

Planning Update

with Margaret Howell
Chair of the Group

Battle Neighbourhood Plan
Your monthly update

Battle Neighbourhood Plan

Last month I wrote about the regulation 14 submission and I emphasised how much coordination of documents, surveys, questionnaires, and other documentation had to be completed before this stage could proceed. We are still in the process of assimilating more information and re-addressing former information to comply with the latest advice from Rother District Council. In particular, this refers to areas that we had set aside as "Strategic Gaps". We are now advised that these are areas designated by Rother District Council, to afford protection of land to prevent urban sprawl along highways, in particular along the A2100 between Battle and Hastings.

However, we can protect the land in the Civil Parish of Battle by quantifying our own "Green Gaps". Maps of these are in the process of being added to our website www.battleneighbourhoodplan.co.uk. Further protection is by designating "Local Green Spaces": these will similarly be on the website soon.

I also mentioned that we were



conducting a survey of youth (aged 11-18) in the Parish. Forms were distributed to Claverham College, Battle and Langton School, Netherfield School and Battle Abbey School. The results are enlightening. At least 50% of those who completed the

survey expected to remain in their current town/village in ten years time, because they liked the surrounding area. If they moved away, it was to attend university or to be in employment elsewhere. A positive "like" was the natural surroundings,

good community feeling, youth groups, particularly cadets. Dislikes were a lack of a swimming pool, poor facilities at night and in wintertime. A major gripe is poor broadband, mobile phone connection and lack of public transport in Netherfield. Rail transport on the other hand was appreciated by reason of the many towns within reach.

Additionally, there were some wistful comments, such as: "Can Battle Station be moved nearer the town". Can new houses be pink? In regard to that comment, AECOM who assessed the sites also produced a design code, but there was no reference to pink houses!!!

Can I make a plea now? I know some of you wish to make comments or ask questions about the Neighbourhood Plan. Instead of contacting the Almonry, could you use our dedicated enquiries email? This is enquiries@battleneighbourhoodplan.co.uk. The Group has been immersed in the production of the plan for a number of years and have detailed knowledge. For comments, please use our facebook page "[facebook.com/battleneighbourhoodplan](https://www.facebook.com/battleneighbourhoodplan)"