NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN

PARISH OF HELLINGLY

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

PHASE 2

REPORT OF THE PROJECT TEAM

NOVEMBER 2016
INDEX

Summary Report 1
Appendix A – Questionnaire and leaflet 5
Appendix B – Summary of responses 12
1. This support paper summarises the findings of Phase 2 of the public consultation on the Hellingly Neighbourhood Development Plan. The consultation took the form of a questionnaire sent to all currently registered electors in the Parish of Hellingly.

2. The questionnaire was based on the findings of Phase 1 of the public consultation which involved 8 Discussion Groups (one for each of the four main settlements in the parish plus one each for businesses, environmental interests, community groups and farmers) and was the main item on the agenda for the Annual Parish Meeting in May 2016. The way in which these Discussion Groups was organised and synopses of the discussions that took place within them are summarised in Support Paper HNDP/S1.

The Questionnaire

3. The questionnaire was prepared by the Project Team and went through several iterations. Drafts were submitted both to Hellingly Parish Council and Wealden District Council for comment and to the Steering Group for approval.

4. In its final form, it was printed as a booklet document which was considered to be more user friendly and had the added advantage of fitting into an A5 envelope. A copy of the questionnaire in A4 format is attached as Appendix A.

5. The questionnaire included 19 questions and asked for some supplementary information concerning the age, gender and broad location of respondents for analysis purposes. Space was left for respondents to insert their own comments and suggestions.

6. At the Steering Group’s suggestion, a separate letter was enclosed with the questionnaire explaining its purpose and requesting the recipient’s co-operation. This is included in Appendix A.

The Survey

7. Details of all occupied addresses on the electoral register and of the number of electors at each address were supplied by Wealden District Council. Due to the requirements of the Representation of the Peoples Act, the names of individual electors could not be used.

8. The appropriate number of questionnaires was sent out to every address on the register in the last week of September so that there would be one for every elector at that address. A pre-paid envelope was enclosed for its return. The timing of the survey was determined by the need to avoid the summer holiday period when many people might be away.

9. Electors were asked to respond in one of three ways – returning the questionnaire by post, by downloading it from the Parish Council website and completing it electronically, or by completing it on Survey Monkey.
10. Both the questionnaire and the accompanying letter requested the recipient to encourage any member of the household aged 16 or over who was not on the register to complete a questionnaire either on-line or by obtaining an additional copy from the Clerk.

The Response

11. Altogether 1,997 questionnaires were posted to electors in the parish. In total 363 completed questionnaires were returned, a response rate of 18.2%. This compares with an average turnout of 32% in the first 52 Neighbourhood Plan referenda with several falling below 20%.¹

12. The great majority of the completed questionnaires (333) were returned by post. Of the remainder, 27 were returned via Survey Monkey and 3 by e-mail. All but 23 of the respondents indicated that they were on the electoral register; 4 indicated that they were not and 19 did not reply to that particular question.

13. The age profile of those who responded was as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Under 18</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18-25</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>3%</td>
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<td>25-45</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<td>45-65</td>
<td>138</td>
<td>38%</td>
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<td>65+</td>
<td>157</td>
<td>43%</td>
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When compared with the age profile of the Hellingly District Ward (which includes Arlington Parish and the northern part of Hailsham as well as Hellingly Parish) the response was heavily weighted towards those aged 45 or over (81% compared with 48%).

14. Attached as Appendix B is a summary of the responses, showing numbers and percentage response to each question of those who responded. Not everyone responded to every question and indeed in some cases, people answered the supplementary questions when they had not answered "yes" to the original question.

15. Many respondents added written comments or suggestions in reply to the final question which asked whether there were “any other matters which you feel the NDP should address or other comments you wish to make.” Their replies are summarised in Appendix B.

Key Findings

16. The broad aims of the NDP (preserving the rural character of the Parish and protecting the identity and character of the four main settlements) were supported by 92% of the respondents.

17. Other questions which received an overwhelmingly positive response were:
   - Identification and designation of locally valued landscapes where inappropriate development should be resisted (94% for)
   - Identification and designation of areas and corridors that should be protected for their nature conservation and biodiversity (94% for)
• Identification of areas prone to flooding where development should be resisted (94% for)
• Protection, conservation and enhancement of Hellingly Conservation Area (92% for)
• Identification of areas where new development should be resisted (90% for)
• Protection of demolition of or inappropriate alterations to buildings of local historical or architectural interest (90% for)
• Prevention of existing settlements joining together or merging with Hailsham (83% for)

18. Three questions received a less overwhelming but still positive response:
• Support provision of more facilities for young people (69% for)
• Support policies and allocation of land promoting farm diversification (68% for)
• Support policies and allocation of land for business and community facilities (53% for)

19. Questions which received a negative response were:
• Promotion of more development than proposed in the emerging Wealden Local Plan (92% against)
• Support policies promoting more affordable housing (60% against)
• Support policies supporting other types of housing (56% against)

Conclusion

20. These responses, together with the various comments and suggestions received, reinforce the findings of Phase 1 of the public consultation and provide a solid basis for the next stage – i.e. preparation of the Neighbourhood Development Plan itself. It should be noted, however, that the High Court has recently overturned a Neighbourhood Development Plan in West Sussex because its policy was based on residents’ concerns rather than technical evidence. The survey results will therefore need to be considered in conjunction with the Topic Papers now in the course of preparation.

