

# The Chailey Neighbourhood Plan



This year a group of volunteers comprising members of the Chailey Parish Council and representatives from North and South Chailey have formed the Chailey Neighbourhood Plan Steering Committee. Our aim is to produce a Neighbourhood plan that can be taken into consideration in future development projects within the Parish.

## ***What is a Neighbourhood Plan?***

A Neighbourhood Plan is a published document, prepared by a community, which sets out a vision for a parish in its future development. Villages are constantly under pressure to grow, in order to cope with an increasing population, and this has already led to much development in villages across the country, and is a trend set to continue. The creation of a Neighbourhood Plan allows a community to have an active say over the future development of their parish that reflects local needs and opinion. The plan can influence the nature of future development within a settlement, such as the size, style and location of new properties. The policies set out within a Neighbourhood Plan are then taken into consideration by the Planning Authority when determining the outcome of any planning applications in the district.

## ***Why do we need a Neighbourhood Plan?***

In line with local government planning policies, Chailey, like other villages within Lewes District, has a housing allocation target, in our case a minimum of 40 new properties. These new properties will be built in the parish between now and the year 2030. The next 15 years will see the building of at least 30 houses in North Chailey and 10 houses in South Chailey. While we cannot reduce the number of houses that have been designated, the provision of a Neighbourhood Plan, can allow the parish some input in determining what form those houses could take. The Neighbourhood Plan may for example identify particular housing types in short supply, such as two bedroom properties for first time buyers or homes for the elderly, and state this need with appropriate evidence.

Recommendations for the size and style of properties can also be included within a Neighbourhood plan so that new properties are sympathetic to the character and nature of the existing settlement and meet the needs of its community.

Under the new Community Infrastructure Levy, developers are obliged to input a certain amount of money into community infrastructure. A Neighbourhood Plan can help

influence how this money is spent to meet the needs of the parish and the parish is given a greater percentage if a Neighbourhood Plan is in place.

### ***What will be included in the Chailey Neighbourhood Plan?***

We are still in the initial planning stages of the Neighbourhood Plan, but we seek to include elements important to Chailey and its residents. While the Steering Group are responsible for overseeing the formation of the Neighbourhood Plan, there will also be a series of 'Task Groups' that are responsible for developing specific areas of the Plan and will be made up of members of the Steering Group and people in the community.

The 'Task Groups' will aim to cover the following aspects...

- Environment and Housing
- Local Economy and Transport
- Community

### ***How can you be involved?***

The Chailey Neighbourhood Plan must reflect the needs of Village and therefore we welcome the views of the community. We intend to produce a household and business survey that will allow residents and businesses to express their views and opinions that will aid us in the formation of the plan. Members of the community are encouraged to get involved in the Task Groups, which cover particular aspects of Chailey's future that the Neighbourhood Plan seeks to address. Membership of a Task Group could involve carrying out research and surveys to determine particular needs within the Parish, communicating with groups and members of the community, or making comparisons with other Parishes to understand what elements can be applied to the Chailey Neighbourhood Plan.

### ***For more information...***

If you would like any further information on the Chailey Neighbourhood Plan or wish to express an interest in being involved in one of the Task Groups, please do not hesitate to contact us. Any help, advice or suggestions you can give us would be very much appreciated.

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