

## Draft Neighbourhood plan

### Consultation Process 27<sup>th</sup> July 09.00 – 21<sup>st</sup> September 12.00 (noon) 2015

The following details the consultation process and the promotion of the Draft Neighbourhood Plan (NP) and Sustainability Appraisal (SA) the two documents are to be jointly consulted.

#### The proposed promotion arrangements are:

- Banners on railings in town to display for the full 8 weeks, will alternate as needed
- Public Notice on notice board and in local press - issued to press on 24<sup>th</sup> July
- Special version of “the line” to be issued to each home last week of August (part way through the consultation)
- Website to include downloadable version of plan and response form (PDF), will go live at 9.00 am on 27<sup>th</sup> July for viewing the documents and accepting responses via the dedicated email address. Emails will be acknowledged with a standard message. At 12.00 (noon) on 21<sup>st</sup> September the email message will be updated advising that the consultation has now closed.
- The Councils post box will be opened at 12.00 noon and any responses removed. Anything placed in the post box or handed in to East Court, after that time will be deemed late and although retained, will not be included in the official responses.
- Social Media advertising (Twitter and Facebook) facebook page to be set up for 27<sup>th</sup> July advising of the link to the Councils website and the response form, twitter will announce weekly the consultation is ongoing.
- Hard Copies of the plan will be available by collection from East Court or the Library, restricted to two per person (200 ordered - 20 large print)
- Letters – list of statutory consultees, plus local groups to be sent 24<sup>th</sup> July to arrive for the opening of the consultation.

#### Responses to be made via:

The response form allows for detailed comment on the NP and also refers to the SA allowing separate more general comment. The form is simply to highlight the areas of the policies and encourage responses in a co-ordinated manner. Our experience last time was that few response forms were used, therefore a prudent number will be printed initially, but can be reprinted as needed. They will be downloadable from the website. The Email address is bespoke for this and will be held separately to the Town Council addresses. The address will be accessed daily to print responses for consideration at the end of the consultation period. No analysis will be undertaken during the period.

Hard copy response forms 200 hard copies ordered +20 large print.

Hard Copy : by post or collection from East Court or Library

Email to : [neighbourhoodplan@eastgrinstead.gov.uk](mailto:neighbourhoodplan@eastgrinstead.gov.uk)

## **East Grinstead Town Council**

### **Draft Neighbourhood Plan**

The draft plan has been revised based on previously submitted public comments and the experience of other plans and accompanied by a Sustainability Appraisal has now been launched for a second round of public consultation

You can have your say on proposals to guide the development of this town

Hard copies will be available for collection from East Court or the Library by request or can be viewed online at [www.eastgrinstead.gov.uk](http://www.eastgrinstead.gov.uk)

The Closing Date for consultation responses: 12.00 (noon) on Monday 21st September 2015

Please send all comments

by email to: [neighbourhoodplan@eastgrinstead.gov.uk](mailto:neighbourhoodplan@eastgrinstead.gov.uk)

or by post to: Town Clerk, East Grinstead Town Council, East Court, College Lane, East Grinstead, RH19 3LT

responses may be published as part of the post consultation documents

# P R E S S   R E L E A S E

## EAST GRINSTEAD TOWN COUNCIL



### YOUR TOWN - YOUR VOICE - YOUR FUTURE

#### EAST GRINSTEAD NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

**At a Special Council last night East Grinstead Town Councillors approved the draft Neighbourhood Plan for consultation.**

The Plan, accompanied by a sustainability appraisal, sets out the policies the Town Council will require to be adhered to for all development until 2031. A Working Group of Councillors has revised the plan following an earlier round of consultation in the autumn of 2013. Since then the responses to that consultation and emerging results of other inspections, more national statistics and guidelines have informed this second draft which will now go forward for an eight week consultation period starting on Monday 27th July. The Council will be making copies of the Plan available at the Library and East Court and is available to download at the Councils website [www.eastgrinstead.gov.uk](http://www.eastgrinstead.gov.uk).

All residents are urged to read the Plan and to submit comments before the closing date of 21<sup>st</sup> September. All comments will be collated and considered, and then, the Plan will come back to Council to be approved before going forward for independent examination against the Mid Sussex Plan and the National Plans.

The final step will be a referendum for East Grinstead residents to decide whether to adopt the Plan which will set out the policy requirements for future planning applications.

Cllr Rex Whittaker, chairman of the Working Group, said: "This plan is the result of considering the responses to the first draft and building on the strengths of that plan but in accordance with experience from other regional plans which have passed to inspection stage. This plan is less aspirational and more focused on planning policy, to make sure that the character and setting of the town is preserved while recognising that sensible housing growth is required together with much needed investment in infrastructure. It is important that East Grinstead residents read for themselves the document and understand what is and what is not in then plan".