Cllr. John Blake
Project Team Leader

1 Planning, 14 August 2015, p.9
2 Planning, 18 November 2016, p.27
HAVE YOUR SAY ON

THE HELLINGLY NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Your comments are important and the views expressed will help to shape the first consultation draft of a Neighbourhood Development Plan for Hellingly Parish.

Please take the time to complete this questionnaire, which has been sent to all electors in the Parish and has been produced based on the comments made at meetings with residents and Interest Groups.

3 ways to complete the questionnaire:

■ by filling in the enclosed questionnaire and returning in the envelope provided by 21 October 2016.

✉ by downloading from our website http://www.hellingly-pc.org.uk/council/neighbourhood-plan and emailing to: clerk@hellingly-pc.org.uk

🔗 online using Survey Monkey at https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/TC5K2Y3

Please encourage young people (16 years plus) in your household to also complete and return a copy of this questionnaire.

Thank you for taking the time to complete and return this questionnaire.
QUESTIONNAIRE

Section 1: General

The stated aims of the Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) for the Parish are:

a) To protect the rural character of the area, and

b) To retain the separate character and identity of the four main settlements in the Parish (Roebuck Park, Hellingly Village, Lower Horsebridge and Lower Dicker)

1: Do you support the broad aims?

Yes [ ] No [ ] No Opinion [ ]

The emerging Local (Wealden) Plan is recommending significant housing growth in the North of Hailsham/Hellingly (up to 4,000 new homes, plus 30 new homes in Hellingly Village and 20 in Lower Horsebridge) over the period to 2035. A NDP for Hellingly Parish can promote more development than the Local Wealden Plan if it chooses but not less.

2: Do you think the Hellingly NDP should promote more development than that proposed in the emerging Local Wealden Plan?

Yes [ ] No [ ] No Opinion [ ]

3: Would you support Policies that identify areas where new development should be resisted?

Yes [ ] No [ ] No Opinion [ ]

Section 2: Other general policies for possible inclusion in the Neighbourhood Development Plan.

4: Would you support Policies identifying and designating locally valued landscapes where inappropriate development should be resisted?

Yes [ ] No [ ] No Opinion [ ]

5: Would you support Policies aimed at preventing existing settlements physically joining together or merging with Hailsham?

Yes [ ] No [ ] No Opinion [ ]

6: Would you support Policies identifying and designating areas and wildlife corridors that should be protected for their nature conservation and biodiversity interest?

Yes [ ] No [ ] No Opinion [ ]

7: Would you support Policies identifying areas prone to flooding (including surface water flooding) and where development should be resisted?

Yes [ ] No [ ] No Opinion [ ]
Section 3: More specific policies for possible inclusion in the NDP

Maintaining the rural character of Hellingly Parish relies in part upon a successful farming industry.

8: Would you support Policies and the possible allocation of land promoting farm diversification and the rural economy of the Parish (e.g. for tourism, holiday accommodation, camping, rural workshops)?

   Yes ☐  No ☐  No Opinion ☐

9: Would you support Policies and the possible allocation of land for the expansion of employment, business and community facilities including the provision of additional parking?

   Yes ☐  No ☐  No Opinion ☐

   If yes, please indicate the type of facility: *(tick as many as are appropriate)*

   Employment/Business ☐  Retail ☐
   Community(sport/recreation/leisure) ☐  Parking ☐

10: With regards proposed new residential developments in Hellingly Parish would you support Policies dealing with matters such as design, density, use of materials, layout, parking, open space etc?

   Yes ☐  No ☐  No Opinion ☐

11: Within new developments would you support provision of more facilities for young people?

   Yes ☐  No ☐  No Opinion ☐

   If yes, please indicate the type of facility.

   Formal Play ☐  Informal Play ☐  Indoor ☐
   Other ☐  Please specify

   ______________________________________________________________

12: Would you support Policies that relate to the protection, conservation and enhancement of the designated Hellingly Village Conservation Area?

   Yes ☐  No ☐  No Opinion ☐

13: Would you support Policies that seek to prevent the demolition or inappropriate alterations of significant buildings within the Parish identified as of local historical or architectural interest?

   Yes ☐  No ☐  No Opinion ☐
Section 4: Policies relating to type of housing provision

Up to 1,400 new affordable homes are being recommended for the North of Hailsham/Hellingly in the emerging Local Plan.

14: Do you believe Policies in the NDP should promote more affordable housing (housing for rent and provided by bodies such as Housing Associations)?

Yes ☐ No ☐ No Opinion ☐

If yes, please indicate the type of housing: (tick as many as are appropriate)

Starter Homes ☐ Shared Ownership ☐ Rental ☐

15: Would you support Policies to allow new houses for those wishing to farm or manage land within the Parish for agricultural/land management purposes?

Yes ☐ No ☐ No Opinion ☐

16: Would you support Policies to promote any other specific type of housing?

Yes ☐ No ☐ No Opinion ☐

If yes, please indicate the type of housing: (tick as many as are appropriate)

Houses ☐ Flats ☐ Bungalows ☐ Self Build ☐

1/2 bed ☐ 2/3 bed ☐ 3/4 bed ☐ 5 bed + ☐

17: Would you support provision of housing for the following purposes:

Key Worker ☐ Elderly ☐ Starter Homes ☐

Other ☐ Please specify

The NDP cannot make Policies relating to matters such as infrastructure (including Broadband), education, transport and health as it has no direct control over these matters.

It can however provide evidence of need and make recommendations to providers of these services.
18: Would you support the provision of evidence of need and the making of recommendations to such bodies as part of the NDP?

