

Agenda item no.	
Report to	Burwash Parish Council
Subject	Neighbourhood Plan update report
Date	14 <sup>th</sup> August 2018
From	Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

## 1. Call for Sites consultation

- 1.1 The Neighbourhood Plan (NP) team held two resident consultation sessions about the response to the “Call for Sites” on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> July. The two sessions were held at the Burwash Common Pavilion between 10am and 12 noon and then at the Internet Café from 1pm to 3pm. Across the two sessions over 50 people attended.
- 1.2 Residents considered the four sites that had been put forward during the “Call for Sites” which is a key requirement of the Neighbourhood Plan (NP) process. These sites were
- a. Land next to Fairview Farm, Foots Lane
  - b. Land at Little Dawes, Spring Lane
  - c. Land adjacent to Glebe House
  - d. Land at 102 – 109 Shrub Lane
- 1.3 Residents were asked to consider the merits of the four submissions and whether they should be considered for inclusion in the NP and also to provide wider comments on the sheets we provided. The outline results on the four schemes were that a small majority favoured the Fairview Farm site for further consideration by the NP Steering Group but on all of the other three sites there was a clear majority against these being taken forward.
- 1.4 In addition the following general comments were made :
- “Use Oakleys site”
- “No to Strand Meadow”
- “No to Dentons”
- “Concerned about impact on services”
- “Don’t make Burwash into a town”
- “Create housing that is needed”
- “Concerned about traffic”
- “Concerns about any extension to the existing development boundaries”
- “This is a village not a place for developers”
- “Developments need to fit into Burwash style”
- However by far the largest number of comments related to “The need to any development to provide affordable housing for local people”

- 1.5 As can be seen from the above the result of this consultation was a little confused. On one hand there was a small majority in favour of the Fairview Farm scheme but it was also clear that there is no appetite for the existing development boundaries to be changed which would be required if Fairview Farm were to be included within the NP. It should also be noted that even if this scheme delivered 6 or more units these would not count towards our existing housing target of 52 units as it is not within Burwash Village.
- 1.6 At the next meeting of the NP Steering Group this matter will be considered and a decision made on whether Fairview Farm should go forward into the final Plan.

**2. Correspondence with Rother District Council (RDC)**

- 2.1 Following the last Parish Council meeting a letter was sent to the Cabinet Member at RDC to raise our concerns about the existing housing target and any potential uplift resulting from the revised National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). A reply has now been received which suggested that these matters could be more sensibly dealt with through a meeting with RDC Officers.
- 2.2 An email was sent to the Officer concerned who has now provided a reply which simply restates the current target and reminds us that if we don't identify at least 52 units within the draft NP that this will not be allowed to go forward. He also said he was too busy to meet up until into September. Despite the delay it is still intended to arrange this meeting to work through the concerns we have about the current housing target.

**3. Matters for resolution**

- 3.1 The Parish Council are asked to note this report.