

Battle Neighbourhood Plan

We have reached the start of 2020, many years since Battle Town Council first undertook in 2015 to commission a Neighbourhood Plan.

As well as the housing requirements decided by Rother District Council, the Neighbourhood Plan gave us scope to incorporate additional measures which will contribute to the overall future of the parish.

The six week Regulation 14 consultation will commence on Monday 20th January 2020.

One item in particular which might not have occurred to the residents is that "Assets of Community Value" for example can be protected through the plan. This is a scheme whereby communities can preserve buildings or land whose main use they consider important to their social well being. This includes cultural, recreational and sporting interests. Once listed with the local authority, the community will be informed if they are listed for sale within a five year listing period. The community



can then enact the Community Right to bid, which gives them a period of six months to determine whether they can raise the finance to purchase the asset. Assets of Community Value (such as pubs, shops, library) are designed to protect the use of the building, not the structure itself. Inclusion in the Neighbourhood Plan also allows community discussion about what

should be included or not and encourage further nominations.

This is just one aspect of the Plan. Other issues included are a compilation of the Green Infrastructure Study, for which there is a 226 page document available to see on our website: battleneighbourhoodplan.co.uk Allied to this is the Green Space Analysis, the Strategic Gap Analysis, the

Parish Analysis Study and Character Appraisal. The designation of Local Green Spaces in the Battle Civil Parish has now been accepted by Battle Town Council.

In addition to these items is the Local Heritage List being compiled by Battle Town Council. A list of non-building assets is contained in the draft plan considered by Battle Town Council.

A separate list of non-designated heritage buildings not listed by Historic England is being compiled by the Battle Heritage Charter Working Group, and will be presented directly to Rother District Council.

The draft proposals of the Neighbourhood Plan are in the final stages, and we anticipate that residents will be able to see these soon. In the meantime, please continue to engage on our facebook page: "[facebook.com/battleneighbourhoodplan](https://www.facebook.com/battleneighbourhoodplan)" or email to "enquiries@battleneighbourhoodplan.co.uk".

The Steering Group join me in wishing all the residents of Battle, Netherfield and Telham a very fulfilling New Year