

HASSOCKS PARISH COUNCIL

Committee Meeting	Planning Committee
Report of:	Deputy Clerk
Date:	8 th June 2026
Subject:	Agenda Item 8 – South Downs National Park Regulation 19 consultation.

Proposed submission to SDNP in response to their Regulation 19 consultation:

SDA54

- The Parish Council cannot support both the proposed site allocations. They are opposed to SDA54 due to the unacceptable impact on the surrounding Conservation area. Developing this site also encloses land providing a landscape buffer to both Keymer Church and the Conservation Area creating an easy opportunity for further development on these lands at a future time
- The village of Hassocks & Keymer have taken, in the last 5 years, more than 1000 new dwellings, that represents around a 30% increase in housing.
- The wording used to set out the site-specific development requirements is not sufficiently robust to fully mitigate the impact of the development on flooding on Lodge Lane.

SDA55

- The site-specific development requirements should explicitly set out the requirement for a safe pedestrian route along Lodge Lane, that connects any new developments to the South downs to the south and Hassocks/Keymer Village to the north. There is no specific mention of the need for a footpath in the proposals or the supporting text. The Highway boundary on the western side of the lane is the most suitable location for a footpath, bearing in mind keeping disturbance to the hedgerow & trees to a minimum.
- The Parish Council feel the need for a footpath is more important and should take precedence over any proposed controlled parking zone or build outs.

Allotments

- Whilst the council appreciate the acknowledgement of the need for additional allotment space, they feel it should be explicitly stated that providing allotment space is the only statutory duty for a Parish Council and currently the waiting time for Hassocks residents is 3 years.
- The development requirements should detail the need for a legal agreement that requires any site promoter/developer to transfer into Parish Council ownership the relevant parcel of land that is planned for allotments. This can be settled through an S106 or CIL agreement.
- It is noted in supporting text 5.185 that vehicular access to the allotments will be limited. Whilst the Parish Council understand the need to encourage use of walking routes, provision should be provided for a small number of car parking spaces within the boundary of the allotments to avoid allotment holders using the new estate to park cars. This provision should be explicitly set out within the development

requirements. The need for a water supply and security features within any allotment site should be accounted for in the design.

- Clayton Rec would be categorised as a LEAP. It is currently owned and managed by Mid Sussex District Council. All other play or open spaces in the area of our parish within the National Park are correctly identified.
- A provision for additional play equipment for Clayton Rec or for Adastra park in Hassocks should be included in any CIL/S106 agreement.