

Battle Area Neighbourhood Plan

Focus Group Topics Groups COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND INFRASTRUCTURE

(NOTE – keep it simple, 5-6 key bullet points under each)

<p>Strengths :</p> <p><i>Strengths and positive features of your parish. What people value and would like to keep.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Battle Abbey, Battlefield, old/attractive high street buildings – One of the most high profile Historic areas in the country. • Battle Railway Station • Scenic Countryside and natural beauty in AOB area • Good range of local restaurants and public houses • Some good quality hotels and B&B within the close vicinity • A 'compact' town centre and shopping area with few empty shops • Conveniently placed for road and train access to channel ports, London, Gatwick airport etc. • The Abbey green area • Good range of local supermarkets and other shops • Good healthcare facilities within Battle • Centrally/Locally based Fire & Rescue services • Attractive churches and churchyards • Potentially some wonderful countryside/nature <u>walks</u> with great views. • A good central library as well as a mobile library
<p>Weaknesses :</p> <p><i>Negative features of your parish. What people don't like and would like to get rid off</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poor road links (& maintenance) between Battle & Netherfield • Many roads within the Battle area dangerous/unsuitable for cyclists. • Lack of 'alternative' local road routes to circumvent Battle Town centre • Roads through Battle town centre used as alternative to A21 etc. • Unattractive town centre due to narrow footpaths & heavy through traffic, e.g. no pedestrian 'precinct' and alfresco cafe areas. • Claverham Secondary and Battle & Langton schools at full capacity • Lack of <u>local</u> facilities for young people • Poor public transport • Poor communications including broadband & mobile devices signals • Inadequate & overburdened services infrastructure, (electric, gas, water, sewage), particularly in outlying districts, (Netherfield & Telham) • Expensive parking for regular short term visits • Large delivery Lorries in Battle High Street at 'peak' traffic times. • Lack of available land for 'sympathetic' housing/offices development. • Abbey Green not being used to full potential • Lack of modern community centre/health facilities within close, safe and easy access for Netherfield residents. • Many countryside walks unmaintained, badly signposted/advertised, and virtually impassable. • Lack of prompt attendance by emergency services.

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<p>Opportunities :</p> <p><i>Things the parish doesn't have and would like to happen. Opportunities for the Future</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved communication opportunities • Increasing local business facilities/opportunities to attract younger working professionals. • Free parking for limited periods to promote local shopping & visits to doctors/dentist etc (or other schemes like the Jempson's 'cashback') • A radical re-think of parking and traffic flow through Battle High Street. • Provision of more 'continental' style alfresco facilities with Abbey views • Provision of new/modern Community hall and safe open space facilities, more appropriately located for <u>safe</u> access by Netherfield 'centre' residents. • Potential to use Community Infrastructure levy to fund community projects • Good local schools encourage parents to move to the locality
<p>Threats:</p> <p><i>Potential threats for your parish. Things that would make it worse</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further increases in traffic through Battle – speeding traffic in rural areas. • Inappropriately large vehicles using narrow country lanes. • Deterioration of existing road infrastructure • Increases to parking charges in Battle • Shop closures due to traffic volumes and parking charges • Younger people moving away for homes/work causing age imbalance • No short term or long term improvements to electrical, gas, water or sewage disposal service provisions to allow for current population requirements or future growth. • Reductions in 'visitor' numbers to Battle town. • Inappropriate/oversized housing developments. • Lack of maintenance to older/'Grade' listed buildings around Battle.

Key Issues / Concerns

Focus groups suggest maximum 5 key issues identified or of concern within their topic areas

1. Xxx
2. Xxx
3. Xxx
4. Xxx
5. xxx

Key Recommendations / Suggestions

Focus groups to recommend or suggest maximum 5 key concerns that they would like the neighbourhood plan to address

6. Xxx
7. Xxx
8. Xxx
9. Xxx
10. xxx