

A Vision for Chailey...

In December the Steering Committee launched a village wide survey in the Chailey News, to gather opinion on the sort of things residents felt were important to include within the plan. The surveys highlighted the importance of the rural setting and environment of Chailey, such as the Common and the local countryside. Many who responded accepted the need for more houses, providing they were of the right type, design and in the right places. There were equally negative factors identified, which included job opportunities, public transport services, a weak community spirit and the lack of a village hub. The full results of the survey can be viewed on the Chailey Community website www.chailey.org These findings have allowed us to produce a draft 'Vision Statement' outlining the aim of the plan...

"The Parish Council's Vision for the future of Chailey is that it will retain its quiet, rural character throughout the period up to 2030. Any future house building should be consistent with this and therefore comprise only small developments in keeping with their surroundings and close to supporting infrastructure. The built and natural heritage of the Parish will have been retained and protected. The most highly valued countryside areas in the Parish will have been recognised and conserved. Job opportunities within the village will be actively encouraged to provide improved prospects for local people. Throughout the period of the Plan, the sense of community spirit and cohesion will be fostered and increased."

Contact Us

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. Thank you to everyone who has already expressed an interest.

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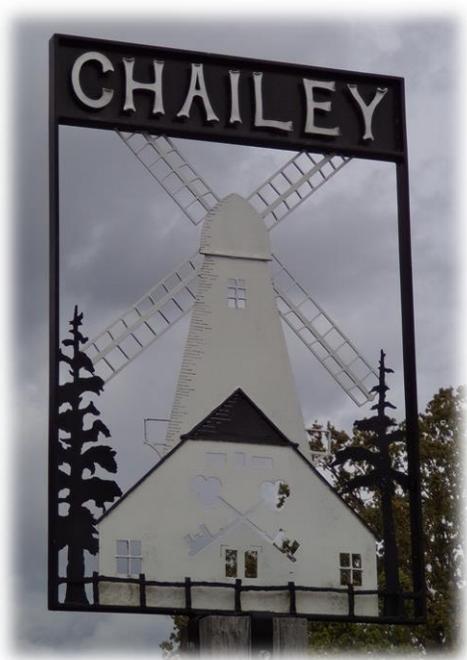
Or see the Chailey Community website

www.chailey.org

Shaping Chailey

The Chailey Neighbourhood Plan





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.

The next step in the Neighbourhood Plan?

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, throughout the process of producing it. We are looking for members of the community to get involved with the Task Groups, even if it is on an occasional basis. The Task Groups will help produce particular elements of the Neighbourhood Plan that the Parish has identified as important 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.