Yes ☐  No ☐  No Opinion ☐

If yes, please specify the service.

19: Are there any other matters which you feel the NDP should address or other comments you wish to make?

Comment:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Contact Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Email</td>
<td>Post Code</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Are you on the electoral register for Hellingly?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Yes ☐  No ☐

This information will only be used for the purposes of the development of the NDP and will not be made public.
To which age group do you belong?

Under 18 ☐ 18-25 ☐ 25-45 ☐ 45-65 ☐ 65+ ☐

If you have provided an email address would you like to receive updates as the NDP is developed?
Yes ☐ No ☐

Hellingly Parish Council
Village Hall
North Street
Hellingly
East Sussex
BN27 4DS

More information can be found at:
http://www.hellingly-pc.org.uk/council/neighbourhood-plan

or follow us on Facebook:
https://www.facebook.com/hellinglyplan/

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME
Dear Neighbour,

**Your Neighbourhood Development Plan**

Hellingly Parish Council is in the process of preparing a Neighbourhood Development Plan for its area. All voters on the Electoral Register will in due course be asked to approve it in a local referendum. If approved, it will then form part of the statutory planning framework and will help shape the future of the parish.

The Plan has already been discussed by eight Focus Groups and at the Annual Parish Meeting. The enclosed questionnaire is based on the findings of all these meetings and is being sent to all electors in the parish.

We now need your input as the responses will provide the basis for the first draft of the Plan later this year.

Your input is very important to ensure as many views as possible are considered. So please complete this questionnaire and return it by 21 October 2016 in the enclosed freepost envelope.

Alternatively, you can complete it electronically by downloading from the Parish Council’s website [http://www.hellingly-pc.org.uk/council/neighbourhood-plan](http://www.hellingly-pc.org.uk/council/neighbourhood-plan) or by using survey monkey [https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/TC5K2Y3](https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/TC5K2Y3).

If there is anyone in your household over 16 but not yet on the Electoral Register, it would be good to obtain their views too so please encourage them to make a separate return.

Although the Parish Council is funding the preparation, it is not a Parish Council Plan. It will be your Plan and where possible, will reflect your views and suggestions.

So please, don’t throw this questionnaire away. Spare a moment or two to complete and return it by one means or another. Thank you in advance for your time and I look forward to hearing from you.

**Your opinions really do matter**

Yours sincerely

B Dashwood-Morris
Steering Group, Chairman
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>No Opinion</th>
</tr>
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<td>1. Do you support the broad aims?</td>
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<td>20</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Do you think the Hellingly NDP should promote more development than that proposed in the emerging Local Wealden Plan?</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>333</td>
<td>9</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Would you support Policies that Identify areas where new development should be resisted?</td>
<td>328</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Would you support Policies identifying and designating locally valued landscapes where inappropriate development should be resisted?</td>
<td>343</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. Would you support Policies aimed at preventing existing settlements physically joining together or merging with Hailsham?</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>22</td>
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<tr>
<td>6. Would you support Policies identifying and designating areas and wildlife corridors that should be protected for their nature conservation and biodiversity?</td>
<td>340</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>2</td>
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<td>7. Would you support Policies identifying areas prone to flooding (including surface water flooding) and where development should be resisted?</td>
<td>343</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>8. Would you support Policies and the possible allocation of land promoting farm diversification and the rural economy of the Parish (e.g. for tourism, holiday accommodation, camping, rural workshops)?</td>
<td>246</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>27</td>
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<tr>
<td>9. Would you support Policies and the possible allocation of land for the expansion of employment, business and community facilities including the provision of additional parking?</td>
<td>192</td>
<td>149</td>
<td>41</td>
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<td>10. With regards proposed new residential developments in Hellingly Parish would you support Policies dealing with matters such as design, density, use of materials, layout, parking, open space etc?</td>
<td>304</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>11. Within new developments would you support provision of more facilities for young people?</td>
<td>252</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>13</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Formal Play</strong></td>
<td>136</td>
<td>37</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Informal Play</strong></td>
<td>162</td>
<td>45</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Indoor</strong></td>
<td>139</td>
<td>38</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Other (See separate table below)</strong></td>
<td>26</td>
<td>7</td>
<td></td>
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<td>12. Would you support Policies that relate to the protection, conservation and enhancement of the designated Hellingly Village Conservation Area?</td>
<td>334</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>4</td>
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<td>13. Would you support Policies that seek to prevent the demolition of inappropriate alterations of significant buildings within the Parish identified as of local historical or architectural interest?</td>
<td>328</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>14. Do you believe Policies in the NDP should promote more affordable housing (housing for</td>
<td>117</td>
<td>218</td>
<td>60</td>
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<tr>
<td>Question</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No Opinion</td>
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<td></td>
<td>No.</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>No.</td>
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<td>rent and provided by bodies such as Housing Associations)?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Starter Homes</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>25</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shared Ownership</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>17</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Rental</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>15</td>
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<td>15. Would you support Policies to allow new houses for those wishing to</td>
<td>278</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>44</td>
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<td>farm or manage land within the Parish for agricultural/land management</td>
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<td>purposes?</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>16. Would you support Policies to promote any other specific type of</td>
<td>109</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>202</td>
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<td>housing?</td>
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<td>Houses</td>
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<td>Flats</td>
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<td>Bungalows</td>
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<td>Self Build</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>1/2 bed</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>13</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2/3 bed</td>
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<tr>
<td>3/4 bed</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td>5 bed +</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>17. Would you support provision of housing for the following purposes:</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Key Worker</td>
<td>153</td>
<td>42</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elderly</td>
<td>186</td>
<td>51</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Starter Homes</td>
<td>135</td>
<td>37</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other (see separate table below)</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>18. Would you support the provision of evidence of need and the making</td>
<td>284</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>13</td>
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<tr>
<td>of recommendations to such bodies as part of the NDP?</td>
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<tr>
<td>For comments see separate table</td>
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<tr>
<td>19. Are there any other matters which you feel the NDP should address</td>
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<tr>
<td>or other comments you wish to make?</td>
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<td>For comments see separate table</td>
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**Question 11 – Other**

