



## Paddock Wood Neighbourhood Plan Update August 2019

In February 2014 the Borough Council approved Paddock Wood Town Council's request for the designation of a Neighbourhood Area covering the whole of Paddock Wood. This was the first step towards preparing a Neighbourhood Plan for Paddock Wood.

During 2014 a formal decision was made to proceed with a Neighbourhood Plan which the Town Council agreed to fund. At the start of 2015 a steering group consisting of residents and town councillors was established to oversee the process.

All the work towards the Neighbourhood Plan draft policies has been overseen by the Steering Group which meets monthly and whose meetings are open to the public.

The purpose of the Neighbourhood Plan was made clear in last month's edition but there appears to be some confusion on the part of some members of the public regarding what they see as an overlap between the respective roles of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group and the Town Council.

The Town Council will be responding to the consultation on the Borough's draft local plan and has budgeted to employ a Consultant to assist them in that process once the details have been released by the Borough Council. It will be the role of the Town Council and not the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group to comment specifically on the number of houses and their proposed locations. All other aspects of the draft document will be commented upon by both the Town Council and the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group.

To keep up to date with what is going on with all aspects of the Neighbourhood Plan you are welcome to join the Steering Group at their meetings which take place in the Wesley Centre on the third Wednesday of each month at 8pm. You can also follow the Paddock Wood Neighbourhood Plan Facebook page. Further information about the Neighbourhood Plan and its draft policies can also be found on the Town Council website.

**MERYL FLASHMAN**

Chairman of the Paddock Wood Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group