



**HAILSHAM TOWN COUNCIL**  
**Neighbourhood Planning Sub-Committee**

**REPORT (Minutes)**

of the meeting of the Neighbourhood Planning Sub-Committee,  
held at the Fleur de Lys Council Chambers, Market Street, Hailsham  
On Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2015 at 7.00 p.m.

NP/15/6/1 **Present:** Councillors Ms C. Collinson-O'Toole, P. Holbrook, G. Moore, J. Puttick, P. Soane (Chairman) and C. Triandafyllou.

2 **Other Members:** Ms V. Browne, S. Cross and Mrs H. Deehan

3 **Also Present:** Councillors F. Berry and N. Coltman

4 **Officers Present:** Mr. J. Harrison (Town Clerk), and Mr. D. Saxby.

5 **Election of Chairman:**

The Town Clerk asked for nominations for the Chairman of this Sub-Committee. There were nominations for Councillor P. Soane and C. Triandafyllou. On a show of hands Councillor P. Soane was elected Chairman by 3 votes to 2.

**RESOLVED** that Councillor P. Soane be the Chairman of Neighbourhood Planning Sub-Committee for the remainder of the 2015/16 year.

6 **Election of Vice-Chairman:**

The Chairman asked for nominations for the Vice-Chairman of this Sub-Committee. There were nominations for Councillor P. Holbrook and C. Triandafyllou. On a show of hands Councillor C. Triandafyllou was elected vice-Chairman by 4 votes to 2.

**RESOLVED** that Councillor C Triandafyllou be the Vice-Chairman of Neighbourhood Planning Sub-Committee for the remainder of the 2015/16 year.

7 **Apologies For Absence:** Councillors Mrs. S. Cottingham, Ms M. Laxton and C. Tasane.

8 **Declarations of Interest:** None.

9 **Draft Terms of Reference.**

The Town Clerk had circulated draft terms of reference for this Sub-Committee with the agenda.

**RESOLVED** to adopt the draft terms of reference as circulated with the agenda, amended and as Appendix NP/15/6/9A to these minutes.

10 **Hailsham Town Council's Response to the Wealden Local Plan Consultation**

Councillor Triandafyllou circulated a paper that he and Councillor Coltman had produced that could form the basis for a response by Hailsham Town Council to the consultation exercise.

Ms Browne also tabled a paper that had been produced by the Stop Wealden Overdevelopment Team. She explained this consisted of a group of people including a civil engineer and herself. She agreed to email the Town Clerk with details of its authorship and authority. When received it will be attached to these minutes and posted on the Council's website.

Members were concerned about the promise of funds for the infrastructure work, which would have major impact on existing residents of Hailsham, and those who would occupy the proposed 9,380 new homes.

The thrust of the debate was about whether the position of Hailsham Town Council should be accepting the level of housing as identified in the Wealden Plan on the basis that infrastructure levels must be frontloaded.

Discussion ensued on whether anything other than Wealden's preferred option should be supported.

Councillor Moore, although unhappy with the extent of the proposed development, said that he's professional view was that if Hailsham Town Council suggested fewer houses the level of funding for infrastructure would disproportionately reduce.

Further debate centred around the deficit in specific areas of existing infrastructure on roads, healthcare and education. The increase in population would possibly see the need for a rail link.

The possibility of the establishment of a major tourist attraction in Hailsham would be advantageous in securing funding in the area.

The unanimous view was that any development would be entirely conditional on the upgrading the A27 corridor.

Mr. Cross said the sustainability of outlying villages was dependent on their economies thriving; Hailsham taking this proposed level of development would make this more difficult.

Councillor Holbrook said that the Wealden plans did not take into account the possible second runway at Gatwick Airport and the effect of the extra traffic that would cause.

There was some discussion on whether this Sub-Committee should concern itself only with the proposed increase in housing in the parish of Hailsham, or with the wider development to west and south of Hailsham.

It was agreed that members would use Councillors Triandafyllou and Coltman's paper as a starting point for further discussion and return the next evening with their respective views.

**Dates and Times of Next Meetings**

**RESOLVED** to schedule further meeting of the Neighbourhood Plan Sub-Committee on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December, Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> December and, if necessary Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2015 starting at 7.00pm.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9.50pm.