Responses to this question suggested the following:

- Youth clubs
- Facilities for teenagers
- Community sports centre/space
- Sports pitches
- Coffee bar
- Various clubs were suggested

**Question 17 – Other**

- 16 people indicated that they did not want any additional housing
- Disabled
- Local authority housing for rent for the low paid
- Homes that are similar to those around them
• More animal based dwelling, farms, sanctuaries, etc.
• One off larger houses for genuine people wanting to live and build the rural dream, i.e. house + 5 acres
• Farm work
• More elderly accommodation needed to help free up large homes for families.
• I think there has been too much emphasis on starter homes – we need a range + good rental accommodation
• Lifetime homes
• Relax rules on annexes families can look after parents
• The elderly want homes of their own but not supervised. Care homes when the time comes
• Elderly and physically and learning disabled people

Question 18 – Recommendations to other bodies

Generally the answers to this question were as follows:

• broadband
• mobile coverage
• health
• transport
• roads
• education
• better bus services

In addition, there was a request for green spaces, one or two mentioned the need for shops, also mentioned was recreational areas and community areas.

Question 19 – Other Comments

• Indeed, feel the parish NDP should look at the existing violence/crime on our estate (Roebuck) when considering any further social housing on developments and the housing associations who flout rules and refuse to act as responsible landlords.
• The Provision of roads if nothing is done about the amount of traffic which will use the roads when the new developments are completed it will be gridlocked. Residents are not going to walk or cycle (the cycle path road is often ignored by cyclists) and the bus service is not good enough to get people to work/school and home again.
• There is no mention of Amberstone
• That social housing groups are held accountable for their tenants. This is not happening on Roebuck Park with Orbit. Drug dealing and violence for example.
• We should have much better broadband connections. Consider additional road signage to reduce traffic around Hellingly Village.
• Anything to develop a sense of community within the ever increasing population of this area. Whilst I love the cuckoo trail and we use it a lot, we find that the lack of a station in Hellingly and Hailsham a major inconvenience, for my wife and I and our teenage daughter. I fully understand why the stations were closed, but in the past 10-20 years thousands of new homes have been built, our roads are overcrowded, I would suggest there is a strong need to open this line up again.
• We should resist more new houses/homes until our doctors, schools etc. can cope with the amount of people we have. Hailsham & the surrounding areas are being dragged "down" as a result. It will turn a lovely area to live into an overcrowded area. STOP TOO MUCH BUILDING.
• General concern about the infrastructure to support more housing/business. I feel it is already saturated.
• Traffic calming measures. Cycle paths to Cuckoo Trail.
• To resist housing development in rural areas. Hellingly has such a lovely wildlife it would be madness to kill it all off.
• We do not want more housing next to us (off New Road). We moved here for peace and quiet in our latter years not housing estates!
• We do not have the necessary infrastructure - Hailsham town is unable to cope with all the traffic, lack of parking facilities. It is of vital importance to have good employment availability close by to enable people to get to these places of work easily. Broadband is a key factor to many folks especially for those who are able to work from home.
• No additional housing should be built until the infrastructure (roads, sewage, etc. etc.) are provided.
• Providing social housing where there is little or no employment just does not make any sense, social housing should be built in areas where there are employment opportunities. People purchasing their houses tend to do so where they also have the means to travel to their place of work.
• We moved here to enjoy the village atmosphere and green spaces. Please resist the lure of developers money and keep what we can green for our next generation to enjoy.
• Developers should be forced to complete road infrastructure and landscaping before leaving site or starting new projects
• Road and park land need to be finished off when building is finished in each area. Gardens and paths should be kept up to a high standard instead of being left. Trees should be replaced if they die as many new trees have in our area.
• The impact of increased housing is already evident in the health services available locally, this matter will only become more of a problem. The youth in this area have no provision for recreation therefore congregate in parks and open areas which are primarily provided for younger children, then causing damage and noise; I do feel that a designated BMX track, skateboarding park and activity club for the teenagers/young adults is essential if expansion increases.
• The Parish Council must support the housing, shopping and general needs of all and not just the privileged few.
• I feel strongly that the focus of the NDP should be furnished on the less populated areas of the UK. The South East is already saturated to a level that is seriously detracting from the populations well-being.
• Hellingly/Hailsham's population has grown significantly and would benefit from a train station and parking. More stores/bars, restaurants (no more takeaways) specialised stores, community activities - tennis courts, picnic areas & seating.
• The main problem is if the local MP want to do something Wealden can say no. So what good is the NDP anyway!!
• Resist urbanisation e,g, traffic lights, mini roundabouts, street lighting in rural vicinities.
• We do not need all the proposed houses
• The current planning permissions already granted is sufficient development for the Parish to last the next 20 years.
• There is much too much high cost housing in cheap materials being erected in this area. Have a look at the building methods and inferior materials and the proximity of these new builds.
• I think the local government should be ashamed of what it has done and what it is doing. The people moving into this area are criminals. I no longer feel safe in my home, the home I spent a lot of money buying to live in a lovely little rural village!!!
