues and concerns raised during the consultation process.
3. How the issues and concerns have been considered to inform the submission plan.

The consultation statement also includes the following: -

- Appendix 3: Comments from Wealden District Council and other statutory consultees.
- Appendix 4: Summary of consultation responses from residents and other bodies.

The Parish Council and Steering Group have undertaken consultation activities with residents and statutory bodies. Interested parties were also consulted to enable an extensive engagement and involvement in the preparation of the Neighbourhood Plan.

This Consultation Statement sets out details of the events and activities carried out in the parish and with key bodies identified as stakeholders. All activities were carried out to ensure full inclusivity in the decision-making throughout the development of the plan.



Background to the Herstmonceux Neighbourhood Plan Preparation

A Parish Plan was started in 2003, undertaken throughout 2003/4 and completed in Herstmonceux in 2005. As with all Parish Plans, the document (and the process of its creation) sets out to identify and gather resident's views on the issues affecting the community and to develop a series of actions to respond to these. The Plan was reviewed in 2008.

Herstmonceux Parish Council began the process of undertaking a Neighbourhood Plan in late 2012 and submitted an application to Wealden District Council (LDC) to be designated on 2 November 2012. This designation was approved on 6 February 2013.

Since then, the Parish Council and Steering Group have undertaken a series of initiatives to engage and involve residents. Action in rural Sussex was appointed to support and guide the Parish Council and Steering Group on the production of the Plan.

The intention of the Parish Council was to submit the Herstmonceux Parish Neighbourhood Plan to the District Council for approval and then for independent examination by the end of 2013.

The planned process up to this submission date comprised three main stages: -

- State of the Parish Report – this report summarised all the evidence on which the original Neighbourhood Plan was based (and formed the first SEA Scoping Report).
- Draft Neighbourhood Plan – this report comprised of an outline of the vision, objectives, policies and proposals and a map of the plan for informal consultation with the local planning authority and High Weald AONB Board.
- Pre-Submission Neighbourhood Plan – this report comprised of the vision, objectives, policies, proposals and map of the plan for a six-week public consultation period.



2014 Regulation 14 Consultation

The first Pre-Submission HPNP, including the Draft SEA, was approved by the Parish Council's Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group and published for public consultation for an eight-week period commencing 29 November 2013 and ending on 24 January 2014.

Copies of the then plan were made available to be viewed at the following places: www.herstmonceuxparish.org.uk, www.wealden.gov.uk Hailsham Library, Herstmonceux Village Information Centre and Herstmonceux Village Hall. Comments were directed to Mrs J McInnes, (former) Parish Clerk providing postal and email addresses as well as telephone numbers. Details of how to access the consultation documents were also sent to every household in the parish.

The first draft plan, which included site allocations, received strong opposition from some residents who formed a Herstmonceux Action Group to oppose the Plan. During the consultation period, a misleading and inaccurate leaflet with a tear off strip just stating opposition to the Plan was circulated in the parish. The report from the professional advisors in early March 2015 indicated that the majority of the 337 consultation responses received to the Plan made no reference to any of the policies in the Plan.



During the plan consultation period, WDC advised Herstmonceux Parish Council that a further review and consultation on possible development sites in the district had to be undertaken as part of its review of the Local Plan. The local elections for parish councillors took place in May 2015. Therefore, it was decided to postpone work on the preparation of the Neighbourhood Plan until a new parish council was in place.

Six new councillors were elected in May 2015 and discussion on the Neighbourhood Plan was delayed until the end of 2015 to allow councillors to undertake councillor training and to become familiar with the role and responsibilities of being a councillor.

Reviving Herstmonceux Neighbourhood Plan 2015

Herstmonceux Parish Council agreed at the Full Council Meeting on 14 December 2015 to continue with the preparation of a Neighbourhood Plan for Herstmonceux Parish. A meeting was held with a professional advisor from Action in rural Sussex in January 2016. Parishioners were kept informed of the process by newsletters and notices. A survey, delivered to all households in the parish, was carried out in February 2016. Steering Group members were available at a number of events to give residents an opportunity to discuss the Plan E.g. Church Fete, Village Litter picking event, and a Neighbourhood Plan Open Day held in June 2016.

The three main stages up to submission comprised the following: -

- Review and update Vision and Evidence Report (State of Parish) to identify gaps and new requirements as well as to inform the draft SA/SEA.
- Pre-Submission Plan – this comprised the revised draft vision, revised objectives, policies, proposals for the statutory six-week consultation period.
- Submission Plan – this took into account the representations received on the pre-submission plan and where appropriate, amendments were made.

The Steering Group, working with Action in rural Sussex, held regular and frequent meetings with the initial objective to review the all documents and plan further engagement activities.





Neighbourhood Plan Engagement Activities

Since the launch of the HPNP, the Steering Group established Working Groups, arranged opportunities for the community to learn more about the Neighbourhood Plan and gave a forum for residents to express their opinions on the policies which provide the best options for the future of the Parish. This was achieved through community engagement activities such as open days, surveys, workshops, visits to local groups and organisations, engaging with a range of stakeholder organisations with interests in the Parish and Parish Council surgeries, etc. Updates on the plan progress were circulated in the parish via Parish Council newsletters.

Since the launch of the HPNP the Steering Group has arranged opportunities for the community to learn more about the Neighbourhood Plan and to express their opinions on the policies which will provide the best options for the future of the Parish. This was achieved through community engagement activities such as open days, surveys, workshops, visits to local groups and organisations, engaging with a range of stakeholder organisations with interests in the Parish, and parish council surgeries. Updates on the plan progress were circulated in the parish via Parish Council newsletters. Newsletters are available on the parish web site www.herstmonceuxparish.org.uk

Newsletter

HERSTMONCEUX PARISH COUNCIL

Neighbourhood Plan Update January 2017

1. Herstmonceux Parish Council Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group continued the preparation of a Neighbourhood Plan for Herstmonceux Parish during 2016, supported by a team of professional advisors from Action in rural Sussex.

The schedule for the next stages of the Plan are as follows:

- A Draft Plan will be presented at the Parish Meeting on Monday 20 March 2017. The meeting, open to all members of the public, will be held at 8pm in the small hall in Herstmonceux Village Hall.
- The consultation on the Plan will last from 20 March 2017 – 8 May 2017.
- Copies of the Plan will be available from the Parish Office, 4 Gardner Street, Herstmonceux, East Sussex, Herstmonceux Village Information Centre, Herstmonceux Village Hall, Herstmonceux Integrative Health Centre and on the parish web site www.herstmonceuxparish.org.uk
- Copies can be emailed to you – please contact Mrs Janet McInnes at nplan@herstmonceuxparish.org.uk to register your interest.

2. From 20 March 2017, comments on the Plan should be sent to Mrs Janet McInnes at nplan@herstmonceuxparish.org.uk or to Neighbourhood Plan Consultation, the Parish Office, Gardner Street, Herstmonceux, East Sussex BN27 4LG
3. The comments will be analysed by the professional advisors from Action in rural Sussex and a report will be presented to the Steering Group by 19 May 2017.
4. The Steering Group will review the Action in rural Sussex Report on the consultation replies and discuss whether any changes to the Plan are required.
5. A final Plan will be presented to Herstmonceux Parish Council for their approval at the Full Council Meeting to be held on Monday 20 June 2017.
6. The Plan will then be sent to Wealden District Council who will arrange for it to be examined by an Independent Examiner.
7. Following the independent examination, Wealden District Council will arrange for a referendum in the parish on the Plan. If the Plan receives approval from over 50% of those parishioners voting, it will become a Statutory Planning Document and form part of the planning regulations used by Wealden District Council when it considers any planning applications in Herstmonceux Parish.

For more information about the schedule, please contact Mrs Janet McInnes, Clerk to the Steering Group.

Neighbourhood Plan Consultation, the Parish Office, 4 Gardner Street, Herstmonceux, East Sussex BN27 4LG 07889 159824 nplan@herstmonceuxparish.org.uk

Notice

Herstmonceux Neighbourhood Plan

Open Day

At the Woolpack Inn, Herstmonceux

from 11 - 8pm

on

Wednesday 15 June 2016

Come and give your views!

Herstmonceux - It's Your Parish It's Your Future!



Neighbourhood Plan Survey 2013

As part of the evidence gathering process for the HNP, a community-wide survey was undertaken in April 2013. Survey forms were delivered to each household within the Parish in order to maximise the level of engagement and to ensure that all members of the community were provided with an opportunity to contribute to the debate.

This survey focused on obtaining residents opinions on a range of issues within the Parish and their views on the potential actions that should be taken in response to these within the Neighbourhood Plans policies.



Neighbourhood Plan Survey 2015

A further survey was developed and undertaken by the Herstmonceux Parish Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group to guide as part of the consultation exercise to inform the revived neighbourhood plan. A total of 249 survey forms were completed and returned. Residents were asked to return their forms by 5th of March 2016. Some surveys were returned as late as 15th March and these were all accepted as data entry was still ongoing hence analysis had not begun.



Website and Facebook

It's that time again for me... From the 1st September I will be taking Christmas order... I no it's early thinking... But it will soon come round... If you do wish to place an order then please message me xx 🌟🌟🌟 xx
www.facebook.com/glassyglitteruk

Groups make it easier than ever to share with friends, family and teammates.

