

## HASSOCKS PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group held on 16 May 2013 at 7.30 pm in the Parish Centre, Adastra Park, Hassocks

Present: Paul King (Chairman)  
Bill Hatton  
Judith Foot  
Peter Gibbons  
Ian Weir  
Penny Wadsworth (for items 1-6 (d))

In attendance: Geoff Copley, Sue Hatton

Clerk: Linda Baker

1. **Apologies for Absence.** None.
2. **Chairman for 2013/14.** Paul King was appointed to chair the committee.
3. **Declarations of Interest.** Judith Foot declared an interest in site reference 286 (HA/19), as she lived adjacent to the site.
4. **Minutes of the Meeting held on 18 April 2013.** The minutes were taken as read, agreed by the meeting, and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.
5. **RESOLVED that item 6 should be treated as confidential and any members of the public invited to withdraw.** There were no members of the public present.
6. **Update on Work Streams.**
  - (a) **Residential Development.** The draft had been revised, including the station goods yard site. It was noted that population figures for Hassocks were now available from the 2011 census, which could be used in the Neighbourhood Plan in relation to housing numbers. It was agreed that it was important to maintain boundaries on the edge of the village, and that housing density could be an item for inclusion to maintain the character of the village. Consideration would be given to what amenities the group would like to see provided as part of any future developments, for consideration at the next meeting.
  - (b) **Environment/Nature.** Ian Weir would produce a draft in the next two weeks, to include footpaths.
  - (c) **Traffic and Parking: Initial Results of the Parking Surveys.** Ian Weir updated the group on the outcome of the residential and business parking surveys. The recommendations of the Parking Working Group would be presented to the Environment Committee

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on 20 May 2013, and recommendations from the committee would be put to full council on 11 June 2013. Consideration could then be given as to how the proposals could be incorporated into the Neighbourhood Plan.

(d) **Highways.** A draft had been circulated. The traffic impact of any development in Hassocks would be dwarfed by the proposals for an additional 4,000 dwellings in Burgess Hill, and the impact this would have on the road network, but the junctions in the village were almost at capacity, which argued for only limited new development in Hassocks, and the air quality control issue at Stonepound Crossroads had yet to be resolved. Geoff Copley was obtaining accident data from WSCC, and would include cycle parking provision in the report.

(e) **Infrastructure.** It was agreed that there were a number of infrastructure issues, such as education, health, waste water disposal, and water supply, which needed to be highlighted. It was agreed that Bill Hatton would look at this issue.

**7. Incorporation of Background Papers into a Draft Neighbourhood Plan.** It was agreed that members would revise the draft papers they had produced on the work streams following discussion at the meeting, and draft policy statements arising from the work done so far, for consideration at the next meeting. The MSDC draft District Plan, and other more advanced Neighbourhood Plans from around the country would provide guidance on the format of policies the council should be looking to develop.

**8. MSDC Proposed Submission District Plan.** It was agreed that members would send their comments to the Clerk before the deadline of 17 June 2013, and the Committee Chairman and Clerk would prepare a response from those comments to be sent to MSDC.

**9. Date of Next Meeting. 20 June 2013 at 7.30 pm.**

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There being no other business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.40 pm.

Chairman..... Date.....