• Stop building leave our rural village alone!
• Parking on the sides of the roads, not short term pick up/drop off from school but long term parking. This is causing roads to become single file. All roads should flow freely.
• Having lived in the Parish of Hellingly for over 30 years, it has now become a nightmare to leave the house, to a) take grandchildren to school b) go shopping more or less grid locked around Hailsham as now horrendous from 5.30 am - 9.30 am 4.30 pm - 6.30 pm. To allow more homes of those already in existence is absolutely driven by money and greed. Respect, dignity of existing home owners is in disregard totally, every day is a struggle to move in this area. Would be happy for developers to purchase my home and land so I can move away - I hate what it’s become.
• We have country lanes and the numbers of new houses are going to cause gridlock or accidents. Divert huge lorries away from Horsebridge, it can be done.
• With all this development there will be an increase in traffic on the A271 which is bad enough now especially with speeding and articulated lorries going past at 4.30 in the morning need a time zone for lorries to drive down A271 not before 6.30 am.
• I am not opposed to development as long as infrastructure in certain areas is made to match increase in residency and the history and rural appeal of the area is maintained.
• Key thing is happening. You tell is 4,000+ houses need to be built. We are already struggling with: flooding, schools, open spaces, parking, road traffic, loss of character, doctors, shops. But we don't need the extra building provision of these services would require.
• To improve all services e.g. internet, more schools, doctor’s surgeries etc.
• Is there any point to this survey! As the Planning office doesn't seem to listen to the residents! Especially in the Lower Dicker area. Money talks every time and permission to build on this lovely green belt, no matter what the residents have to say.
• Enough development already in Hellingly. There should be development in other villages not just Hellingly.
• There is sufficient development already going ahead in Hellingly. Why not add developments in other villages such as Berwick, which has its own railway station for commuters?
• There are empty industrial units in Ropemaker Park and all the buildings in North Street erected when Tesco was built - why on earth plonk big industrial buildings in Hellingly. A new school would be great but where are these kids meant to go for secondary schooling? Our rural village is being ruined - we hope to move away from here as don't want to be part of the concrete jungle - Hellingly has totally lost its humbling character due to greed. Very very sad.
• Hellingly is becoming overcrowded and ruined. A beautiful rural village is now being overlooked by concrete jungles. Every tiny section is being built upon and the village does not have enough facilities to accommodate e.g. schooling, doctors surgeries and facilities for families. There will soon be nowhere to walk your dog or even go for a stroll. The town of Hailsham cannot exactly cope. I don't believe that industrial buildings are being contemplated when there are unused areas dotted all over Hailsham.
• Reduce speed limit on Grove Hill
• What is happening about changing the significance i.e. traffic volumes on the A22.
• Really object to councils bringing in people from out of area (e.g. London) to social housing here.
• Are we able in any way to influence infrastructure? Existing development has already stretched sewage, education, roads et al with nothing added. How much more can be got from existing resources? Most incomers take from resources we need young blood but it needs to integrate well.
• We need a solid plan for local infrastructure. Road improvements to manage the growth in housing. Health services to help cope with the growth in population, entertainment, gyms, clubs and other sports facilities/social centres. There also needs to be a better structured bus service so as to enable later commuting and Sunday services to Uckfield.
• Ensuring existing dwellers do not have their environment totally changed i.e. solitary houses shouldn't be surrounded by an estate. If you choose to live on an estate an extension of that estate would not have a huge impact.
• Ensure infrastructure is in place before development e.g. doctors surgeries, schools and of sufficient size to manage more people and children.
• Farming & agriculture & a clean water supply are vital to the existing & larger populations. Where does our Govt. see this coming from in the future? Don’t they think their construction targets are ludicrous? Existing infrastructure is struggling and taking land away will cause greater flooding as there will be little land left to soak it up. Where are our country's brains - it’s time to take stock & if education is the flagship of this & previous govts it’s a lesson as to how low we've sunk. A severe rethink is desperately required.
• We need more things to do in the area. E.g. Roebuck Park now has a cricket club house that no resident can use. Useless! No local pub or shop without driving (car journey). Lots of houses, not much else!!!
• My answers to questions 16 and 17 apply to housing development proposed within the emerging Local (Wealden) Plan. I would not support any further housing development over and above that proposed in the Local (Wealden) Plan that specified in question 15 excepted.
• Conservation of wild life, hedges, open fields etc. No more houses please.
I think it's not locals who buy these houses. They all seem to be commuters to London! Proof the smart houses they have built in Berwick up to £700,000 a few steps from the station!! And listen to radio, all the traffic jams in Sussex too many cars and people. I wish I could move.

Roads to accommodate the amount of extra cars, more car parking areas, schools, doctors

1) HGV on lanes causing damage. 2) During periods of flood we are told sewage treatment facilities are nearly at breaking point. Where is this addressed? 3) Parking is an issue at Roebuck Park, where is a car park for visitors addressed?

New homes are being built (for profit) at a much faster rate than the required local infrastructure to support these new residents. Have you tried getting a doctors appointment recently - I had a broken ankle for two weeks while trying to get a doc’s appointment for diagnosis.