Like Comment Share

 **Jenny Alder**
 24 August at 03:51

As part of the preparation the revised Herstmonceux Parish Neighbourhood Plan, the Building Development Working Group of the Parish Council is looking at design and associated issues for any future development in the Parish.

Do you have any comments/suggestions on the following:- design of housing, size of housing, layout of sites, green spaces with sites, protection of AONB (Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, environment, housing for older/younger people etc etc.

Any suggestions must be realistic and achievable for a rural parish and will be greatly appreciated by return please. Thank you in anticipation - Jenny Chair of BDWG

RECENT GROUP PHOTOS



English (UK) · Polski · Español · Português (Brasil) · Français (France)

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 Facebook © 2016

Like Comment

Stephen P Nash, Maz Nicoll and 1 other

View 2 more comments

 **Jenny Alder** thank you the Parish Council do of Wealden Council P
 Like 1 · 27 August

www.herstmonceuxparish.org.uk/Parish%20HTML/pc_neighbourhood_plan.html

Herstmonceux Parish Council

Neighbourhood Plan Project

Home · Parish Council · Village Diary · Village Hall · Local Services · Clubs Societies · Businesses · Local History



Neighbourhood Plan Project

Background

Herstmonceux Parish Council is developing a Neighbourhood Plan for all or part of the parish. A Neighbourhood Plan is a mechanism for helping communities, including both local residents and businesses influence the planning of the area in which they live and work. It can be used to:

- Develop a shared vision for the neighbourhood.
- Propose where new homes, shops, offices and other development should be built.
- Identify and protect important local green spaces
- Influence what new buildings should look like.

SCOPING REPORT FOR SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL

This report is now available. [Click here to open or download it.](#)

Parish Responses

[Click here](#) to view responses received by the Steering Group.

Herstmonceux Neighbourhood Plan Site Promotions

Committee Terms of Reference

Consultation Information

Parish Responses

Wealden Notice

Meeting Minutes

Steering Group Members

State of the Parish report

Site Presentations

Parish Plan 2009

Herstmonceux Community Profile

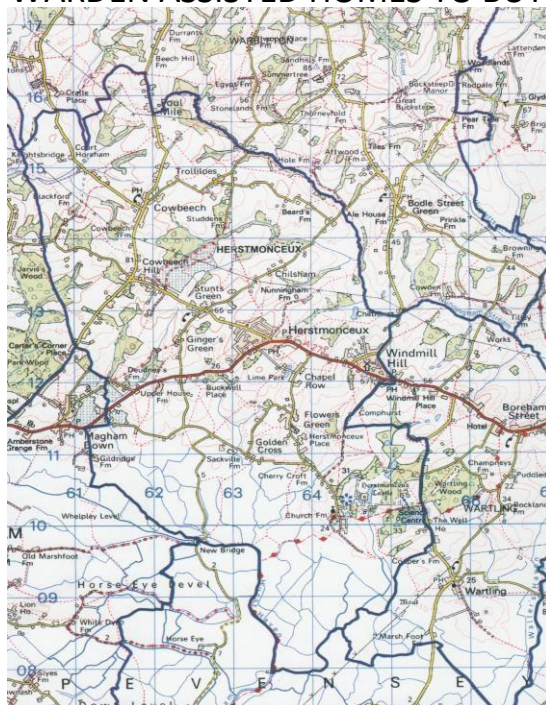
Information Leaflet

HERSTMONCEUXPARISH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN SURVEY HIGHLIGHTS

GREEN SPACES AT ALL DEVELOPMENTS

HOUSING DENSITY TO REFLECT RURAL/VILLAGE SETTING
STARTER HOMES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

ELDERLY WARDEN ASSISTED HOMES TO BUY OR RENT



Your views are important!

Come and meet Steering Group Members to add your comments

Church Plant Sale
Herstmonceux Village Hall
10 - 12 midday 7 May 2016

Church Fete
Herstmonceux Church
2 - 5pm 11 June 2016

Village Litter picking
start/finish at
The Village Information Centre
10 - 12 midday
22 May 2016

Neighbourhood Plan Open Day
The Woolpack Inn, Herstmonceux
10 - 8pm 15 June 2016

Herstmonceux - It's Your Parish It's Your Future!

Business Workshop

- A Business workshop was held on the 1 August 2016 at the Woolpack Inn, Herstmonceux. Attendees were divided into tables with a facilitator on each table to address issues and concerns as well as suggest measures and alternatives to help improve local businesses in Herstmonceux Parish.
- The following three questions were discussed in detail by each group: -
 1. In what way does the infrastructure and any community facilities help/inhibit the development of your business or make the parish an attractive location for new businesses? E.g. parking, office space, workshop space, broadband
 2. How can home workers be supported to improve their business opportunities?
 3. How has the Herstmonceux Business Association which was set up at the beginning of the Neighbourhood Plan preparation in 2013 helped businesses and how can it be improved.



Engaging with Wealden District Council

Since the start of the discussions on the creation of a Neighbourhood Plan for Herstmonceux Parish, the officers and departments at Wealden District Council (WDC) have made a significant and positive contribution to the process. The Planning Policy Team has worked closely with the clerk to the Steering Group with regular email and telephone contact. The professional advisors from Action in rural Sussex have had both informal and formal discussions with Planning Policy on a wide range of issues. There have been regular meetings with WDC to ensure that

the Steering Group was aware of schedule of changes in relation to the review of the WDC Local Plan and that WDC was kept informed on the preparation of the Plan. Wealden District Council has made formal comments on the Sustainability Appraisal/Strategic Environmental Assessment and Draft Pre-Submission Plan in its role as a Statutory Consultee.

Engaging with the AONB

As part of the preparation for Herstmonceux Parish Neighbourhood Plan, High Weald Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (HWAONB) has been regularly consulted e.g. for the Scoping Report to inform the Sustainable Appraisal/Strategic Environmental Assessment and on the Draft Pre-Submission Plan to ensure the policies of the Plan contribute to the achievement of sustainable development in the parish. This is one the basic requirements by HWAONB for a neighbourhood plan.

Engaging with Utility and Service Providers

As part of the preparation for Herstmonceux Parish Neighbourhood Plan, departments across East Sussex Council and Wealden District Council have been regularly consulted e.g. for the Scoping Report to inform the Sustainable Appraisal/Strategic Environmental Assessment and on the Draft Pre-Submission Plan to ensure that these policies are achievable and appropriate to reflect the wishes of the community. The Statutory Consultation replies indicate positive support for the policies of the Plan with no areas of conflict.

Engagement with Clubs and Groups

Engagement with village groups and organisations by members of the Steering Group, as part of the information gathering process for the HPNP, was undertaken in 2016/17. These were: -

- Herstmonceux C of E Primary School – 2 May 2016
- Luncheon Club AGM - 9 May 2016
- Craft Club – 9 May 2016
- Herstmonceux WI – 9 May 2016
- Extend (Exercise) Class – 19 May 2016
- Local Cyclists – 26 May 2016
- Village Fete at the Church - 11 June 2016
- Open Day at the Woolpack - 15 June 2016
- Windmill Hill windmill – 27 June 2016
- Herstmonceux Cubs – 5 July 2016
- Herstmonceux Scouts – 30 June 2016
- Herstmonceux Guides – 6 July 2016
- Youth Group – 8 July 2016
- Business Association – 1 August 2016
- Local Walking Groups – 5 September 2016
- Herstmonceux Bridleway Group – 16 February 2017

Meeting to discuss cycle, walking routes in Herstmonceux Parish

A meeting was held at Herstmonceux Village Information Centre on 26 May 2016 to discuss cycle and walking routes in the parish. It was attended by the following representatives: Mr S. Nash (Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group), Mr M. Bradshaw (Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group), Mr I. Horridge (Sustrans and Rother DC), Mr P. Humphreys (Cycle East Sussex and Bespoke Eastbourne), Mrs S. Burton (Cycle East Sussex), Mr A. Hills (local cyclist), Mrs B. Styles (Parish resident, and Mrs V. Stutt (Parish resident).

Meeting with Mr Ian Wilkinson, Radcliff Warwick Pharmacy 24 June 2016

A meeting was held in the pharmacy premises adjacent to the Integrated Health Centre and was attended by Councillor Malcolm J Bradshaw and Mr Ian Wilkinson, owner.

Meeting with Trustee of Windmill at Windmill Hill 27 June 2016

A meeting was held at The Old Bakery following a Friends of the Windmill Committee Meeting and was between Mrs Bee Frost and Councillor Jenny Alder.

Meetings with the Young People's Group, Scouts, Guides and Cubs

Councillor Heather Kenward met with the above groups in July 2016. The ages of the young people in attendance ranged from 7 - 17 and expressed their views on what they would like to see in the village for their age group.

Meeting with Bridleway Group

A meeting was held at the Village Information Centre on 16 February 2017 with parishioners to discuss the Bridleways in the parish. It was attended by the following representatives: Councillor Stephen Nash, Councillor Jo Angear, parishioners - Ms Debbie Edgley, Ms Christine Ellis, Ms Linda Westcombe, Ms Cheryl Shaw, Ms Sarah Noble, Ms Cindy Parrott, Ms Alison Mills, Ms Tina Newton-Smith, Ms Carolyn Sawyer, Ms. Caroline Richardson, Mrs C. Harrison, Clerk to Herstmonceux Parish Council, Mrs J. McInnes, Clerk to Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group.

