Hawkhurst Parish Council

Neighbourhood Plan

Consultation Statement

July 2016

Hawkhurst Parish Council

This report sets out the engagement process undertaken and the responses received to the pre-submission consultation draft of the neighbourhood plan

Feria Urbanism is a planning and design studio that specialises in urban design, urban planning, neighbourhood strategies, public participation and community engagement. Established in 2007, we have been involved in a diverse range of planning and design projects across the UK.

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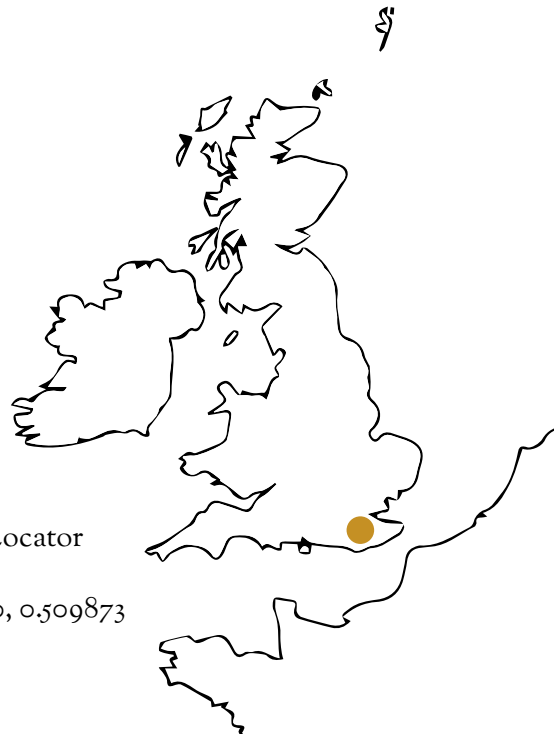


Project Locator

51.047470, 0.509873

Contents

The Engagement Process

This consultation statement provides a summary of the key consultation events that were organised as part of the plan-making process, together with a detailed record of the pre-submission consultation comments received.

Hawkhurst Parish Council is keen to ensure that the final neighbourhood plan reflects local opinions and local needs. To ensure that public engagement and consultation were effective, input from the community has been sought at every stage and this has been invaluable to the production of the neighbourhood plan.

An effective consultation process

As set out in Section 14 (a) of the 2012 Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations, consultation on the plan and plan-making process must be brought to the attention of the people who live or work in the village. In response to this aspect of the regulations, the neighbourhood plan process in Hawkhurst has been designed to encourage members of the community to shape discussions and form dialogues with fellow residents, with land owners and with other interest groups. The result has been that the different groups involved in the process have all been able to find shared outcomes.

Within the last 18 months, there have been a series of consultation and engagement events that have directly influenced the drafting of this plan. All consultation material relating to these events (e.g. slide shows, reports and posters) have been published online during the plan preparation. From the outset, Hawkhurst Parish Council has tried to ensure that a broad cross-section of the local community has been involved in the plan-making process. The consultation and engagement process has been open and transparent and interest groups such as land owners, local developers and representatives of local businesses have all been included in the process. All these groups are considered appropriate consultation bodies to include, as defined in the neighbourhood planning (General) Regulations Regulation Schedule 1.

The planning team at Tunbridge Wells Borough Council has provided a detailed response to the Regulation 14 pre-submission draft which helped Hawkhurst Parish Council revise the plan to get it ready for submission.

Neighbourhood plan origins

The Hawkhurst Neighbourhood Plan was initiated following a meeting held with representation from other local parishes on 5th April 2013. A neighbourhood plan committee was subsequently formed and decided to start the process with a re-examination of the villagers' responses to the periodic Village Appraisal Questionnaire results from 2012. The analysis of the responses had highlighted a number of issues of concern to parishioners. To validate the currency of the issues raised, a two day drop-in event was held on Friday 13th and Saturday 14th June 2014. The results of this event confirmed and expanded the key issues and provided a focus to move forward.

At this point in the process, it was decided that a professional support team was required and neighbourhood plan committee recommended the procurement of a suitably qualified practice. The subsequent parish council procurement resulted in the choice of Feria Urbanism, who was appointed in January 2015. The team from Feria Urbanism organised and ran consultation events from April 2015 onwards and these are set out in more detail in this consultation statement (pages 8 — 11).

This collaborative approach towards finding shared solutions to resolve issues in the village has had the support from the various interest groups. That parish council sincerely hopes that this support for the process to date will also translate into support for the submission plan at examination and at referendum.

Village Visioning Event

30th April 12015

This evening event asked the community several key questions about both the community and about the place. It helped understand more about the challenges and opportunities faced by different demographic groups and helped to define the main challenges facing the village. It also started to define what makes Hawkhurst unique, as knowing more about the specific strengths of the village has helped to inform plan policies that will enhance and protect these positive qualities.