Would like to see the local authority Wealden District Council and to a lesser extent East Sussex County Council taking more notice of local people’s comments and opinions on the future of the Parish.

Build on brown sites first before using green belt. No building on flood plains incorporate solar and energy saving in all new build.

No more houses!

We query whether the need for this number of homes etc. is even required in light of BREXIT and the inevitable outflow of people from the UK. Has this been considered by the LWP?

Consider the infrastructure of a local area before you decide to build thousands of homes. Traffic on the A22 is a serious problem. Buses can barely fit down the road to Hellingly - no planning on infrastructure. Do something for the Parish not just try and hit government guidelines!!!

Traffic jams can be horrendous. Please can care & thought be given to infrastructure.

As a Parish with the A22 ever present there is a real need to ensure that any extra housing is kept in check e.g. Proposals at Arlington and possible realignment of the A22 (Wealden Plan) as the continual increases in traffic are now creating noise levels both day and night especially with heavy lorries pounding through, also Coldharbour Road, Lower Dicker is not suitable for increased heavy lorry traffic as this road is often used as a cut through to the A27. Hellingly Parish Council should also support WDC proposals for a crematorium at Horam, much needed facility.

Despite having completed the questionnaire I am deeply disappointed & concerned that Hellingly has already been saturated with new housing. Despite promises being made when the current new houses were being built there are still no new schools or health centres & the sewage systems are under tremendous strain. We are already losing our individuality as a rural village & gradually being swallowed up by the surrounding towns. There is no more room or services for Hellingly to accommodate any more housing or related services.

Families and young people are in desperate need of housing, so all previous barriers to development must be reconsidered or removed.

It is very sad that Hellingly has been identified for such large scale housing development. The community that was Hellingly Village is in great risk. The amount of traffic around our small roads is getting quite perilous. If development continues to the scale identified we will be leaving the “village” for a much quieter/rural one!

There is a definite shortage of new build bungalows with parking suitable for the elderly and disabled. Many older people are trapped in 4/5 bedroomed houses due to this shortage. Please consider this issue.

I feel the whole character has disappeared from the area because of one development. Why does Sussex/South East have to be concreted over?

Regarding the four main settlements. The residents of New Road seem to have been omitted from any of these or are we (many of whom paid a premium for the Hellingly name and postcode) just to be forgotten and become part of North Hailsham when the Park Road/New Road development is completed?

Speed restrictions on rural roads

I live in Grove Hill and I know that the speed limit should be reduced to 40 mph.

Often too much emphasis is made on preserving the old and not enough on the future. We need new high tech business parks with highspeed broadband in the area - Hailsham. Why do self-builders never manage to buy a plot? I would like to see an area set-aside for ultra-modern homes with the latest energy saving devices, grey water etc. using the most innovative materials - not the traditional brick & tile homes that have been built for the last 400 years. The range could include
luxury homes right through to studio apartments. Also, ultra-modern often looks best next to ancient buildings, each highlighting the attributes of the other.

- As with most local people I understand development must take place but I am worried Hellingly will lose its rural charm. Social housing should be avoided if possible and any redevelopment moving forward needs to be carefully considered.

- Unfortunately, Hellingly has been developed beyond recognition and the completion of this form is merely playing lip service to those claiming to be interested. Local landmarks such as the homes at Hellingly Hospital have long since been demolished. Hellingly is now joined to Horsebridge and similarly that is joined to Hailsham. There is no demarcation of boundaries. We as with other Hellingly residents feel it a total waste of time making any effort to stop change, where quite clearly decisions have already been made.

- I am worried that Hellingly will eventually join up with Hailsham when its charm is that it is separate. We only recently moved here and love it due to it being that bit further out into the countryside.

- Enforced speed restrictions on A267 between Hellingly and Horam

- Hellingly must be kept rural and not part of a big town, otherwise it will lose its character

- Any development should ensure the rural ambiance of the area and not simply expand Hailsham into a larger town.

- 1. Due to house development Park Road/Grove Hill/Horam Road has become a dangerous 'rat run'. A bending narrow country road with speeding cars has caused many accidents especially at the Grove Hill/Cinderford Lane turning. 2. Junction at end of Harebeech Lane joining A267 is very dangerous. 3. Hellingly village speed limit often ignored. 4. Congestion outside schools - Hellingly, Hawkes Farm, Battle Road - due to parking.

- With the already increased local population the roads are becoming increasingly congested and dangerous and well-used road is Grove Hill/Park Road. I strongly recommend that a 40 mph limit should apply to this road.

- Have a lower speed limit set on the rural roads linking communities.

- Thank you to all those working on our behalf.

- Speeding through Hellingly village and the lanes surrounding the area, some sort of speed prevention is needed.

- Stop further development on large scale within NDP

- Lower speed limits to be set on rural roads linking communities and major roads.

- I vote to stop building new houses etc in and around the Hailsham area the infrastructure cannot cope the roads are deteriorating because of the large volume of traffic already the amount of pollution caused by cars & trucks stuck in traffic with engines idling is very high & traffic jams are becoming very common. It can sometimes take 20-30 mins to drive from South Road to go to the bank or supermarket & trying to find somewhere to park takes more time, spaces are rare, walking or cycling is not an option in the rain or walking a long distance with bags of shopping this is a small market town & one of the oldest in Britain the roads into Hailsham like the A22 are gridlocked most rush hour times it never used to be that way even a couple of years ago building more houses will just add to an already strained infrastructure.