The parishioners are all horse owners who regularly ride the bridleways in the parish.

Meeting with Walking Group re Public Footpaths 5 September 2016

A meeting was held in the Meeting Room of Herstmonceux Integrative Health Centre on 5 September 2016. It was attended by Councillor Stephen Nash, Mrs J McInnes, the Clerk to the Steering Group and five parishioners who represented Herstmonceux Walking Club, informal walking groups and a parishioner who is walking and reviewing all footpaths in the parish.



Ongoing engagement with residents

A key part of the consultation process was to ensure that the local community contributed to the Neighbourhood Plan preparation. This was achieved primarily through regular updates on the parish council website, and via newsletters, posters and flyers.

Information - newsletter

Herstmonceux Parish Council - Neighbourhood Plan

Following a recent Public Meeting, Herstmonceux Parish Council has decided to continue with the Neighbourhood Plan for the parish. Surveys have been sent out to all households addressed to the occupier and stamped PARISH COUNCIL DOCUMENTS to indicate that it is from the Parish Council. We would be grateful if you can find time to complete the survey and return it in the envelope provided to one of the drop-off points listed on the survey.

The consultation runs from Friday 19 February 2016 - Saturday 5 March 2016.

A Councillor Surgery will be held at the Village Information Centre from 10am - 12 midday on Saturday 27 February 2016. Councillors will be available to receive completed surveys and any questions and comments on the Neighbourhood Plan.

The survey responses will be analysed by officers from Action in rural Sussex and the results presented at the Parish Meeting to be held at 8pm on Monday 21 March 2016 in Herstmonceux Village Hall.

The Council hopes to complete the Neighbourhood Plan by December 2016.

If you have not received a copy of the survey, please contact the Parish Clerk at The Parish Office, 4 Gardner Street, Herstmonceux, East Sussex BN27 4LG, clerk@herstmonceuxparish.org.uk, 01323 833312

Press Release

Herstmonceux Parish Neighbourhood Plan

The Localism Act 2011 enables parish and town councils to create Neighbourhood Plans and Herstmonceux Parish Council has been preparing Neighbourhood Plan for Herstmonceux Parish. The Draft Pre-Submission Plan is available for consultation until Friday 19 May 2017.

The Plan has been prepared with fifteen policies aimed at managing change and growth in the parish in a positive way so that the character of and the quality of life in the parish is maintained and improved.

The Plan aims to: -

- Meet local needs in keeping with the size of the Parish
- Complement and enhance our environment, both in its nature and history
- Protect the high quality rural landscape
- Contribute to the social fabric and wellbeing of the parishioners
- Promote employment in the Parish
- Promote and retain retail facilities
- Regulate future type and style of housing developments
- Provide an ongoing framework for all the residents to contribute to the sustainable development of our community

Following the consultation, the Plan will be examined by an Independent Examiner and if approved, will be submitted for a Parish Referendum.

Once adopted, Herstmonceux Parish Neighbourhood Plan will sit alongside the National Policy Planning Framework and the Wealden District Council Local Plan when planning applications in Herstmonceux Parish are considered.

Copies of the plan can be viewed at:

- www.herstmonceuxparish.org.uk
- www.wealden.gov.uk
- Hailsham Library
- Herstmonceux Village Information Centre
- Herstmonceux Village Hall
- the Parish Clerk - 01323 833312 or clerk@herstmonceuxparish.org.uk
- Open evenings at the Village Information Centre from 5.30pm–7.30pm on Thursday 27 April 2017 and Thursday 11 May 2017

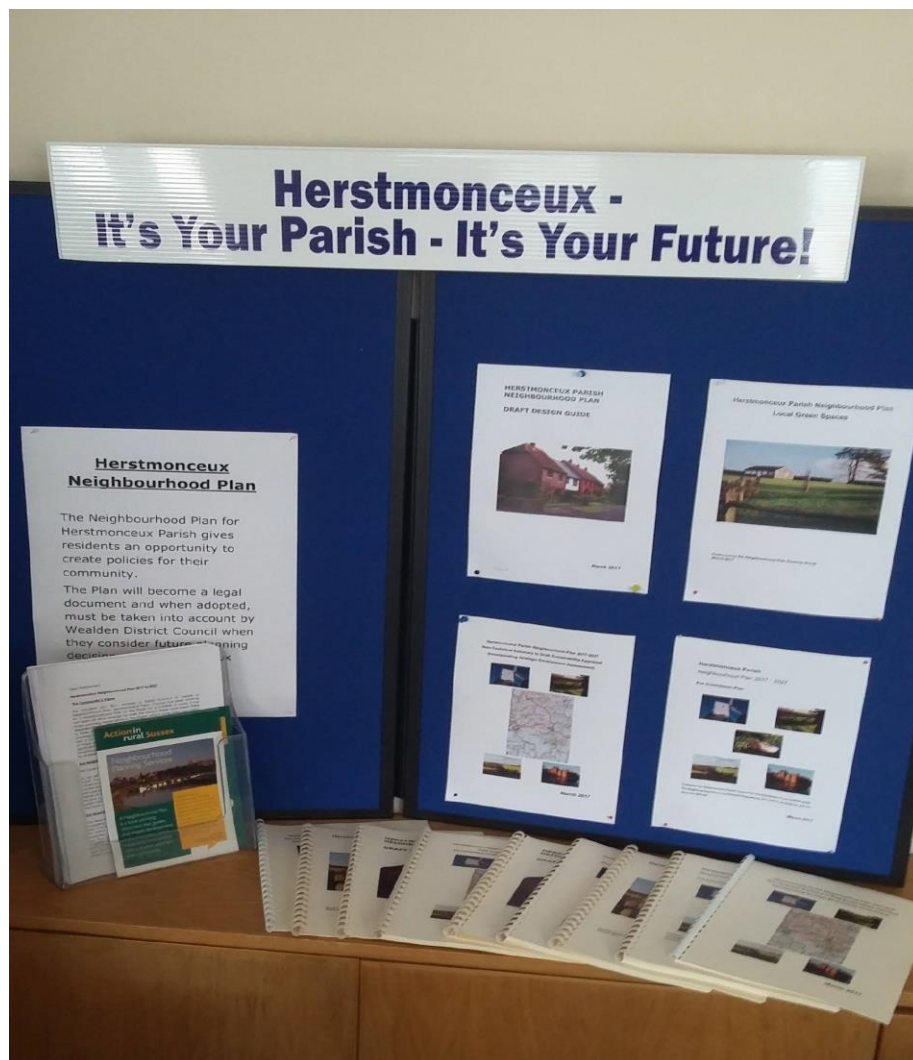
Comments on the draft Neighbourhood Plan should be sent to: -

Mrs J McInnes, Clerk to the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group, Herstmonceux Parish Office, Gardner Street, Herstmonceux, East Sussex BN27 4LG or email to nplan@herstmonceuxparish.org.uk

Send in your comments!
Herstmonceux - It's Your Parish - It's Your Future!

Annual Parish Meeting

This meeting was attended by 69 people with the focus on the Herstmonceux Parish Neighbourhood Plan (HPNP). There was a presentation on the upcoming consultation of the Draft Pre-Submission Plan, the supporting Sustainable Appraisal and Green Spaces Report. There was also a report by the chair of Herstmonceux Parish Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group. See appendix 2



2017 Regulation 14 Consultation

The Parish Council approved the new pre-submission plan for a six-week consultation period to start from Monday 19th March until Friday 19 May 2017. Copies of the plan and associated documents were available on the parish website www.herstmonceuxparish.org.uk and for reading at the following locations:

- Herstmonceux Parish Office
- Herstmonceux Village Information Centre
- Herstmonceux Village Hall
- Hailsham Library

The Parish Council also held various events to consult on the draft plan at the village on the following dates and times.

- Surgery session: Saturday 29 April 2017 10am – midday
- Surgery session: Saturday 25 March 2017 10am - midday
- Open evening at Village Information Centre: Thursday 27 April - 5.30pm – 7.30pm
- Open evening at Village Information Centre: Thursday 11 May - 5.30pm – 7.30pm

Information leaflets informing residents about the public consultation on the Plan were delivered by the Steering Group to households in the parish.

The HPNP was sent to the following Statutory Consultees for consideration and comment:

- Historic England
- Environment Agency
- Natural England
- East Sussex County Council

The Plan was also sent to the following bodies for consultation:

- The High Weald AONB Unit
- Wealden District Council

Responses to Pre-Submission Plan Consultation

It was publicised through various means to encourage maximum participation and inclusion. It was made available on the parish council website and Annual Parish Meeting with a response form that could be downloaded and emailed as an attachment. Forms were also available in the Parish Office, the Village Information Centre, Herstmonceux Village Hall, Herstmonceux Health Centre and at the Parish Council surgeries. Summaries of the policies together with response forms were also available at the Parish Office, the Village Information Centre and Herstmonceux Village Hall.

A total of 18 responses were received throughout the consultation period. Of these responses, 43 comments were made:

- 7 were received from the key statutory bodies

- 1 was received from a developer
- 10 were received from residents in Herstmonceux The

following Statutory Consultees made Representations:

- Wealden District Council
- High Weald Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
- Environment Agency
- East Sussex County Council
- Historic England
- Natural England
- Chris Flavin on behalf of ESCC officers.
 - ESCC Transport
 - ESCC Transport policy
 - ESCC Landscape
 - ESCC ecology
 - ESCC archaeology
 - ESCC – Older people housing
 - ESCC - Culture

Appendix 2 and 3 includes these representations and the Steering Group's responses.