This event also asked about how new development can learn from other places. Where are the best bits in the local area that can act as inspiration? And where are the recent mistakes that should be avoided? It asked direct questions about growth too. If the village is to grow, which direction will be best and why? How does this relate to how people move around and which are the preferred routes? What are the challenges associated with movement? Not just cars, but all modes of travel.

The responses to all these questions were summarised in a short report and this was used to inform the subsequent Three Day Design Forum in May 2015. The visioning event was attended by representatives of local interest groups and around 35 participants engaged in the different tasks on the evening itself.

Three Day Design Forum

26th, 27th & 28th May 2015

Working over three consecutive days, the community rapidly but thoroughly addressed a multitude of issues. The tasks undertaken during the three days provided a better understanding about the uses and activities within the parish (e.g. where people live and where they work, go to school etc.); access and movement (e.g. how people move around); the streets and spaces (e.g. what special qualities streets, lanes and open spaces have); and form and detail (e.g. the architecture and materials that are appropriate to the local context).

Participants worked in small groups, undertook site visits and also held larger group plenary sessions at the end of each day. The venue was kept open late into the evening each day so the community could view the work in progress and the final evening comprised a public meeting when all the work to date was explained. The final slideshow (200+ slides) was made publicly available as a download. A key output from the three days was the development of a series of policy themes and concepts that have been successfully used as a basis for future work stages later in the year.

The results of both the Three Day Design Forum and the Village Visioning Event were captured in the Neighbourhood Plan Interim Report (July 2015). This report was presented to an audience of around 100 local residents on 15th July 2015 and an online questionnaire was also publicised at this time, seeking comments on the work to date.

Questionnaire Results & Draft Policy Themes Poster Exhibition

17th & 18th September 2015

Following the publication of the Interim Report in July 2015, a series of questions were asked about the appropriateness of the emerging policy themes and the general strategy of the neighbourhood plan. The responses were generally positive and broadly endorsed the content of the plan at this stage.

This poster exhibition was designed to inform local residents of these generally positive responses made to the Interim Report via a questionnaire over the summer months.

The posters were also designed to be interactive, with white space left onto which attendees could write their own comments in response to the quotes taken from the questionnaire responses. The comments received during the exhibition further endorsed the way in which the plan was being developed and the main ingredients of the policy themes.

This gave the neighbourhood plan committee confidence to proceed to the next stage in the process, the drafting of more complete policy text, maps and diagrams. These were subject to further testing by the community at a further two-day drop-in event later in the year.

Draft Planning Policies Consultation Report Poster Exhibition & Presentation Event

4th & 5th November 2015

By this stage in the process, there was now draft set of policies, a vision statement and a set of plan objectives. The the views of the community were now sought to ensure that these were right and appropriate for Hawkhurst. A poster exhibition was arranged over two days to allow local residents and businesses to see the latest draft of the work and provide their comments and feedback on the work so far.

Large format print copies of the draft policies consultation report were made available in the venue across the two days, while extracts of key sections of the document were displayed as posters.

During the two days of the event, the Feria Urbanism team made a short slideshow presentation, on the hour every hour, explaining the process so far and setting out how the various draft policies in neighbourhood plan had been formulated. They also explained how the policies were designed to work together to protect and enhance the parish in line with the wishes expressed by local residents and local businesses.

This event was the final consultation event before the drafting of the pre-submission consultation version of the plan. This work began in earnest in the first part of 2016. The pre-submission consultation was held between 26th April and 8th June 2016.

Pre-Submission Consultation

This table sets out the responses received via questionnaire and the considered responses from the parish council

Which parts of the plan do you most like and why? [online survey — answers to Question 2]		
Ref.	**SUMMARY OF COMMENTS RECEIVED**	**RESPONSE FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL**
01	The support of suitable housing for the elderly.	HPC agrees; thank you for your supportive comment.
02	Preservation of the countryside - it's a beautiful area and we need to keep green spaces. Improvement of traffic movements, limiting HGVs in centre.	HPC agrees; thank you for your supportive comments. As shown in the plan (policy AM1) traffic movements will be improved.
03	Relocation of Doctors' Surgery to Cottage Hospital. Suggestion of a 'Community' car service for people who need to get to the new surgery - a 'green' light on the bus stop outside British legion - so villagers know of someone needs a lift to hospital. Plus same outside cottage hospital to return to village. Will help give a 'community' buzz and get people to meet as well as provide important transport. New roundabout junction.	GPs will make final determination of location. Comment on community car service noted. HPC agrees on roundabout comment – currently liaising with KCC to undertake a full technical study.
04	Proposals for junction are excellent and a key priority.	HPC agrees; thank you for your supportive comment. We are pleased to respond to the views of our villagers.
05	LP2 - It is an acknowledgement of the views and opinions held by many villagers who are interested in the neighbourhood plan.	HPC agrees; thank you for your supportive comment. We are pleased to respond to the views of our villagers.
06	Improving Highgate Hill junction & reducing speed on roads that lead to that junction; protecting important green spaces.	HPC agrees – currently liaising with KCC to undertake a full technical study.
07	Protection of the AONB Promotion of better design Protection of our heritage	HPC agrees; thank you for your supportive comment.
08	Overall well balanced and aspirational.	HPC agrees; thank you for your supportive comment.