- Before any building is planned or undertaken proper consideration needs to be given to development of suitable roads, transport links, parking, reduced speed limits on all roads in the area including country lanes and roads and main roads. Incomers from London etc. have little or no idea of how to behave on rural roads and drive too fast and often aggressively. Near accidents/near misses are becoming more & more frequent. Promises made previously have not been honoured.

- As I have put before I think we should avoid houses being put near the river. I am pro houses being built across the country and we should be building 250,000 houses a year. Though the first stage for designations must be; is there any overwhelming reason why development on this land should not go ahead (environmental or other) with Hellingly river, then it should be a no. I have no problem with houses to the west or east. Hope Wealden & ESCC will treat you fairly. Thank you for the questionnaire.

- I do not feel that there is a need for as many houses as proposed, they are drawing more people in to this area rather than providing houses for people in the parishes already.
• It's a well worn theme, but definitely traffic calming in the lanes, i.e. Vicarage Lane, and an idea to deter lorries using the lanes as short cuts. This situation just gets worse. I would very much like to see tree preservation orders.

• It would be a shame if Hellingly and Hailsham lose their identities. Hellingly and old village and Hailsham a market town. Development north of Hailsham will do this. From the air there will be nothing but a sea of houses. Traffic in Vicarage Lane is appalling and all verges are damaged. Tree preservation orders in the area are required!

• Horsebridge needs traffic light crossing for Lower Horsebridge, White Hart Pub and the Recreation Ground and 20mph speed limit through the village.

• Roads, schools, traffic calming, drainage, flooding.

• Roads, hospitals, doctors surgeries, schools and employment must all be adequately provided or planned for before any further new dwellings are proposed.

• Following this questionnaire, I would like to add the following I fail to see if we need all these homes that are being built in an around Hailsham. Who are going to buy them when you need at least £30,000 deposit? The homes being built by Bovis are not cheap housing. The houses being built by the same company in Eastbourne which are to buy a percentage and rent the remainder. Therefore, you will never own it outright. They are being built on greenbelt land. Not good for the environment. We are all expected to protect it. Before long there will not be any hedges or green fields etc. the only birds left will be jackdaws as they live in chimneys. I cannot believe how much land is going for bricks and concrete. When these houses are finished, the only buyers will be the councils who will be using it for social housing at the cost of the taxpayer. As I see it the big developers are making a lot of money building on good prime agricultural land that should be used for growing crops and now we are out of the EU to stop importing food and to start getting what farmers we have left to grow food for all.

• Bury all power lines so that old cottages and roads aren't made ugly.

• The current policies seem to pursue an overdevelopment of the area which is plainly unable to cope.

• Controlling traffic speed in the whole area.

• I'm really passionate about saving the old Hellingly Hospital buildings, especially the old church. It breaks my heart to see this being destroyed by vandals. The church could become a fantastic Community Hall, with space for parking instead of building a new one. It could be used for wedding receptions too, therefore creating revenue for upkeep.

• I think it is vital that Hellingly retains its character & separation from Hailsham. Although housing is inevitable I think it’s highly important to be able to shape the way we want it to be brought forward/what it looks like etc. so we can keep Hellingly’s identity separate from Hailsham. Need to get younger people engaged - community facilities etc.

• I moved from a town to get away from the noise, fumes and chaos of living close to a town and also safety, but since I've been living here there have been houses popping up everywhere. I know people have to live somewhere but there are a lot of them who don't appreciate a lovely new home, I know I've seen it happen.

• Any new housing development should have more open green spaces so residents have opportunity to use areas for sitting relaxing etc. This would also make these developments more attractive. Wildlife corridors and gaps between any existing neighbouring properties so the existing residents don't feel hemmed in. PLAY FACILITIES REQUIRED ALSO on large developments. If possible keep new housing in the vicinity of where new housing is being built now whether a large or small development. Roads - keep cars off the roads - parking should be on the driveways of properties if possible therefore the garages & driveways need to be larger or other parking places available. Most householders now have at least 2 cars. Preserve the semi-rural nature of Station Road i.e. no pavement or lighting. I think starter homes should only be sold on as starter homes so they remain in that category not bought as second homes.