Overview of Responses

Representations to Policies (*43 comments made*)

- Policy 1: A Spatial Plan for the Parish: 9 comments made.
- Policy 2: Local Green Spaces: 6 comments made.
- Policy 3: Retention and Promotion of Key Employment Locations: 2 comments made
- Policy 4: Herstmonceux, Cowbeech and Windmill Hill Core Retail Areas: 3 comments made
- Policy 5: Sports, Leisure and Recreation Facilities in Herstmonceux Parish: 0 comments made.
- Policy 6: Redevelopment of the former public toilet site: 0 comments made.
- Policy 7: Refurbishment and extension to the car park at Herstmonceux Recreation Ground: 4 comments made.
- Policy 8: Rights of Way in Herstmonceux Parish: 1 comment made.
- Policy 9: Creation of new shared access for pedestrians, cyclists and mobility transport from Windmill Hill to Herstmonceux: 5 comments made.
- Policy 10: Mobile Phone Connectivity and Broadband: 0 comments made.
- Policy 11: The Design of Development in the Parish: 4 comments made.
- Policy 12: Windfall Sites: 4 comments was made on this policy.
- Policy 13: Older People's Housing Needs: 1 comment made.
- Policy 14: Herstmonceux Community Land Trust: 2 comments made
- Policy 15: Infrastructure Investment: 2 comments made

A schedule of the consultation responses and the Steering Group's responses to

these comments is provided in the Regulation 14 Schedule of Representations (Appendix 3 and 4). It also describes how these issues and concerns have been considered and where relevant, addressed in the submission Plan.

Amendments to Herstmonceux Parish Neighbourhood Plan - Post May 2017 Consultation

Following the Regulation 14 Consultation, the Parish Steering Group submitted the suite of documents comprising the Herstmonceux Parish Neighbourhood Plan (HPNP) to Wealden District Council (WDC) to obtain any final comments on the contents.

During the review of these documents against the relevant legislation and guidance, WDC made several suggestions to the Steering Group for changes to the HPNP and its documents. These suggestions were made in light of reviewing the Plan against the Basic Conditions requirements, the NPPF and the Local Plan for the District and in order to ensure the Plan was in general conformity with the strategic planning framework for the District.

These suggestions were accepted by the Steering Group and incorporated into the HPNP Submission Plan, in particular in regards to Policy 4. The HPNP Submission Plan will now be subject to a final consultation of 6 weeks in line with Regulation 16 of the The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (as amended).

Conclusion

The Herstmonceux Neighbourhood Plan Consultation Statement and its appendices are considered to comply with Section 15(2) of Part 5 of the 2012 Neighbourhood Planning Regulations

Residents and statutory bodies have been consulted since the inception of the plan in 2012 and its subsequent reviving in 2015. Residents have been given many opportunities to engage, contribute and suggest improvements to the development of the Neighbourhood Plan.



Appendix 1: HNP Steering Group Terms of Reference.

HERSTMONCEUX PARISH COUNCIL NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN (HPNP) STEERING GROUP

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Name

The name of the organisation shall be the Herstmonceux Parish Council Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group, hereafter referred to as the Steering Group. The Steering Group shall be dissolved when the Neighbourhood Plan has been approved by a community referendum and has become statute law.

Purpose

The purpose of the Steering Group shall be to work in partnership with the Parish Council to carry out the following tasks: -

1. To develop and oversee a process that will result in the preparation of a draft Neighbourhood Plan for the whole of Herstmonceux Parish.
2. Investigate and identify support for the Neighbourhood Plan and identify ways of involving the whole community to gather the views and opinions of as many residents, groups and organisations in the community as possible.
3. Identify sources and apply for funding.
4. Liaise with relevant authorities and organisations to make the plan as effective as possible.
5. Take responsibility for planning, budgeting and monitoring expenditure on the plan and report back to the Parish Council on these matters.
6. Determine the types of survey and information gathering methods to be used.
7. Identify priorities and the timescale for actions in the plan including lead organisations and potential sources of project funding.
9. To report back to the Parish Council on progress, issues arising and outcomes from the exercise.
10. To liaise with Wealden District Council regarding submission of the plan for independent examination.
11. To liaise with Wealden District Council in undertaking a referendum for the plan.
12. To liaise with Wealden District Council for plan to be adopted.

Membership

- The Steering Group will include up to seven members made up of parish councillors.
- The Steering Group will have a Clerk and a Finance Officer
- A person shall cease to be a member of the Group having notified the Chairman or Clerk of his or her wish to resign.

Officers

- Chairman
- Clerk to the Steering Group

- Parish Council Finance Officer
- Publicity Officer

Meetings

- The Steering Group shall meet every month as a minimum, or as often as required.
- Notice of meetings shall be given to members by written notices or emails left at, or sent by post to the member's last known email or home address. All notices of the Steering Group Meetings must detail the matters to be discussed.
- Every matter shall be determined by a majority of votes of the Steering Group members present and voting. In the case of equality of votes, the chairman of the meeting shall have a casting vote.
- The Steering Group quorum will be four members.
- The clerk shall keep a record of meetings in a minute folder, and circulate minutes to members of the Steering Group not more than 14 days after each meeting.

Working Groups

- The Steering Group may appoint such working groups, as it considers necessary to carry out the functions specified by the Steering Group. Each working group should have a nominated chair. This person must be a member of the Steering Group.
- Working Groups do not have the power to authorise expenditure on behalf of the Steering Group.

Conflicts of interest and conduct

- All Steering Group members shall be expected to declare any conflicts of interest. These shall be recorded in the minutes by the Clerk and the Chairman shall ensure that no member with a conflict of interest takes part in the relevant discussion, decision making or voting.
- All Steering Group members shall work with mutual trust, respect and courtesy combining together to achieve the production of the Neighbourhood Plan.

Finance

- The Finance Officer shall keep a clear record of expenditure, supported by receipted invoices.
- Members of the community who are involved as volunteers with any of the working groups may claim back any expenditure that was necessarily incurred and approved by the Steering Group during the process of producing the Parish Plan.
- The Finance Officer will draw up and agree with the Steering Group procedures for volunteers who wish to claim expenses and the rates they may claim.
- The Finance Officer will report back to the Steering Group and the Parish Council on planned and actual expenditure for the project. All invoices will be forwarded to the Finance Officer for payment.

Changes to the Terms of Reference (TOR)

- This TOR may be altered and additional clauses may be added with the simple majority of the Steering Group present.

Dissolution of the Steering Group

- The Finance Officer will advise on the procedure for the return of any unused funding given as grants to the Steering Group, if this was part of the condition of the grant.

Herstmonceux Parish Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group 2016

27 January 2016

Appendix 2: Chairman Report at Annual Parish Meeting March 2017

Report by Chair of Herstmonceux Parish Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

Five years ago, there was a meeting in this hall where members of the Parish along with Councillors set out to create a Neighbourhood Plan. There have been some challenges along the way but the final stages of this - your plan - is now approaching.

The next six weeks will be for public consultation and will enable you to have your input before it is sent for Independent Examination. Once this stage is completed it will be put to a referendum. The outcome of which will be whether to proceed with the plan or not.

There have been numerous meetings covering many subjects. Meetings with local businesses that has led to the reinvigoration of the Business Ass., a focus on local employment plus the identification of investment potential. Discussions with horse riders has led to the formation of a bridleways group. Input from walking groups have highlighted a need to have a focus on footpaths and green infrastructure - cycling organisations that have suggested ways and means of creating a local and connecting to the wider cycle network. Our youth from many age groups have also been encouraged to have their say.

A Building Development Group - that includes parishioners - has drawn up a study in Building Design - to influence all new building over the life of the plan.

Wherever the evidence has led us we have endeavoured to build into the plan. These conversations and feedback coupled with the surveys we have carried out have led directly to the policies we are launching today.

Policies generated from the community - for the community.

We are required to formulate policies that conform with the Wealden Local Plan and the National Planning Policies Framework and are in the gift of the Parish. Policies that are beyond our control are non-productive however, as you will see, we can look at the surrounding environment such as improved car parking, protection of and enhanced green space provision, and recreational facilities

I would like to stress that these policies, should be viewed not as an end but as a beginning. They will be kept under review certainly every 2 years or sooner if the occasion deserves. The legislation under which this plan is formed is aimed at community involvement. In the future, circumstances may change and we expect this plan over time - with your involvement - to do the same.

The policies are now available - the background reports and plan will be published on the parish website plus copies will be kept in the Village Information Centre for you to read. We shall be running Saturday surgeries in the VIC at the end March

and April plus at least two evening surgeries during the next six weeks. Please come and discuss this with us - It is your plan.

We have included comment sheets on the policies and Sustainable Appraisal (SA) - it is important that you the parishioners get involved. It is your opportunity to comment on the policies and the SA - prior to going for examination. We look forward to hearing your comments and so that this plan may go forward.

Appendix 3: Regulation 14 Summary Report from Statutory Consultees.

