

Battle Neighbourhood Plan Press Release 4-4-17

Undertaking the task of presenting a Neighbourhood Plan to a representative arm of the Government, which sets in place how a Parish will function on many fronts over the next 25 to 30 years is a challenge that can deter even the most committed. It can take three years or more to complete as it covers a multitude of aspects which affect the lives of, not only the people that live there, but the people that visit for work or leisure.

Part of the process to achieve that goal requires that the community is kept informed of the steps being taken on their behalf at each of the major pathways enshrined in the legislation surrounding Neighbourhood Plans. The first of these milestones was the survey delivered to every household in 2016. The community, through this mechanism, voiced their opinion on their aspirations and long-term aims for shaping their community. Over the last two years a small band known as the “Steering Group” have been setting out to reflect the community's wishes.

The first exhibition, resulting from the survey undertaken by the Parish of Battle community in 2016, is scheduled for the end of April in the Battle Memorial Hall. In the interim, gathering hard information on matters such as the local economy, transport and traffic, community facilities and infrastructure, the environment and countryside as well as housing and development has been both time-consuming and constantly evolving. It has required volunteers to certify situations, draft documents and present the findings to other members of the Steering Group, prior to seeking approval from the community, in this, our first major presentation.

The latest meeting of the Steering group took place at The Almonry on 29 March 2017 when the final make-up of the Exhibition was determined. The results will be on view in the Memorial Hall, 81 High Street, Battle, TN33 0AQ on Thursday 27 April from 6.30pm – 9.30pm, Friday 28 April from 10.00am – 4.00pm and finally on Saturday 29 April from 9.00am – midday. There will be members of the Steering Group in attendance to answer any questions you may have on the process.

Prior to the meeting, details about a free bus service from Netherfield Village Shop and the Lay-by at the bottom Crowhurst Park Drive Telham on Friday 28 April to the Memorial Hall will be available on the Battle Council website www.battletowncouncil.org.uk under Neighbourhood Plan.

Maurice Holmes
Chairman
Battle Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group