Town Councillors will be holding a surgery every Saturday between 10am and noon during the consultation, to answer questions. They will be in Queens Walk (Iceland end)

Ends...

Notes for editors:

### **A PLAN TO MANAGE DEVELOPMENT THROUGH TO 2031**

Our Town's Neighbourhood Plan has been produced in response to an opportunity to influence and direct development over the next 16 years. Many of the issues addressed are done so on the basis of where we are now; the proposed policies are designed to limit threats and to promote opportunities in the future.

The process started in 2011/12 and has already been through one round of public consultation which generated much feedback. Since then other regional plans have been examined, further guidance and national statistics have been released. The Council having taken this in to account have reviewed the original draft and are launching a further consultation for 8 weeks (longer than the minimum required) between 27th July and 21st September.

The Town Council is communicating the draft plan for consultation as required by law. Feedback will be carefully reviewed and any necessary changes made prior to final presentation of the plan to a future Council Meeting. Thereafter Mid Sussex District Council, our Local Planning Authority, will conduct a further consultation and then appoint an independent inspector whose job will be to review and ensure our plan is in compliance with the law.

Finally a referendum will be held for the residents of East Grinstead. Over 50% of those who vote must agree the plan for it to become a legal document which this Town Council will then use as the foundation for all local planning matters. MSDC will be required to take account of our Neighbourhood Plan when determining planning applications in East Grinstead.

By not having a plan we will be open to whatever development others see fit for our town. We will have no control of development in East Grinstead, and be reliant on the District Plan (the draft district plan has removed many of the specific policies that affected East Grinstead, expecting neighbourhood plans to address these areas) so a plan is vital to ensure that East Grinstead retains its special identity.

The Town Council is asking all residents to view the plan, copies of which are available on line at [www.eastgrinstead.gov.uk](http://www.eastgrinstead.gov.uk), or in hard copy at the library and East Court. There is an 8 week consultation period, during which time people are encouraged to talk about the plan, and there will inevitably be questions or queries and clarifications as to the content. Residents are urged to read it and talk to their local councillor to form their opinion before responding to the consultation.



## Consultation on the draft plan

Your Voice, Your Town, Your Future

The 2<sup>nd</sup> draft of the East Grinstead Neighbourhood Plan and Sustainability Appraisal are now open for public consultation. You may send your comments and thoughts to us, however it is useful if you follow the below format to ensure that the comments are attributed to the correct part of the plan. All responses will be considered as to whether any adjustment or change to the plan is needed. The section at the end is for general comments (non policy related). The consultation will be open from 09.00 on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> July through to 12.00 (noon) on Monday 21st September.

All responses will become part of the official documentation and may be published.

Responses may be emailed to [neighbourhoodplan@eastgrinstead.gov.uk](mailto:neighbourhoodplan@eastgrinstead.gov.uk) or you may write to The Town Clerk, East Grinstead Town Council, East Court, College Lane, East Grinstead, RH193LT

Your name:

Your post code:

PLEASE ADVISE ANY COMMENTS ON:

### TOWNWIDE POLICIES

<b>Policy EG1 Protection of the High Weald AONB</b>
<b>Policy EG2 Areas of Development Constraint</b>
<b>Policy EG3 Promoting Good Design Policy</b>
<b>EG4 Heritage Assets Policy</b>
<b>Policy EG5 Housing Proposals</b>
<b>Policy EG6A Housing Sites with Planning Permission</b>
<b>Policy EG6B Housing Sites Allocated</b>
<b>Policy EG7 Housing Mix and Density</b>
<b>Policy EG8 East Grinstead Town Centre</b>
<b>Policy EG9 Temporary Community Uses</b>
<b>Policy EG10 Employment Provision</b>

**Policy EG11 Mitigating Highway Impacts**

**Policy EG12 Car Parking**

**Policy EG13 Embracing Modern Technology**

**Policy EG14 Protection of Open Space**

**Policy EG15 Alternative Sports Provision**

**Policy EG16 Ashdown Forest Protection**

**SITE SPECIFIC POLICIES**

**Policy SS1 Railway Approach**

**Policy SS2 Queens Walk**

**Policy SS3 Imberhorne School, Windmill Road**

**Policy SS4 Birches Industrial Estate**

**Policy SS5 Charlwood's Industrial Estate**

**Policy SS6 Queen Victoria Hospital**

**Policy SS7 St. Margaret's Loop**

**Policy SS8 Land to the south of Birches Industrial Estate and west of Imberhorne Lane**

**General Comments**

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**Comments on the accompanying Sustainability Appraisal**

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