HPNP: Pre-Submission Plan Schedule of Comments Received – Statutory Consultees

Name and address and organisation.	Representation	AK/AirS response and recommendation
<p>Natalie Bumpus on behalf of Head of Strategic Planning Policy</p> <p>Wealden District Council. Letter dated 17 May 2017</p>	<p>A letter setting out all of the comments was not submitted but instead a track changes version of the actual NP document and the SA was submitted. These have generally set out below. The first set of comments refer to the NP. The second set refer to the SA.</p>	
	<p>Paragraph 2.4 We did not require that an SEA/SA be carried out. There is a requirement to screen any NDP to see if it is likely to have an impact but if not then you don't have to do an SEA/SA. In our screening determination letter to you dated 28th June 2016 we said that:</p> <p>"In accordance with the Screening Opinion and the resulting consultation responses it is the conclusion of Wealden District Council, under Regulation 9(1) of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 that it is unlikely for significant environmental effects to arise as a result of the scope and policies of the Draft Herstmonceux NDP. As such, the Draft Herstmonceux NDP does not require an SEA to be undertaken."</p>	<p>Agreed that this section should be amended along the lines as suggested by WDC.</p>

	We did advise that it would be beneficial for the Parish Council to prepare a SA in order to comply with the Government's requirement that the NDP demonstrate how it contributes to the achievement of sustainable development and we said that this should take a 'light-touch' and proportionate approach to the Draft NDP. Nowhere did we state that an SEA was required. Please can this text be amended accordingly to reflect this.	
	Paragraph 4.3 The Pevensey Levels are also a designated Special Area of Conservation (SAC) and this should also be mentioned here	Agreed that paragraph should be added.
	Paragraph 5.7 It would be good practice to put the years in here as well for each.	The addition of the years against each of the consultation meeting dates can be added albeit that the referenced to 2016/17 is included within the paragraph.
	Paragraph 6.10 Policy WCS6 is not specific to Neighbourhood Development Plans and so does not require the HPNP to allocate land for at least 70 new homes. Please amend accordingly.	The reference to Policy WCS6 will be amended to say that the policy refers to 70 new housing allocations for Herstmonceux up to 2027 but that this is not a neighbourhood plan policy.
	Policy 1 This Policy needs to ensure no adverse impacts occur on biodiversity	The policy will be amended to include a reference to no adverse impacts on biodiversity.
	Policy 2 It would be beneficial to include in the policy and supporting text here some links to creating, maintaining and/or improving sustainable access to these areas to link to the sustainability theme of the NDP and to also support the objective	The policy will be amended to make reference to sustainable access to LGS where possible. Due to the proposed sites being wide ranging in size/location it won't be possible for the NP to ensure

	of healthy communities which is an objective of the District Council also.	all access links to each site from every location is created/improve/maintained. It is suggested that wording is included to say that sustainable access links to the LGS will be supported by the Parish Council where possible.
	Policy 7 Some inclusion of the detail of any landscaping (hard and soft) that would be implemented to help integrate the car park with its surroundings would be beneficial. It would be beneficial to include the creation of cycle parking as part of the policy to encourage alternative forms of transport and support healthy communities.	The policy can be amended to include reference to provision of cycle parking facilities. Regarding the landscaping reference, it is suggested that landscaping is included within the policy but that details are to be submitted as part of the overall scheme. At this stage, the PC has not carried out any evidence on the exact details of the hard and soft landscaping that would be appropriate in this location and/or for this specific scheme.
	Policy 9 The design of hard and soft landscape materials to help integrate the path into the landscape would be beneficial in this policy and supporting text.	As with the above comments, the PC has not carried out detailed evidence about the type of landscaping that would be appropriate for this scheme/location however a reference to landscaping will be included within the policy.
	Policy 12 This Policy was superseded by the Affordable Housing Delivery Local Plan which was adopted on 18th May 2016. Any reference to affordable housing should be to this Plan and not Policy WCS8. Please amend accordingly.	The policy will be amended in line with the comment from WDC.

	Sustainable Appraisal paragraph 2.1. Please state the source of this quote.	The source will be referenced in a footnote.
	Table Ab Policy 2 – some general typos and small changes	Accept and make changes.
	Table Al Policy 12 There is also the standalone Affordable Housing Delivery Local Plan which is adopted and relevant. Policy WCS8 is superseded by the Affordable Housing Delivery Local Plan.	Accept and make changes.
	Table An Policy 14 Is this actually an option for this policy area or is this in the wrong place? I think this may be a typo.	Agreed this is a typo and amend accordingly.
Natalie Bumpus on behalf of Head of Strategic Planning Policy Wealden District Council. Further email dated 21 st June 2017	Having read paragraphs 9.4 – 9.6 of the NDP, I believe you should also change the wording for the Assets of Community Value. As it is written at the moment, paragraphs 9.4 - 9.6 are a policy and as such this would need to be considered through the SA. As you state that Chapter 9 is about non-policy aspirations then I would change the wording for the Assets of Community Value to one paragraph, something like: “All the assets selected are considered to be buildings and land of some considerable longstanding in the local community, with which local people have a strong affinity, and have been collated from the comments made as part of engagement with parishioners. The Parish Council	Accept and make changes.

	would not support any proposals that would cause harm to or the loss of these assets.”	
Sharon Jenkins Consultations Team Natural England Letter dated 10 th April 2107	No comments	No change.
Chris Flavin on behalf of ESCC officers. The various disciplines are highlighted below		
ESCC Transport	Policy 7: Refurbishment & extension to car park at Recreation Ground –This policy indicates that the access road to the recreation ground will be improved by widening it and creating passing spaces; however, I note that land available to provide these improvements is very limited at the access junction with Hailsham road. With this in mind it is likely to be difficult to provide an access width that can comfortably accommodate two-way traffic.	Whilst the policy wording doesn't include any reference to widening the access road, the supporting evidence in para 8.50. It is recommended that this wording is deleted and refence to improving the access road in consultation with WSCC highways is included. In the meantime, the SG could contact the highway section (name is provided in the response) and further details could be added in the final version of the NP.
ESCC Transport policy	Objectives 1, 6 & 9 are in accord with East Sussex Local Transport Plan 2011 – 2026, particularly in relation to supporting local economic growth, sustainability and healthy lifestyles.	No change.

	Policy 1: Spatial Planning Principles for the Parish -We agree with the inclusion of this policy, especially in relation to the need to take into account existing infrastructure, particularly transport.	No change.
	Policy 2: Local Green Spaces Suggest making links to maintaining or improving sustainable access to these, in accord with the sustainability thread and supporting a healthy community theme, within your plan.	This is similar to the comment made by WDC – see above. Agreed that reference is included relating to sustainable links.
	Policy 3: Resisting the Loss of Employment Locations -Within the section of the Policy that refers to traffic generation we suggest also mentioning opportunities to support sustainable travel, which will improve local access.	Agreed – include reference to sustainable travel within policy.
	Policy 4: Core Retail Areas -We suggest also mentioning opportunities to support access by sustainable travel, to support local access.	Agreed – as above – amend policy to include reference to sustainable travel.
	Policy 7: Refurbishment & extension to car park at Recreation Ground -The inclusion of cycle parking should also be considered as part of the refurbishment and extension, to provide greater transport choice in accessing the recreation ground.	Agreed – include reference to cycle parking facilities within policy.
	Policy 9: Creation of new shared access from Windmill Hill to Herstmonceux -We agree with the inclusion of this and will be willing to discuss this with the Parish, in relation to the current development of ESCC Cycling & Walking Strategy.	No change.
	New signage for Herstmonceux and for connecting routes between parishes -We suggest that reference is made to the need for the Parish	As this is an aspiration within the NP and not an actual policy, it is suggested that no change is required within the NP but

	Council to liaise with ESCC in relation to this.	it is noted that the PC will need to consult with ESCC.
ESCC Landscape	<p>The proposed policies are acceptable in terms of their potential impact on the landscape and visual amenity of the parish and can be supported. The policies are strong in relation to the conservation and enhancement of the character and distinctiveness of the parish. It is recommended that the following policies include additional statements to strengthen these aims including:</p> <p>Policy 7 -Sensitive detailed design of planting and hard landscape materials to successfully integrate the car park into the local landscape.</p> <p>Policy 9 -Sensitive detailed design of hard landscape materials to integrate the path into the local streetscape.</p>	These are similar to the points raised by WDC. Agreed that reference to Sensitive detailed design of planting and hard landscape materials are included within the policies but the actual landscaping details are to be agreed at a later date.
	Section 9.7 -Proposed village signage and gateways: The detailed design of the gateway signs and other proposed signage need to be co-ordinated to ensure a consistent approach which will strengthen local distinctiveness and sense of place.	Agreed that this is a valid point and text will be included along the lines suggested by ESCC.
ESCC ecology	Pevensey Levels is also a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) (referenced in para 4.7 but not 4.3). Given that and the Ramsar designation, the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010, as amended, applies and a Habitats Regulations Assessment of the Neighbourhood Plan	This matter has been raised with WDC.

