



Paddock Wood Neighbourhood Plan Update January 2021

Thank you to all those people who completed our questionnaire on the proposed vision and focus areas of the draft Neighbourhood Plan. The results have now been analysed and it is clear that the focus areas identified for the Neighbourhood Plan are well supported and appropriate, addressing many of the concerns held by the public. Those that disagree do so on the grounds that these things haven't been done sooner or are dissatisfied with the prospect of any development at all – very rarely was a focus area deemed unimportant or not relevant for Paddock Wood. This reflects the extensive consultation efforts that were made during the early stages of work on the Neighbourhood Plan and feedback from this. Despite the pause in progress on the Plan, the survey responses ratify its focus and will provide a strong foundation for ongoing work on it.

Areas identified that weren't covered in the questionnaire included: Celebrating and protecting 19th century railway heritage; protecting existing businesses in Paddock Wood; addressing air and light pollution; providing activities for teenagers in the town; the need for a greater police presence; the need for electric car charging points; aspiration for a fruit and veg market; holding more civic activities and litter in public spaces.

Some of these ideas are included within the draft version of the Plan previously prepared and can be given emphasis as work on updating the plan takes place. This will also include updating and amending the vision to give greater emphasise to climate change matters.

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 its meetings. These are currently being held via Zoom on the third Wednesday of the month. Invitations can be obtained via the agenda accessed through our Facebook page or the Town Council website. The Steering Group is very much looking forward to be moving forward with the project again although it is aware of the challenge of doing so at a time of limited face to face gatherings.

You can also follow and contribute to the Paddock Wood Neighbourhood Plan Facebook page as well as our Twitter feed which can be found at <https://twitter.com/PwPlan>
Further information about the Neighbourhood Plan and its draft policies can also be found on the Town Council website <http://paddockwood-tc.gov.uk>

MERYL FLASHMAN

Chairman of the Paddock Wood Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group