

Ewhurst & Ellens Green NP
Minutes of SG meeting 4/4/16

1. Attendance and apologies - TB, VH, AW, PG, DQ, & JA with apologies from BA.
2. Minutes of meeting 4th March 2016 - approved and can now be posted on website
3. Matters arising
 - 3.1 Conservation Areas - VH reported that she and others had met with WBC officers dealing with appraisal of this re Ewhurst, and that the results were still confidential but would be released to Parish Council [PC] soon. Even if the results were that none of these areas were being considered for this status, there was nothing to stop us firstly giving these areas some protection under such status as Heritage areas, and secondly still recommending Conservation Area status, including Sayers Croft.
 - 3.2 Backward Point application has been refused with following reasons
 - Failure to protect the Countryside [by virtue of scale, density etc.]
 - Access, being conflict with public footpath, harm to visual amenities of area
 - No of affordable fails WBC's housing needs
 - Technical matter relating to legal agreements.
 - 3.3 SEA application - AW to ask WBC whether they had come to an opinion, and if not when. After this he would advise SG and we would take decision as to whether we would post our application on the website with qualification that we were waiting for decision.
 - 3.4 Young person's Survey would be posted on website soon.
4. Reports of working groups
 - 4.1 Community Assets and Facilities report - this was almost complete for consideration for adoption by the SG, following which it would be posted on website.
 - 4.2 Housing Working Group [HWG]
 - TB confirmed he did not know progress of Village Design statement, but would find out at meeting of HWG following evening and would report back. [post meeting this in is progress and could be available in about 8 weeks]
 - Report on Housing numbers, mix and tenure. Confirmed that we had adopted this as evidence from which proposed policies would flow. Short introduction sheet drafted by JA approved, and this would be posted on website as soon as possible, following which she would organise an Ebulletin. Following confirmation of website posting, all SG to send to their working groups, BA to volunteer list, and TB to Parish Councillors, email list of residents wanting updates on NP progress, and certain developers who had contacted HWG re various sites.
 - A long discussion took place on the draft Development and Housing Questionnaire [DHQ] prepared by TB, and the results would be taken back to HWG meeting. However it was agreed that we did not need to consult on all proposed policies, as long as these were based upon evidence derived from reports and previous consultations, and that the issue of the Draft Plan represented sufficient consultation. Of course, if the NP failed in the Referendum we would have failed in our consultation efforts and would have to go back, at least to the Draft NP and possibly further. However some proposed policies might seem

more controversial and inclusion within the DHQ would be wise. TB to take back to HWG all discussion on the DHQ. Further thought to be given to whether we could issue the DHQ to residents once we had housing allocation numbers from WBC [which we hoped would be soon] or whether we could proceed without them. However TB pointed out that if were to ask the question in the DHQ re whether the community would accept more than the allocation from WBC to more contribute to Ewhurst's housing needs, this would be difficult or impossible to get a considered response from residents without knowing what the baseline allocation was.

5. Drafting of NP

It was agreed that as we had most of the reports from working groups, providing our evidence base, work could commence on this. AW agreed to draft an outline framework, so working groups could start their drafting work including proposed policies.

6. Next Meetings [all at EYSC unless otherwise notified]

Monday 9th May

Monday 6th June

Monday 4th July.