

Dear Ashurst Resident

## Horsham District Local Plan 2019 to 2036

Further to the Ashurst Parish Council section in the recent Ashurst St. James Parish Newsletter, we are writing to remind you that Horsham District Council (HDC) is currently working on its Local Plan for the next 18 years ie from 2019 to 2036. A draft plan in the form of a Consultation Document was issued in February. Comments on this document are invited and will be considered so long as they are submitted before **5pm on 30<sup>th</sup> March 2020**.

The online link to find the Plan is : [www.horsham.gov.uk/localplan](http://www.horsham.gov.uk/localplan) There HDC suggests that you register online and submit your comments using the official link. You can also complete a Comments Form, however, which you can e-mail to [strategic.planning@horsham.gov.uk](mailto:strategic.planning@horsham.gov.uk) Comments Forms are available on the Ashurst Parish Council website for you to download and print out at [www.ashurstparishcouncil.org](http://www.ashurstparishcouncil.org) (Please take note of highlighted sections.)

On our website you will also find a hopefully helpful and informative letter sent recently by HALC, the Horsham Association of Local Councils, an organisation to which we belong, to Councillor Ray Dawe, Leader of HDC and others including our local MP, Andrew Griffith. This letter asks HDC to strongly challenge Central Government on its increased 'required' housing numbers.

We will also upload any additional material that comes to our attention onto our Ashurst website, should we consider this to be relevant to this consultation.

Another site you may find helpful when reviewing the draft plan is the West Grinstead Parish Council website, [www.westgrinstead-pc.gov.uk](http://www.westgrinstead-pc.gov.uk) which provides a comprehensive background to the local concerns of West Grinstead and Partridge Green, Dial Post and Littleworth. Our neighbours' concerns are, by implication, also those of Ashurst.

### **We believe there are three main Comments that Ashurst residents should be making:**

#### i) Strategic Policy 2 Development Hierarchy

Ashurst should be removed from the list of 'Secondary Settlements' since nothing has changed to warrant removal from its current designation in the 2015 Local Plan as an Unclassified Settlement.

Ours is a settlement that has few facilities of its own and residents rely on Partridge Green, Steyning and further afield for their basic needs of food, pharmacy, healthcare etc. None of which are to be found in Ashurst.

Turning to Chapter 6 - Housing - there would seem to be two major issues concerning Ashurst:

#### ii) 6.4 Housing Need

We see no reason why HDC should exceed the 'objectively' assessed 'local housing need' of 965 homes per year and in any event would regard a target of this magnitude per annum from 2019 to 2036 as completely excessive and unsustainable. We consider HDC should (a) make representations to Central Government to that effect and (b) certainly not be contemplating absorbing any requirements of neighbouring councils such as Crawley and those on the South Coast.

#### iii) 6.29 Shortlisted Sites

We believe the Land at Buck Barn, West Grinstead (Weald Cross) and Land North East of Henfield (Mayfield) should be deleted from the Shortlisted Sites. Both sites appear to be in conflict with multiple Strategic Policies including but not limited to SP1 as unsustainable development, SP2 as these are not developments within an existing built-up boundary, SP3 as they do not represent the extension of an existing settlement, SP26(Air Quality), SP40 (Flooding) and SP42 (Sustainable Transport).

When making your comments it would also be a good idea to say how these proposed developments would impact directly on you ie traffic – school runs, trips to the shops, flooding at Bines Green, train services and station car parking etc.

So your personal viewpoint **counts** and every submission **counts**.

We trust the above information is helpful and will encourage you to submit your comments on this Draft Horsham District Council Plan. The future proposed local developments which will have a significant impact on Ashurst and its surrounding neighbours in years to come. Remember **30<sup>th</sup> March 2020 is the deadline** for your comments!

# SAY NO!

To 10,500 new homes, 21,000 extra cars\* AND increased flooding



SEE OVERLEAF

ASHURST NEEDS  
**YOU**

Go to [www.Horsham.gov.uk/planning/local-plan/have-your-say](http://www.Horsham.gov.uk/planning/local-plan/have-your-say) to register your opinion by 30<sup>th</sup> March. Remember, EVERY person counts.

\*Buck Barn & Mayfield

Dear Ashurst Resident

In addition to reminding you of the fast approaching deadline for submitting your comments on the Draft Horsham Local Plan, we wanted to advise you that along with everyone else, we are having to postpone our Annual General Meeting that was due to be held on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> April 2020. We are planning to reschedule this for later on in the year, when hopefully these current troubles are behind us.

We would also like to take this opportunity to set up a more direct form of communication with you, the residents of Ashurst. From time to time, as and when there are relevant items of information to share, we would like to be able to contact you and update you directly and on a timely basis by way of an e-mail. So if you would like to go onto our mailing list, please will you provide our Clerk, Liz Leggo, at [ashurstclerk@outlook.com](mailto:ashurstclerk@outlook.com) with your e-mail details. Just to confirm, we will only use your e-mail to provide you with information we consider you will find of interest to you as a resident of Ashurst. At the moment we have to rely on communicating through the Newsletter or our website.

A local resident, Anna Fisher, has kindly set up a Whats App group of people offering to help and support those who are housebound during these unprecedented times. If you would like to be included, as either a supporter or a receiver of support, please do contact Anna at [A1fish@me.com](mailto:A1fish@me.com) or on 07794 100950.

In addition, if you have any particular concerns relating to the current crisis which you feel the Council or we, as individual councillors, can help you with please do e-mail Liz Leggo at [ashurstclerk@outlook.com](mailto:ashurstclerk@outlook.com) or [cllrfishchel@outlook.com](mailto:cllrfishchel@outlook.com).

We hope that everyone keeps well and safe at this difficult time.

**Ashurst Parish Council**