

# **FAWKHAM'S NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN - HAVE YOUR SAY ON THE DRAFT PLAN**



**Please come along to one of the drop-in sessions being held in the village hall on:**

**Wednesday 5th July, from 7- 9 pm**

**Saturday 15th July, from 1.30 - 4.30 pm**

Tea, coffee and cake will be available

At the drop in sessions, display boards will:

- Let you know about neighbourhood planning and what it can do
- Share some key information about our Parish which influences what can be done in the Neighbourhood Plan
- Bring you up to date on the work we have been doing, which is based on what residents told us in the Parish survey in 2019 and in engagement activities since then
- Ask you what you think of the policies we have prepared so far that will go in the Plan to use when planning applications come forward. These policies include protecting the landscape, with its woodland, open fields, ecological biodiversity and panoramic views, as well as maintaining our community facilities and local economy, protecting our heritage and meeting the very small need for housing originating from the Parish
- Find out if you have other ideas and proposals to include in it
- Ask whether you want to join us in developing it further
- Please see overleaf for more information.



**The Parish Council is now undertaking a six week Pre-Submission Consultation on the Draft Neighbourhood Plan which closes on 14th August 2023.** Your feedback on the draft policies in the Plan is being sought via a questionnaire. You will need to read the Draft Neighbourhood Plan or summary to complete the questionnaire, available at our community exhibitions or online at: <https://fawkhampc.org.uk/neighbourhood-plan/>.

## **What's been happening?**

Following the Parish Survey in 2019, the Parish Council agreed to prepare a Neighbourhood Plan in December 2020. Since then, work has taken place led by local residents and the Parish Council to develop a Plan.

A wide range of issues has been considered in producing the Neighbourhood Plan. These are grouped under five themes which were identified through research along with various consultation events:

- Environment, both natural and built
- Housing
- Local Economy
- Leisure and Wellbeing
- Infrastructure

This Plan will guide the development of land and buildings within the Parish, as an addition to Sevenoaks Local Plan which looks at the District as a whole. Sevenoaks District Council are updating their evidence, including looking at areas of Green Belt identified as “weakly performing” which includes the Green Belt around Hartley and down into Fawkhams Parish. SDC will hold a second consultation on their plan later this year, focusing on Green Belt sites, when you will be able to comment on its policies and sites proposed for development.

## **What happens next?**

The Parish Council and Steering Group will carefully consider and respond to all comments and, where appropriate, will make changes to the Neighbourhood Plan in the light of them. The Plan will then be submitted to SDC when there will be a final opportunity for submission of representations, following which the plan will be examined by an independent examiner. After that, residents will be asked to vote on whether the final plan should be adopted.

Please visit our website to find out more: <https://fawkhampc.org.uk/neighbourhood-plan/> where you can find the draft Plan and evidence reports.