

Planning Update

with Margaret Howell
Chair of the Group

Battle Neighbourhood Plan
Your monthly update

Battle Neighbourhood Plan

After over five years of dedicated voluntary work, there is light at the end of the tunnel at last!!

The Steering Group, by the time this article appears in print, will have completed the largest part of the task in submitting the Neighbourhood Plan to Battle Town Council and Rother District Council. Many pages of complex documents, Appendices, Annexes and Schedules have been forensically digested and examined, for technical and legal correctness, including those annoying typos that creep in unwittingly.

Our professional Consultant, with whom we had an on-line meeting last week, is polishing off the documents for the formal presentation to Battle Town Council.

When adopted by them, as Battle Town Council will then be the "owners", It will be submitted to Rother District Council under what is termed "Regulation 15". From then on, as a Steering Group, we can take a step back, although we shall continue to monitor the progress of our "baby", and keep a watching brief.



Rother District Council will then carry out their own consultation under Regulation 16. This will be for a period of eight weeks, an increase of two weeks instead of the usual six weeks - blame the Covid-19 virus on this.

We can ALL comment during this consultation period, and I hope that residents will do so, in the knowledge that the Steering Group has worked diligently to make sure this Plan will bring benefits and protection to the Civil Parish for period of

the Plan, which is from 2020 to 2028.

After the Rother District Council consultation, an independent Planning Examiner will be appointed to examine it. Battle Town Council will have some say in whom this can be, as there are differences in suburban, town and country requirements. This is, after all, an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, as is a very large part of Rother District

The Neighbourhood Plan is a blueprint for the continuing vitality of Battle, Netherfield and Telham and we hope residents will appreciate the thought that has been put into its preparation.

On a lighter note, has anyone seen the new website? www.battleneighbourhoodplan.co.uk. It has been restructured to make it easier to follow, and include more photographs, to break up the text. And in that context, if any reader has specific photos which could be slotted in, could they contact the Group on enquiries@battleneighbourhoodplan.co.uk. Or through the facebook page, "Facebook.com/BattleNeighbourhoodPlan.co.uk". This will be much appreciated.