

HASSOCKS PARISH COUNCIL

HASSOCKS 2034 – Neighbourhood Plan

WHAT FUTURE WOULD YOU LIKE FOR YOUR PARISH?

WHAT SORT OF VILLAGE SHOULD WE PLAN FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS?

Respond to this questionnaire by 31st July 2014 and help to plan the future of your village

The Neighbourhood Plan

The Parish Council is preparing a Neighbourhood Plan which will shape the future of the village to 2031 and beyond. It will give the local community a greater say in planning issues, letting local people decide the vision for their area through a Neighbourhood Plan which will be voted on in a local referendum. We need your help and input to produce a plan which reflects the views and aspirations of our village.

Controlling future development

The Neighbourhood Plan will allow the community to play a part in controlling the amount and location of new development. Prepared in consultation with and approved by the community, it will give us the chance to shape the future of our village, rather than having no say in development. That is why the Parish Council is seeking the views of a wide cross section of the community – residents, businesses, landowners, community groups and all other people with an interest.

Some change is inevitable

It is very important to remember that some change is inevitable. A Neighbourhood Plan must comply with local and national planning policies and these require Hassocks to accept some new housing and business development. Our task is to plan for this development so that it best serves the needs of the community.

A vision for Hassocks

The Parish Council sees Hassocks as a village and places great value on its rural character and setting. We suggest this as a vision for Hassocks over the next twenty years:

Proposed Vision
“To ensure Hassocks continues to develop sustainably as a vibrant village within a countryside setting. To provide access for the whole community to local social, cultural and environmental amenities and to ensure the village remains a desirable place to live, work and visit. It is recognised that changes will occur but those changes should protect and enhance the existing rural character of the village.”

Q1. Does the **Vision** capture your aspiration for the village? (please tick one)

Yes, the vision is about right

No, I suggest the following changes

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Proposed Objectives for the implementation of the vision

1. To preserve and enhance the rural character of the parish and its historic buildings, maintaining strategic gaps to neighbouring towns and villages and having regard to the proximity of the parish to the South Downs National Park and its biodiversity.
2. To provide the opportunity to access appropriate, affordable and sustainable housing, developed in sympathy with the village and its surroundings, built to very high standards of design, construction and energy and water efficiency.
3. To ensure all sections of the community have access to key local services including education, health, community services, sporting, cultural, performing and social clubs, groups and shops.
4. To reduce the impact of traffic in terms of congestion and parking through traffic management, accessibility of public transport and improvements in pedestrian safety; encouraging people to walk, cycle and ride in and around Hassocks.
5. To ensure the village is safe, accessible and attractive to all, acting as a gateway to the South Downs National Park and supporting healthy lifestyles and wellbeing.
6. To encourage economic development and job creation within the built-up area of the village and to develop the centre of the village to form a distinctive social hub.

Q2. Are the **Objectives** appropriate for the Neighbourhood Plan? (please tick one)

Yes, the objectives are about right

No, I suggest the following changes

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The next steps

In the next few months we will be asking questions and listening to ideas about the future, through public meetings, attendance at local events, and inviting everyone to let us have their views on a range of topics by letter, e-mail and questionnaires. At the moment we see these as the key topics for a Neighbourhood Plan:

Proposed Topics for the Neighbourhood Plan

- **Housing** - How much new housing do you think there should be? What type of housing? Who should it be for? Where should it be?
- **Economic development** - Should we encourage more shops and commercial development? If so, where should this be?
- **Tourism** - Should we encourage tourism and tourism-related development?
- **Younger people** - Should additional provision be made for younger people?
- **Older people** – How should we improve facilities for older people?
- **Village Environment** – What should be done to improve the look and feel of the village communities?
- **Amenities** - Should additional recreational provision be made for the general population? What would you like to see?

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Proposed Topics for the Neighbourhood Plan (continued)

- **Education** - What should be the strategic vision for local education? How should we make sure that there are sufficient places for our children in our schools?
- **Health** - Are the existing arrangements satisfactory?
- **Transport** - What should be done to make our transportation system better and our roads safer? Should measures be taken to control parking in the village? What should we do for pedestrians and cyclists?
- **Wildlife and Countryside** - How should we preserve and enhance our countryside and wildlife? How should we improve access?

Q3. Have we included the appropriate range of **topics**? (please tick one)

Yes, the topics cover the right areas

No, I suggest the following changes

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Housing

With population in Mid Sussex increasing and household size falling, the District Council has a duty to provide more housing. Hassocks will be expected to accept some new housing and preliminary estimates indicate that the number of new houses in the parish might need to be between 150 and 400 over the lifetime of the plan (the next twenty years).

Q4. How many new housing units do you believe the village should have between now and 2031? (please tick one)

150 to 200 201 to 250 251 to 300 (Note: it cannot be less than 150)

301 to 350 351 to 400 more than 400

Sites recently completed, under construction or that have planning permission include Clayton Mills (7 units), The Weald, Southbank (9), London Road (20), Stafford House (14), Stafford House North Field (16). In addition, there is agreement for development at the Station Goods Yard (60).

A number of other sites have been considered in the past.

Q5. Please indicate specific sites or general areas that you believe should be considered for future development.

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Q6. Are you a resident of Hassocks? (please tick one) Yes No

Q7. Are you involved in a business in Hassocks? (please tick one) Yes No

Q8. What is your postcode? (optional)

Q9. If you would like to receive future questionnaires by e-mail, please supply your e-mail address

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If you did not have sufficient space on the form to include all your comments, please attach an additional sheet.

If you would like further copies of this questionnaire, including large print versions, they are available from the Parish Centre at Adastra Park.

The information you provide will be treated confidentially in accordance with the Data Protection Act and only used by Hassocks Parish Council in connection with the Neighbourhood Plan.

Please return this questionnaire by 31st July 2014, or send your views to:

E-mail: hassockspc@btconnect.com

Letter: **Neighbourhood Plan Working Group**

Parish Centre

Adastra Park

Keymer Road

Hassocks

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