

Fletching Neighbourhood Plan – Your Parish Needs You

At February's Parish Council meeting a presentation was given to outline the advantages and issues over drawing up a Neighbourhood Plan for the parish of Fletching. A large number of parishioners were present, coincidentally, in order to voice their concerns over the proposed expansion of Ashdown Business Park. After the presentation a show of hands was called for to identify the level of interest in producing a Neighbourhood Plan and the overwhelming majority agreed that the Parish Council should proceed to do so. At May's Parish Council meeting your new council voted to start work on a plan and formed a working group of all parish councillors to progress the work required. Some work has now been carried out to identify the skills required for the various parts of a Neighbourhood Plan and we are therefore interested in knowing who in the parish has those skills and is willing to offer them up to help us produce the plan. The skills required are as follows:

- Local knowledge, history & demographics
- Design and Conservation
- Landscape assessment
- Heritage
- Architectural history
- Transport
- Education
- Digital connection
- Retail and employment
- Flood Risk Engineering
- Farming and rural economy
- Biodiversity and ecology
- Sport and recreation
- Housing needs tenure and mix

It is very difficult at this stage to be clear about just how much work is involved but every contribution of any size would be gratefully received. The project as a whole is likely to take at least 4 years but an increasing number of parishes in Wealden have recently completed plans, are working on them or are embarking on the process. The new administration in Wealden is very supportive of every parish having its own plan. Please contact our Parish Clerk at clerk@fletching-pc.org or Richard Hannay at richard.hannay.cllr@gmail.com if you are interested in helping us.

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