

Planning the Neighbourhood: Paddock Wood Neighbourhood Plan
22nd October 2014
Notes from Meeting

Cllr S Hamilton in the Chair

20 residents.

The Warrington Road Action Group introduced themselves and explained that they were looking at all issues regarding the proposed developments and had sent questionnaires to the majority of residents in the town.

The chairman updated the meeting and advised the following:

The planning application for Church Farm had been received in the office, and was available to be viewed, by appointment.

The third site – Badsell Road – may still come forward

PW was the gateway to the Medway

Some development will happen

The Town Council have been working behind the scenes

KCC had commissioned extra work to follow on from the surface water management plan

Developers must mitigate effects of their developments – not solve existing problems

The application is a hybrid application – part outline and part detailed.

Residents raised the following issues regarding the developments:

The drains are combined foul and surface water – this causes problems

There has been no work on the drains in the last 40 years

In heavy rain water backs up from the sewers into toilets – happened last Christmas

The will need to be reassured that systems will work regarding drainage and sewerage – this is not a recent problem it has happened for years

Many houses have had return valves fitted at their own expense

Developments may improve the situation

Warrington Road is not able take heavy traffic – it is already starting to break up

The chairman explained the following:

Any solutions to the flooding problems will need paying for – who pays?

The way the precept worked and how the BC was capped

She raised the possibility of holding a referendum to raise the precept

Cranbrook held one to ask residents if they wished to have the costs of the car parks added on to the precept to pay for free parking in the town

The culverts under the railway were not being made bigger but were being lined with anti friction surfaces so that the water flowed more quickly

General comments

Should there be a one way system in Commercial Road

Neighbourhood Plan can be taken into account as an emerging document

School is an academy

The chairman has spoken to the heads of the schools, they are the education experts. They are meeting and looking at the education provision within the developments.

The capacity of the health centre needs considering

Health provision is moving towards bottom up system rather than top down

Maybe use the Community Advice Centre more

There is a patient participation group at the health centre

The chairman (SH) is in contact with the head of planning regarding the developments

Need a town centre area

Towns thrive with visitors

Need to ask businesses if they can find a way to preserve the 2 free hours

Concern was expressed about increased commuter parking in the side streets as far out as Ringden Avenue

The Clerk was asked to confirm from TWBC how long residents had to respond to development application

The group then listed out all the businesses in the town centre which the Chairman wrote on a flip chart.

Meeting closed at 9 pm.

Future meeting dates:

(all meetings are held between 7 & 9 pm in the Wesley Centre)

Wed 21st Jan 2015

Tues 17th Feb 2015

Wed 18th March 2015

Tues 21st April 2015

Wed 20th May 2015

Tues 16th June 2015