



Paddock Wood Neighbourhood Plan Update

June 2021

AECOM, working on behalf of the Neighbourhood Plan, have now started work on some design codes for the area. This work started off with a meeting between the Steering Group and AECOM via a Google Streets walk down Commercial Road which was quite an interesting experience. Fortunately, as restrictions are now easing, as part of their ongoing work a site visit will be made to Paddock Wood. AECOM are unable as yet to do any work on the Town Centre master planning until more information has been released by David Locke Associates and TWBC.

What are design codes?

A design code provides detailed design guidance for a site or area; they prescribe design “rules” that new development within a specified site or area should follow.

They can include requirements for built form (eg setting out a range of building types and how buildings should interact with the street), landscape, open space, and movement (eg access and ease of pedestrian movement) etc

If we have design codes in our Neighbourhood Plan they will help to ensure consistency across large sites which may be in multiple ownership and/or where development is to be phased and more than one developer and design team is likely to be involved.

Design Codes can give more certainty to the community and also more certainty to developers.

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 still 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. **We will ensure you are kept up to date about whether meetings are via Zoom or face to face. Initial thoughts are that we may have a mixture of both.**

You can also follow and contribute to 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 <http://paddockwood-tc.gov.uk>

MERYL FLASHMAN

Chairman of the Paddock Wood Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group