

# **P R E S S   R E L E A S E**

## **EAST GRINSTEAD TOWN COUNCIL**



### **East Grinstead Neighbourhood Plan**

#### ***Views of the younger generation are being collected.***

THE TOWN COUNCIL continue to engage with residents and collect their views on the future of East Grinstead. One of the latest consultations involves the town's youngest residents who will inherit the outcome of the Neighbourhood Plan. The Plan looks at the town's development for the next 20 years and children who are at school now will become the adult residents of the future.

Leading the task on behalf of the Neighbourhood Planning Steering Group is Cllr Bob Mainstone who explains "We want to give the students the opportunity to express their views and suggest ways East Grinstead could be improved in the future. We ask them to imagine what their lives will be like in 20 years time and what their needs might be. They quickly begin to point out what will be important to them and what the town will need, to help them lead their lives."

So far Estcots, Blackwell and The Meads student councils have participated, with others to follow. The student ages range from five to ten and the older children help record the ideas and opinions that are expressed.

The results of the primary childrens' contribution to the Neighbourhood Plan will be made available to the public once all schools have been involved. The next stage will be to engage with the sixth form students of Imberhorne and Sackville who will be asked to take part in a more advanced consultation, and all results will be considered as the plan is drawn up over the coming weeks.

Ends....

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Note for Editor:

Neighbourhood Plans are being drawn up by Town and Parish Councils under the Localism Act that supports the detail of the District Plan; constructing the development of the town over a 20 year period. The Town Council has undertaken 3 public surveys, workshops and received many contributions from residents and groups in the Town. The plan is due to be published in draft in January 2013 and then go through a 6 week final consultation period.

The town council website includes all the papers to date and a new dedicated site will be launched shortly and linked from the Councils page.

For further information contact: East Grinstead Town Clerk Julie Holden 01342 323636