	is required.	
	Landscape & Ecology section: Reference should be made to designated site s (statutory and non-statutory) within (wholly or partially) the Parish. Jarvis's Wood, Nobody's Wood & Park Wood Complex LWS falls partially within the Parish boundary (CW97).	Noted – this section will be amended.
	5.4 The Objectives include the need to protect the natural beauty of the Parish landscape but there is no objective to protect and enhance the natural environment and the ecosystem services it provides.	It is suggested that this issue can be addressed by adding a small amendment to an existing objective to include a reference to the natural environment.
	Policy 1 – development proposals need to ensure that there are no adverse impacts on biodiversity.	Reference to biodiversity will need be included within policy 1.
	All developments should be informed by an Ecological Impact Assessment in line with BS42020:2013 Biodiversity – Code of Practice for planning and development and CIEEM guidance. The Sussex Biodiversity Record Centre should be included in the evidence base.	It is not clear where it is suggested this section should be included within the NP however, this matter is governed by the advice provided by WDC regarding planning applications. No change.
ESCC archaeology	The NP has a heritage section but it only has limited text about listed buildings, the lack of a conservation area and some text about Herstmonceux Castle. The description of the historic environment is therefore very weak and the plan is therefore very weak as the full potential of the historic environment, including archaeological interest is not	In association with the comments from Historic England to the Scoping report dated 7 th September 2016– that further information is to be included within the NP. It would also be useful to contact the archaeology section at ESCC to extract information from HERS. There is

	celebrated sufficiently or drawn upon as a basis for the sustainable development of the plan area. We would be happy to provide information from the Historic Environment Record.	now a small charge for this.
ESCC – Older people housing	It is good to see the support for older peoples housing within the Neighbourhood Plan. The policy goes as far as setting out ‘support’ for the development of a range of older peoples housing and it lists the criteria for which ‘particular support will be given’. It might also be worth considering making reference to affordability – by placing some emphasis on also supporting the provision of affordable older peoples housing, including sheltered housing. Herstmonceux currently has no ‘social’ or affordable older persons housing within its locality (the nearest is in Hailsham, 4½ miles away) and regarding residential care homes, we are only aware of one located in Herstmonceux.	Noted and agreed that a reference to affordable older peoples housing.
	Another consideration could be the inclusion of details on the tenure splits that would be sought for older persons housing. We do realise however that in order to go to this level of detail, it would have to be backed up with sufficient evidence. Further survey work and evidence gathering could potentially be carried out in order to find out about the financial circumstances of the local demographic.	Noted. Unfortunately, the PC has limited resources to undertake further evidence gathering at this stage. No changes.
	Lifetime homes -With regard to the reference to Lifetime Homes, we would recommend going one step further than ‘lifetime home’ by instead referring to the standards for accessible and adaptable	Agreed – amend reference to Building Regulations.

	<p>dwellings as set out within the Building Regulations M4 (2).</p>	
ESCC - Culture	<p>We welcome the high priority given to the maintenance of the village hall. Whilst leisure, sport and recreation are identified as a stand-alone issue for the village, the opportunity to participate in arts activity is not. However, if a village hall is available to host activity this will ensure that the community can host and generate arts events.</p>	<p>Thank you and noted. No change.</p>
<p>Robert Lloyd-Sweet</p> <p>Historic Places Adviser (South East England)</p> <p>Historic England. Letter 19th May 2017</p>	<p>We are pleased to support the inclusion of the Grounds and Gardens of Herstmonceux Castle as Local Green Space within Policy 2 in particular for their historic interest. Nevertheless, these are heritage assets that have an important role in the attracting visitors to the village and supporting its economy. The role of the castle and grounds as an attraction also helps to support the on-going conservation of the heritage assets as well as enabling their appreciation by numerous visitors. It is likely that there will be need for development of infrastructure to support the visitor activity which would not be considered to harm the setting of the Scheduled Monument of the castle or associated Listed Buildings or the importance of the grounds as a Registered Park and Gardens in their own right. As such we recommend separating the castle gardens and grounds from the general list of local green spaces proposed to allow the inclusion of a supporting 'exception' clause to the policy to</p>	<p>Thank you. The reason for this suggested amendment to the policy is understood. The SG have sought the advice from WDC as to whether this further wording would comply with the provisions of the NPPF. WDC has responded (email dated 21st June 2017). They state - The Policy could remain the same but the paragraph EH have suggested added in after the last paragraph of the Policy. In a way, it's similar to what is stated in the last paragraph of the Policy anyway 'Proposals for any development on Local Green Spaces will be resisted, other than in very special circumstances'. The EH comment is a valid one and is worth being included within the Policy. Paragraph 55 of the NPPF is of some relevance, albeit in relation to new</p>

	<p>“support development that will support the use of Herstmonceux Castle and Grounds for purposes of tourism, recreation, leisure and education that are designed to sustain the historic interest and landscape amenity of the green space and the significance of heritage assets”.</p>	<p>isolated dwellings. Paragraph 140 may also be useful. There is no specific reference to enabling development and local green spaces but I think the above paragraphs are of relevance to your plan.</p> <p>You could expand on the ‘very special circumstances’ to include the wording recommended by Historic England.</p> <p>It is therefore recommended that Policy 2 is amended to say - <i>In the case of Herstmonceux Castle and Grounds, proposals that are for the purposes of tourism, recreation, leisure and education, and that are designed to sustain the historic interest and landscape amenity of the green space, will be supported based on the advice given by Historic England on such proposals.</i> Further details are added to the supporting information.</p>
	<p>We are pleased to support Policy 11, including the provision it provides for consideration of impacts on heritage assets and the requirement to demonstrate how proposals have responded to the design guidance documents that support the plan.</p>	<p>Noted and thank you.</p>

	We would suggest adding to bullet point g. of Policy 12 to read “g. The development respects conserves and, where possible, enhances the historic and built environment, including sustaining or better revealing the significance of heritage assets”.	Agreed. Further information will be added to bullet point g.
	With regard to the list of ‘community assets’ we recommend identifying a separate list (which might include some of the same places and buildings) of non-designated heritage assets that are valued by the community for their historic, archaeological, architectural or artistic interest but not otherwise protected under existing designations such as listed buildings and scheduled monuments. This might include a number of the assets of community value as well as other sites, buildings or landscapes. This provides a separate area of consideration for these features of the Parish’s historic environment under paragraphs 126 – 141 of the NPPF.	Whilst this is an important area to be included within some NP’s the Steering Group have not considered this is required and have therefore not identified a list to include in the HPNP.
Claire Tester MRTPI Planning Advisor High Weald AONB Unit letter dated 19 th May 2017	I support Objective 2 - To protect the natural beauty of the parish landscape, particularly the High Weald Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and the Low Weald and Objective 4 - To ensure that the design of new buildings conserves the rural character of the parish in the High Weald and the Low Weald. However, I believe that these aspirations are not currently carried through into the policies, particularly in respect of the High Weald AONB.	Noted.
	In particular, I would suggest references in Policy 1 Spatial Planning Principles for the Parish and Policy 11 : The Design of Development in the Parish to the need for development within or affecting the	Agreed – amendments to policy 1 and policy 11 in relation to the AONB.

	setting of the High Weald AONB to conserve and seek to enhance its landscape and scenic beauty, having particular regard to the impacts on its character components, as set out in the High Weald AONB Management Plan.	
Marguerite Oxley - Technical Specialist Environment Agency email 12 June 2017	Based on the fact that the plan does not seek to make specific housing allocations, we have no detailed comments to make in relation to your Plan at this stage.	Thank you and noted. No change.
	We note that the plan is positively planning for future housing and we could not see any reference in the document as to how wastewater will be dealt with. We recommend that relevant policies make reference to the fact that future housing should be connected to the mains foul sewer. Generally, we will only agree to developments involving sewage effluent, trade effluent or other contaminated discharges to ground or surface waters if we are satisfied that it is not reasonable to make a connection to the public foul sewer. Full justification would be required as to why the development cannot connect to the sewer. An Environmental Permit may be required for treated effluent to ground or surface water. This position will not normally apply to surface water run-off via sustainable drainage systems and discharges from sewage treatment works operated by sewage undertakings with appropriate treatment and discharge controls.	Thank you and noted. Whilst this is an important matter – we would expect these specific details to be address at planning application stage. As the NP is not allocating sites then we consider this to be too detailed at this stage to include within the policies. However, there is a reference in Policy 11 – Design of Development which states that that adequate infrastructure, services and community facilities are, or will be, made available to serve any new development.

