



Paddock Wood Neighbourhood Plan Update

Whilst little progress was made with the Neighbourhood Plan over the Christmas period things have now started to move forward again. The second draft of the Neighbourhood Plan has been received by the Steering Group from our Consultants Feria-Urbanism and the challenge now is to fill in the gaps that still remain in the Plan before it goes out to further consultation.

Although the draft is not yet finalised it has been sent to Tunbridge Wells Borough Council in order for them to screen the document to establish whether they need to do a **Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)**. This is part of the formal process of developing a Neighbourhood Plan. We do not believe the proposals and policies in the Paddock Wood Neighbourhood Plan are likely to have a significant effect on the environment in which case an SEA will not be necessary.

The four working groups are now checking through the draft Neighbourhood Plan in order to ensure that the key messages which came out of their consultations are correctly written into the document.

By the time you read this a meeting will also have been held with Tunbridge Wells Borough Council to discuss some of the ideas and details in the document, as it is important that we work with the Borough Council to iron out any potential conflicts with their emerging Local Plan.

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 8.00pm.

MERYL FLASHMAN

Chairman of the Paddock Wood Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group