

Neighbourhood Plan Working Group Town Centre And Station.

22/08/17, 17:45 Barsleys Coffee Shop.

Notes

Present :- Richard Barsley, Paul Smith, Juliette Fielding, Val Posener, Meryl Flashman. Sarah Hamilton

Apologies:  
Barbara Giles,

Meeting opened by Richard

The meeting was spent reviewing and amending section 2 & 3 of the draft Neighbourhood Town Centre Policy document. 3.3 and section 4 & 5 to be completed next meeting.

Next meeting was arranged for 29<sup>th</sup> August same time & venue, to continue this task.

Thanks to all attending and their input. The meeting closed at 19:40

## Neighbourhood Plan Working Group Town Centre And Station.

23/02/17, 17:45 Barsleys Coffee Shop.

### Notes

Present :- Richard Barsley, Paul Smith, Juliette Fielding, Barbara Giles, Tim Duncan, Sarah Hamilton, Meryl Flashman, Ros Tucker, Carol Prior.

### Apologies

Steve Terry, Ralph Oxbough.

1. Meeting opened by Richard
2. Richard showed the suggested plan from Feria, this showed the land rear of Barsleys being developed to a network of lanes to produce over 300M of shop frontage, focal points etc. Broadly the group liked the suggested type of development with some comments:
3. Car parking need very careful planning and must not be overlooked, it is felt to be a vital need for smaller towns like Paddock wood to maintain this to draw visitors from the out of town sites.
4. Carol reported that the casual eating need a focus as many prospective home buyers who wish to move further away from London and are considering P/W go elsewhere due to the lack of pubs, bistros, restaurants etc.
5. The feature of a town square/central point was felt to be very desirable.
6. The town centre/shopping area should be expanded to include the triangle made by Commercial Road, Maidstone Road, Station Road. Plus Church Road to the John Brunt.
7. The development should have many small units that can be flexible to join or split as the shopping offer varies over time.
8. Encourage a good mix of shops at all times
9. It was felt there is a need for a near town centre hotel ( Premier inn / Travel lodge style )
10. When any development is built it must be sensitive to be scheduled in a manner that is not detrimental to the continuity of trading for the existing shops. i.e. don't close the car parks before you open new ones, don't make access restricted until new access ways are established.
11. Barbra presented to the meeting the views from the youth council. See attached. This was well received and reflected many views already voiced.
12. One non town centre matter was mentioned and felt very important: Parking needs increasing and improving for the cemetery.
13. During the meeting there was discussion regarding the application for and additional betting shop. This emphasised the need for a good mixed range of shops etc in the town centre and to avoid more charity shops, estate agents and betting shops.

The meeting felt it was important to repeat our conclusions from the last meeting:

### In Conclusion.

However, it was decided that there can be no expansion without more retail space.

The town centre needs a focus of possibly a town square with an opportunity for Farmers Markets and other community events.