Appendix 4: Representations from residents and developer with steering group comments

HPNP: Pre-Submission Plan Schedule of Comments Received – Individual Representations:

Ref	Policy No	Representation	Suggested Modification	Steering group Observation and Recommendation
001		Thank you for this. I would like to thank the Neighbourhood Plan Committee for their hard work and dedication in producing this document. I support much of the plan but would find it impossible to vote for it in the referendum without alterations to Policies 1 and 12. My comments are as follows and I have also attached the pdf document to which I have referred.		Noted.
	2.0		<u>2.10 Insert the following:</u> The housing needs survey of 2016 identified that there are between 13 and 16 households in the Parish which need affordable housing. <i>Reason: This is a very important piece of information on the scale of the affordable housing need in the Parish.</i>	Thank you. Paragraph 2.10 does not set out the results of the survey – it is a summary of the consultation undertaken for the NP.
	5.1		<u>Section 5: Insert new 5.1 as follows:</u> It is clear that the major concerns centred around housing development. Most	Unfortunately adding a new paragraph 5.1 as suggested would result in the start of this

			<p>respondents wanted small developments or no new housing development at all and many were against building on greenfield land. The effect of more new housing on infrastructure, particularly transport, schools, health services and sewage, much of which was considered to be over-stretched or inadequate, was also a major concern.</p> <p><i>Reason: The consultation of 2016 received 72 comments which supported small-scale or no new development, 73 comments about inadequate infrastructure and 45 comments against building on greenfield land. See my attached list of these comments "Selected comments from March 2016 Herstmonceux Neighbourhood Plan Survey Report Lovatt Smith 20170330.pdf"</i></p>	<p>chapter launching straight into the results of a survey without any preamble as to what the survey was for. However, it clearly states that all the results from the survey are set out in Evidence gathering report. The comments to paragraph 5.1 have been highlighted in paragraph 5.8. This has been added to in line with this representation.</p>
	5.8		<p><u>5.8 change to the following:</u> There are specific needs for residents of the parish and in particular issues around provision of housing for those that wish to remain in the village, those wishing to downsize and the lack of suitable housing for this, particularly the building of bungalows as opposed to houses.</p> <p><i>Reason: the first sentence would be moved</i></p>	<p>As discussed above, it is not considered that a new paragraph 5.1 is required.</p>

			<i>to new 5.1.</i>	
	5.11		<p>5.11 Insert the following</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengths: Farming, forestry and horticulture • Opportunities: A growing demand for local food and forestry products <p>Reason: Food, farming and forestry are a major part of the economy of the Parish and the skillset of its inhabitants. There is a growing demand for local food and forestry products which represents business opportunities.</p>	Thank you. These have been inserted.
	1		<p><u>Policy 1: change to the following</u></p> <p>Policy 1 Spatial Planning Principles for the Parish</p> <p>Small-scale development proposals within the Herstmonceux Parish Neighbourhood Plan (HPNP) area will be supported provided that they:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Minimise the loss of greenfield (agricultural or wooded) land. Take into account the design of development, and have respect to, the scale of the existing built form and buildings; existing infrastructure and the landscape of the surrounding area 	Thank you for your comments. It is not considered these recommendations are to be taken on board. Policy 1 provides an overall spatial strategy for the NP. It does not relate solely to housing development.

			<p>to ensure no adverse impacts arise.</p> <p>c. Address identified local need and deliver community benefit, particularly within the settlements of Herstmonceux, Cowbeech and Windmill Hill, unless material planning considerations indicate otherwise.</p> <p>Herstmonceux Parish Council will seek to work with the local planning authority, applicants and other stakeholders on the formulation of development proposals. Particular support will be given to proposals which provide starter homes or dwellings for older households. Housing developments of more than 3 dwellings will be expected to provide for a mix of dwelling size, type and tenure that meet the identified housing needs of the community and be in accordance with Policy WCS8 Affordable Housing as set out in the Wealden Core Strategy 2013.</p> <p><i>Reason: This wording reflects the main concerns of the 2016 Consultation - see my comments on section 5 above - and the 2016 Housing Need Survey. I have added a modified final paragraph from Policy 12 and chosen a limit of 3 dwellings because of the</i></p>	
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			<i>Core Strategy's 35% affordable housing target in WCS8.</i>	
	12		<p><u>Policy 12 last paragraph change to the following:</u></p> <p>Particular support will be given to proposals which provide Starter Homes or dwellings for older households. Housing developments of more than 3 dwellings will be expected to provide for a mix of dwelling size, type and tenure that meet the identified housing needs of the community and be in accordance with Policy WCS8 Affordable Housing as set out in the Wealden Core Strategy 2013.</p> <p><i>Reason: see comments on Policy 1 above.</i></p>	Thank you and noted. The reference to the Affordable Housing Delivery Local Plan May 2016 is used because of it being more recent than the 2013 Local Plan and it supersedes policy WCS8.
002		<p>I would just like to suggest that the residents would appreciate a pedestrian crossing situated opposite the village hall and doctor's surgery (Herstmonceux Health Centre) on the A271 Hailsham Road. The traffic is very prolific and it takes ages to cross the road – it would be difficult for a disabled or slow person to cross the road safely.</p> <p>I am pleased with the overall Neighbourhood Plan and I am pleased</p>	Thank you for your comments.	A new aspirational section has been included with the NP – please see paragraph 9.10 onwards.

		<p>that the Parish Council is taking a Sustainability Appraisal as it looks at all aspects of the village community and development. I would just add that my main concerns are the roads and transport.</p> <p>We have a beautiful and vibrant village in Herstmonceux and I would be saddened if it was <u>too</u> much over developed. I appreciate the need for housing and growth but in a sustainable way.</p>		
003		<p>The current Draft HPNP should not be read in isolation. The 2005 Village Plan s19 – Traffic – <i>“This is the subject that causes most concern throughout the parish”</i> However, there is no specific section in the current HPNP Draft dealing with Traffic. It is hardly mentioned. This is surprising as the Scoping Report S3.15 of July 2016 refers to improvement of traffic management (a weakness identified) and refers to Traffic issues in the Village Centre as a priority. These current traffic issues along Gardner Street and West End are well known and were highlighted at the recent village</p>	<p>Thank you. Whilst the Parish Council understand that traffic and parking issues are important to the local community, the HPNP has sought to include a reference to traffic generation and parking and traffic calming within individual and specific policies rather than a standalone policy on traffic and transport. It is through the individual planning applications that this matter will be addressed. The Parish Council has limited influence on traffic across the entire parish and any policy covering this issue on a parish wide basis would inevitably end up repeating policies that exist elsewhere.</p>	<p>No change.</p>

		<p>meeting. To ignore these issues at this stage is against the original intent of the HPNP. The Plan should be looking well into the future beyond the next 10 years when traffic will be increasing generally and now particularly due to the recently permitted housing development in the village.</p> <p>In the Survey report forming part of the current Village Plan there are approximately 50 individual submissions mentioning traffic issues (apart from parking), such as traffic management and bypass, yet there is no dedicated section in HPNP dealing with Traffic. Policy 3 does not help to protect the AONB from commercial development and from increase lorry and heavy commercial traffic through the village and along the narrow country lanes.</p> <p>In the Survey report – in response to a specific question – 80.7% wish to resist development in or adjacent to the AONB. Logically any such development would tend to increase development along West End and Gardner Street, already overloaded and dangerous. Perhaps</p>	<p>Policy 3 seeks to retain and improve existing employment opportunities within the parish to try and help residents find local employment rather than commuting out to other towns/outside business parks for employment.</p> <p>National and local (District wide) policies within adopted plans are already clear on how development within the AONB should be considered. The role of the NP is not to repeat policies positions that already exist.</p>	
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		<p>there should be a stronger note in the HPNP resisting development not only within the AONB but adjacent to it. This applies particularly to Policy 3 (HPNP support and improvement and enhancement of business sites) within or adjacent to the AONB. For example, any expansion or enhancement (which can mean “to add or increase”) of Robins site within the AONB would lead inevitably to yet more lorry movements along West End etc., already a major hazard. For the Policy 3 to include automatic support for the “enhancement” of <u>any</u> firm located in the AONB – particularly one that has recent history of expansion without Planning Permission – cannot be right. Also, Policy 3 ii ... so long as “traffic generation is acceptable” is far too vague.</p> <p>The recent over-ruling of the Newick Neighbourhood Plan by the Planning Inspector has caused much concern. The Planning Inspector wrote <i>“There is no policy in the NNP seeking to impose a cap on development. To impose a cap retrospectively would be wrong. If such a</i></p>		
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		<i>policy was intended – one which seeks to prevent development beyond the settlement development boundary other than on allocated sites – then it needed to be clear and explicit in the submission version of the NNP”</i> I am concerned that failure of the HPNP to specifically include areas where development should be resisted might be regretted in the future.		
004		I would just like to thank HPC and all those who have worked on the HPNP.	Thank you for your comments.	No change.
005	4	Policy 4 - Core Retail Areas Supporting statement says that Windmill Hill has 'small retail area.....but still important '.	This should be upgraded to 'vital'. The Windmill Hill post office/shop is listed as a community asset in the non- statutory action plan and the lack of this retail area would cause people to use dangerous footpaths to access HX or increase traffic/parking problems in HX if they drove.	Thank you. The word 'vitally' has been included within paragraph 8.36.
	9	Policy 9 - New Shared Access Windmill Hill to Herstmonceux The policy should include (not just in supporting statement) a plan to make sure the relevant authorities maintain existing pathways and improve where possible.	Thank you. Policy 9 is particularly focussed on new or improved access routes – working with landowners rather than improving and maintaining existing ones. The responsibility of the authorities to maintain existing footpaths and routes exists regardless of whether the HPNP contains a policy. The	No change.

		An alternative route is likely to be difficult and not happen soon, whereas existing pathways should be maintained regardless of any changes, PLUS the speed limit through Windmill Hill should be dropped to 30 mph whatever happens, not sure if that is in the scope of the plan but it should be an aim for safety reasons.	Parish Council has therefore focussed on policies where it feels it can take positive action in response to consultations with the local community.	
006	5.3	Point 5.3, 4th bullet point- I think it should be made clear that upgraded paths/cycleways would extend to neighbouring parishes (not just within parishes), hence also allowing car free access to the parish from other parishes, increasing appeal of HX, eg for visits by tourists, leisure cyclists etc.	Thank you.	This has been included within para 5.3.
	5.6	Point 5.6, also the meeting discussed extension of cyclepaths into neighbouring parishes, not just between Herstmonceux and Windmill Hill.	Thank you	This has been included.
	5.10	5.10, same as previous points about extending to neighbouring parishes.	Thank you. This point has now been made in the changes to the paragraphs above.	No change.
	Page 40	should the school be added as an employment location?	Thank you. The school does not fit within the use classes listed within the policy.	No change.

