

Opinion

Planning Update

with Margaret Howell
Chair of the Group

Battle Neighbourhood Plan
Your monthly update

Battle Neighbourhood Plan

After nearly four and a half years, we are at last close to presenting the Battle Civil Parish Neighbourhood Development Plan.

In the not too distant future, this Plan will be presented to Rother District Council and local stakeholders for a statutory six week consultation. Local stakeholders are local organisations, groups and individuals that have a particular interest in the area. We still have some details to finalise before this can be done, however.

This first step is known as "Regulation 14", where copies of the Plan will be available for residents to examine. . Please see our website and the local press for further details. We plan to have copies available in the Almonry, and other locations.

At this stage, we also have to consult with certain statutory bodies, such as East Sussex County Council, the Environment Agency, Natural England, Historic England as well as neighbouring parish and town councils, significant landowners, local businesses and other local community



organisations such as the Chamber of Commerce.

The plan will then be scrutinised by an independent planning inspector. It will then go to referendum . During the period before a "made" plan (the technical term),

landowners and developers can still apply for planning permission in the usual way.

Any comments received by the end of the consultation period must be considered conscientiously by the Neighbourhood Plan Group. All

representations need to be considered but it is however legitimate for the Neighbourhood Plan Group to take a different view. The Group will need to approve modifications and approve the resulting draft of the Plan for submission to the Local Planning Authority.

There is a massive amount of documentation that has to be shown, some of which you may already have seen if you attended our last presentation in April this year. And we are adding to it all the time.

Currently, we are in the process of arranging a survey to be carried out by the younger members of our community, namely schoolchildren. They, after all represent the future of Battle as a town and community.

Regulation 14 is the initial step towards adoption of a Neighbourhood Plan. There are still many hoops before it can be finalised.

We welcome your input, which you can do via our website: battleneighbourhoodplan.co.uk, our facebook page which is www.facebook.com/BattleNeighbourhoodPlan or for general enquiries use enquiries@battleneighbourhoodplan.co.uk.