• We have lived in Hellingly for 48 years - I think we have a pretty good knowledge of flooding in this area - due to all the building in recent years the flooding has changed in the way it behaves - the planners have no true knowledge of this. A good example being the overspill area which they keep digging deeper. Flooding in New Road is another example, that has never flooded in the way it does now. It sounds negative but none of our protests will make any difference - none of them have made any difference so far, they just keep on building with such greed, it’s unbelievable.
• The Parish Council representatives need to listen to the residents if the Parish and work for them and not their own political gain - if not then they should resign and hand the positions over to someone that will.
• Limitation of speed on local roads in line with those on larger roads i.e. Grove Hill has no limit currently despite the narrow road and multiple service roads/driveways.
• Present planning rules need to be relaxed and simplified to help meet housing needs e.g. infill on green field sites where impact on surroundings are minimal. This will allow some local control over where housing goes. The alternative is imposition from above and therefore no control.
• The increase in road traffic.
• The infrastructure of this town cannot support the expanding population. More investment in local services required. If the new inhabitants are coming from out of the area get their Council's to invest Hailsham, Hellingly & Horsebridge aren't built for the traffic/health and needs of the new population!
• Green space is important to all generations - please keep us some. Progress will not stop - but it needs to be controlled. Thank you for asking for my opinion.
• Hellingly must not lose its identity as a village and become a town. There is sufficient development being undertaken and the village is in danger of becoming over populated with no new services being provided. We should maintain the farming community as they are an integral part of the neighbourhood.
• Keep rural character of area, prevent over development. Ensure development passed guarantees enhanced quality of life for existing residents by considering their needs any impact of development e.g. more traffic, education needs benefits usually associated with higher population density should be provided.
• It seems to me that the priorities are out of kilter: surely infrastructure is the first priority to determine whether further house building/increased population in the area can be supported and accommodated?
• This area should be kept as a village supporting the farming community and old buildings being restored not demolished.
• New developments should have provision of safe walkways such as pavements. Proper identification and listing (not logging) of trees to be saved, before any development. Provision of adequate bins and dog bins and visitor parking. Unobtrusive street lamp positions.
  1. Drainage must be top priority.  2. Small play areas in every development with pocket amenity areas.  3. Every property must have at least 2 vehicle spaces each, larger housed must have more than 3 spaces & garages that are big enough for a car.  4. Visitor spaces & wider roads and verges.
• I think it is important that the villages do not get subsumed into "greater" Hailsham. If provision of additional retail is made adequate and safer parking is required "parking" at the Co-Op on Upper Horsebridge Road is an accident waiting to happen.
• More affordable housing for young people
• We are being 'dumped on' with far too much housing in one area. This will lead to additional pressure on schools, doctors etc. plus greatly increase an already high risk of flooding to many areas.
• The local area of Hailsham/Hellingly has been totally ruined over the recent past as a result of uncontrolled building which is now being filled with 'overspills' from greater London etc. - unsatisfactory outcome on both sides. The Local Wealden Plan is even more ruinous to the area and will totally destroy the history of this part of rural Sussex. Enough is enough!
• What happened to the proposed Horsebridge bypass (we need it)? We do not need extra housing as there is no extra employment available in this area for families there is no democracy local peoples' valid views & concerns are overridden, the Parish Council is overridden by Wealden. Wealden decisions are overridden by the Government Inspectors; the south east is saturated.
• I live in Field Close, the best place I have ever lived - and I have lived in some nice places. I think Field Close is a perfect example of how bringing people into the Parish can work. We are only 14 families. We are a small community with the children playing together and dads outside kicking a ball about with them too. It is safe, no thoroughfare so no traffic. We all know each other. There is no trouble which I know locals were worried about before we moved in. 99% (or thereabouts) are working families. There was a marriage in August in the Parish Church. There are reasons why Field Close works and I think Wealden Housing Dept. and Affinity Sutton ensured it would.
The 120 houses proposed for next to the cemetery worries me: flooding, the risks of anonymity in a large housing estate, loss of local identity. Could this be a recipe for disaster? Please keep communities small & intimate. Provide enough quality school places and adequate infrastructure and keep Hellingly separate from Hailsham to maintain our local identity. PS. please slow drivers down further through Hellingly Village. At the moment, it is a legal 'request' to drivers to drive a max of 20 mph. I was cycling through the village past the cottage with the amazing honeysuckle hedge, when a car sped past me. I screamed and jumped off my bike! It was really frightening. Please, please, please make drivers have to drive slowly, because too many just don't care.

- While the proposed new developments are out of the control of the Parish Council, there seems to be a danger of the village losing its identity and possibly through time its Parish Council, if development continues at its present rate, I feel it’s imperative that some sort of barrier is maintained between Hailsham and Hellingly, even if it’s some kind of natural barrier, i.e. protected tree line, green strip etc.to provide some definition of borders.

- High speed broad band connection is vital to a vibrant local economy. I know of one occasion where house sale fell through because the low broad band speed was not good enough to allow the purchaser to run his business from home. Although I can get a fibre to the cabinet connection the projected speed is slower than the old ADSL max system, but as we are covered a box will be ticked and another meaningless target will be achieved.

- Object to the number of homes being thrust upon us
- I feel very strongly that individual villages should be kept separate
- Affordable rental properties for all age groups seems to be the Cinderella of all development plans. Also, bungalows are a rarity but are required for the disabled and the elderly. Both of these groups seem to be overlooked when giving building/development permission. For some reason, local authorities require couples to share one bedroom, however, couples sometimes need two especially when one partner is infirm and the other required to be the carer. Care in the community is a good concept but only when the partner/carer can themselves 'refresh' their souls in a space of their own. Sleeping on the sofa gives no worth to the carer/partner.
- A22
- Road infrastructure cannot support the increase in housing. Where is employment going to come from for the influx of residents.
- Why has the vast New Road settlement been omitted from the Broad Aims categories?? Why has Lower Horsebridge only designated 20 new homes when their capacity can accommodate many more??
- Where are all these new residents going to be employed? Or is it the plan that they will work outside of the immediate area. What Hailsham and surrounding area really needs is a major employer (such as a Hastings Direct or AXA PPP). Without the opportunity for local residents to work locally the local economy will not fully benefit from the amazing opportunities this growth offers our community.
- We already have inadequate infrastructure for the existing population in this area, it is insane that 4,000 new homes are going to be forced on to us without the provision of increased essential facilities.
- Keep 'affordable housing' separate to private housing. I have tried on three separate occasions to sell my house but cannot because there are four social houses directly behind mine.
- Enjoy destroying this community, and the backhanders!
- I would like more public open space/land for recreation, the Horsebridge Recreation ground can only support cricket in summer with no room for anything else. If this land can be extended so other activities could go on at the same time as cricket for people in the village.