	Page 54	Blue box, should sentence be extended to read "...routes in the parish that extend to neighbouring parishes/ link with other established cycle routes" or similar.	Thank you. The HPNP cannot include policies that relate to land outside of the NP boundary. It is not considered this is needed within Policy 9 which relates primarily to a new shared route.	No change.
	Page 67	Should the school be listed as a community asset?	Thank you. This is already included.	No change.
007		It is recommended that it may be more appropriate to align the emerging Neighbourhood Plan with the direction taken in the Local Plan Review which seeks to deliver the district's housing needs to 2033.	Thank you. As the HPNP does not allocate sites for housing development, it is not considered necessary to be aligned to an emerging plan at this stage.	No change.
	Policy 1	Where policies are absent, silent or out of date, we question how proposals are expected to be in conformity with the policies in the Wealden Local Plan Core Strategy and the saved policies of the Wealden Local Plan 1998. This element of the policy is likely to lead to inconsistencies being made through the decision-making process. As such, we suggest that this element of the policy is revisited prior to Regulation 15 submission	Thank you. This policy has already been amended so it is clearer to the reader and applicant.	No change.
	Policy	Gladman consider that some of the	Thank you. All of the proposed LGS have	No change.

	2	proposed Local Green Spaces (LGS) may need to be reconsidered in the context of all three tests prior to submitting the Plan for examination.	been thoroughly assessed against the criteria set out in the NPPF.	
	Policy 11	Whilst supporting the principle of good design, we are concerned that the wording of this policy may place undue burdens on the ability of development proposals being delivered viably. In this regard, the purpose of this policy should be to encourage rather than require development proposals to be in accordance with provisions of design guidance.	Thank you. It is not considered that the policy does put undue pressure on applicants nor does it lead to schemes becoming unviable.	No change.
008	1	Policy 1 the Neighbourhood Build - it is my request to push for the developers to incorporate more eco-friendly functions such as solar panels and cycle paths. In addition, to support native plant and tree species such as hawthorn hedges to protect bird and insect wildlife. To my family and I, these are essential aspects to maintaining a healthy community and world.	Thank you. Matters relating to sustainability and design are included within Policy 11	No change.
	2	Policy 2 Local Green Spaces - to keep a balanced urbanisation of this rural area, it would be appreciated to take into account	Thank you for your comments. Sites have to be assessed against the criteria in the NPPF and these are the sites put forward to be	No change.

		the conservation of wild and natural spaces, rather than pristine verges and clipped hedges; they are our last bastion of collective and rare grasses and flora.	included within the policy.	
009		<p>I am particularly interested and concerned about complimenting and enhancing the environment both in nature and history and protection of the rural landscape.</p> <p>The lack of respect for this is evident with rubbish carelessly deposited by the wayside and of course fly-tipping. Should there be litter bins more available/regular litter picking. Also increased traffic which churns up roadsides or ditching in turn damaging the wild flowers etc.</p> <p>Having known this area for many many years and been born here the deterioration in quality of night sky indicates the increase in pollution.</p> <p>Whether this is from increased housing, traffic or rural working habits in our countryside I feel this is something we should all be aware of and strive to control so we do not fill the environment with toxic pollutants which are detrimental to wildlife and us all and should be</p>	Thank you for your comments	No change.

		disposed of safely.		
010		<p>I applaud the effort, time and commitment of those who have brought the HPNP together on behalf of the community. It's easy to suggest improvements and make criticisms, but my comments on the policy form are recorded to provide an external perspective on your work. Please be aware of the use of the word "sustainable". It provides "a lick of paint" to any tome but it is an exceedingly serious and important word. To achieve true sustainability requires all parties to be agreed on its definition and not to be bought off with token efforts. I would like the HPNP to include a definition of sustainable against which proposals might be honestly measured.</p>	Thank you for your comments. All policies have been assessed against a set of sustainability objectives as set out in the accompanying sustainability appraisal.	No change.
	1	<p>Policy 1 Spatial Planning</p> <p>This policy is toothless. It reminds me of a leaky bucket full of water. Weakness lies in the definition of words and phrases such as "have respect to", "ensure no adverse impacts arise". These words are open to interpretation by Herstmonceux Parish Council and Wealden District</p>	Matters relating to design and further detailed out in Policy 11 which gives applicants and the local authorities greater clarity on what the HPNP is seeking to achieve.	

		Council on behalf of its residents.		
	2	<p>Policy 2 Green Spaces</p> <p>I am not sure what “a very special circumstance” means and who would decide what it special and what isn’t.</p> <p>8.19 “mitigation” is a dangerous game.</p> <p>Local Green spaces are individual and unique such that like for like isn’t possible. There are also Green Spaces in the Parish which don’t necessarily need to be for recreation.</p>	<p>Local green spaces are assessed in accordance with guidance in the NPPF. The phrase ‘very special circumstances’ is used within the NPPF and the policy complies with this. It would not be appropriate to list or provide examples to this within a policy.</p> <p>The statement in para 8.19 is paraphrasing from an existing Wealden Core Strategy policy.</p>	
	3	<p>Policy 3 Loss of key Employment sites</p> <p>If this is a genuine list of key employment sites then it should include key employers from the agricultural sector like John ford and Graham Love</p>	<p>Thank you. It is recommended that further information relating to agricultural businesses are included within the supporting text rather than the actual policy because of the number of farms that exist within the parish.</p>	<p>To include a reference to agriculture in para 8.21.</p>
	8	<p>Policy 8 Rights of Way</p> <p>Supporting statement 8.53 Footpaths are great for aesthetic, health and recreational purposes but please don’t muddle this with biodiversity. They reduce biodiversity and dog walking increases that margin. Paths do allow walkers to appreciate biodiversity though which has a secondary result of</p>	<p>Thank you and noted.</p>	<p>This has been amended within para 8.53.</p>

		enhancing their interest in it.		
	9	Policy 9 This is one of your most important policies. Quite often expensive action is taken after a mortality (or more). So many youngsters walk between Herstmonceux and Windmill Hill that it would be incredibly forward thinking to put this project on top of the pile. Invite a Dutch engineer to visit and see what innovative ideas they bring.	Thank you	No change.
	12	Policy 12 Windfall Sites 8.77 The list is incomplete. It should include agricultural land to reflect the recent windfall developments that are being supported. 12b Green Assets also include florally rich pasture and the soil on which they grow. Green Assets are not limited to visible natural features like trees and hedgerows. All of them are indivisible from a biological perspective.	Thank you for your comments. The definition of windfall sites is taken from the NPPF. Florally rich pasture would need to be quantified in order to be included within the policy. Areas that have protection because of the presence of certain flora and fauna would be considered unsuitable for development and if an application were submitted, then a proper detailed and robust assessment of the value of the site would need to be undertaken.	No change.
	15	Policy 15 Infrastructure If you wish to encourage green transport and considering the number of cyclists who pass through on the A271, cycle racks for bike parking would be an ideal and practical feature as part of the old	Thank you and noted. There isn't a specific policy relating to the old surgery car park.	No change.

		surgery car park		
011		<p>Regarding the Lime Roughs site, the enclosed design could be used, developers might not want to do as they only want to make money, but they still could as their permission is for 44 houses, so have this design may be two-storeys high, some for young families and some for older people with carers living on site.</p> <p>Also regarding a one-way road, as I have said before go across Lime Park field, relocate the school to the next field over, build on the school site so the field to the south of Lime Park becomes a new development area for the village. This could include work units, developers and governments would have to contribute or no build. Lime Park probably will have to reply for the permission so then change it.</p> <p>While I was delivering in Stone Cross for the County Council election I went to see the developments going up, can't believe Wealden can allow such development to take place, overcrowded, one looks into another building, narrow roads, no open</p>	The HPNP is not allocating sites for development. All future applications for development will be assessed against the Wealden Local Plan and the HPN to ensure it does not conflict with any of our policies.	No change.

		space, children play in the street, no community centre for activities. Developers just build and run away leaving the local people to cope with the increase in mental health, depression and self-harming that will follow.		
	1	Policy 1 Spatial Planning Which part of the pig's ear will be used as the template.	-	No change.
	3	Policy 3 Key Employment Sites Everything seems to choose to use brown field sites for housing, the Harris Brothers Garage in Boreham Street is a good example. It makes more money, it's a short-term fix.	Noted.	No change.
	11	Policy 11 Design If the development in South Wealden is their building design, then they haven't got a clue, visit Stone Cross slums of the future.	Noted.	No change.
	13	Policy 13 Older People's Housing These should be on the land at Lime Roughts. I have said this to the chair of the Parish Council and Wealden District Council. Do they take any notice – not a lot!	Noted. The HPNP is not allocating any sites for housing within the plan. A need has been identified and any future development will need to demonstrate how it will meet the identified needs of the parish and suitable sustainable locations	No change.

	14	Policy 14 Community Land Trust Why can't those with permission at Lime Cross and Lime Roughts be working with the Trust.	The CLT is a separate group and once up and running will be dealing with interested landowners.	No change.
	15	Policy 15 Infrastructure 50 years ago, it was put about for a by-pass. If it was needed then, it is more so now. Look at a one-way system.	-	No change.