Which parts of the plan do you most like and why? [online survey — answers to Question 2]		
Ref.	**SUMMARY OF COMMENTS RECEIVED**	**RESPONSE FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL**
09	none.....building more homes in the village would only increase traffic.. create flooding .....put more pressure on local services....need i say more	HPC feels that the views expressed here are unrealistic – majority view accepts that change is inevitable.
10	We very much welcome the idea of a civic centre/making more of a feature to the Royal Oak car park area. It will create a much better atmosphere when arriving in the village and encourage more footfall. We also think the idea of a new road layout at the main junction in the village is wise. It will help the flow of traffic which is not pleasant for anyone and will also stop us having a view of stationary cars waiting for the green light (we live down the Cranbrook Road). We are chuffed at the parish's commitment to housing and we firmly believe as residents we need to build in small numbers (when needed and within village status requirements), in well thought out locations and with architecture that's in keeping with the local area. We would also love to see more walkways and cycling areas made available. This will be great for us local Hawkhurst residents but also encourage visitors from afar who will no doubt spend money in the local shops/cafes.	HPC agrees; thank you for your supportive comments.
11	The proposed traffic scheme and the idea that footpaths and cycling could be enhanced throughout the village.	HPC agrees; thank you for your supportive comments.
12	The presentation develops and justifies the policies of the document	Thank you for your supportive comments.

Which parts of the plan do you most like and why? [online survey — answers to Question 2]		
Ref.	**SUMMARY OF COMMENTS RECEIVED**	**RESPONSE FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL**
13	The designated developments at existing settlements of Gills Green, Highgate, and The Moor. To avoid "urban sprawl".	Thank you for your supportive comments. No development sites have been designated in NDP sites.
14	The proposal to limit housing development to small sites built in characteristic style with the built environment. The importance attached to protecting landscape, the AONB and heritage buildings and locations. I particularly like the suggestion that development should be constrained to within the current building limits.	Thank you for your supportive comments.
15	Clear objectives and description of the plan and how it can affect the growth of the village.	Thank you for your supportive comment.
16	landscape context policies	Thank you for your supportive comments.
17	Principles are fine to maintain the nature of the village but....	Your comments are noted.
18	Radical suggestion for Highgate Hill junction. Improvements to pedestrian environment.	HPC agrees; thank you for your supportive comments.
19	The design guidance, it is important to ensure that future new buildings are in keeping with what is already there	Thank you for your supportive comments.
20	Parts HD1, LP1, LP2, LP3, and AM1 are fundamental to the future of the village	Thank you for your supportive comments.
21	The focus on preserving the rural character of Hawkhurst	Thank you for your supportive comments.
22	I do approve heartily of the idea of changing the crossroads to try to ease traffic congestion; I think the war memorial could be moved with advantage. And I'm pleased to see emphasis being given to improve pedestrian and cycle access around the village	Thank you for your supportive comments.
23	Historical context	Thank you for your supportive comments.

Which parts of the plan do you most like and why? [online survey — answers to Question 2]		
Ref.	**SUMMARY OF COMMENTS RECEIVED**	**RESPONSE FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL**
24	Hopefully eliminating the problems with the traffic at the crossroads. Widening the pavement on the western side of Cranbrook Road. Possibility of cycle routes in and around the village. Stopping large housing estates and keeping the village feel.	Thank you for your supportive comments.
25	Proposed new developments. Small and attached to main hubs.	HPC agrees; thank you for your supportive comments.
26	Keeping the village centre as a hub for the locals.	Thank you for your supportive comments.
27	I like the layout and clarity so that it is easy to understand. The photography is also excellent.	Thank you for your supportive comments.
28	I like the layout and clarity so that it is easy to understand. The photography is also excellent.	Thank you for your supportive comments.
29	Landscape Protection Policies - our landscape is irreplaceable and needs protection. This should help it to be preserved for the future. Community Infrastructure Policies - helping these issues to be addressed is a key factor in ensuring the continued success of Hawkhurst as a community.	Thank you for your supportive comments.
30	Design of new housing to incorporate more storage, off-street parking for at least two cars per house, minimum square footage stipulation, fitting in with local styles. Cycle/footpath development. Improvement of pavements especially at crossroads and better design of this junction if lorries have to continue to be accommodated. All Saints obvious place for community centre. Medical centres to combine at Community Hospital.	Thank you for your supportive comments.
31	The entire plan represents a great deal of thought and hard work.	Thank you for your supportive comments.

Which parts of the plan do you most like and why? [online survey — answers to Question 2]		
Ref.	**SUMMARY OF COMMENTS RECEIVED**	**RESPONSE FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL**
32	I think all the plan is well constructed and thought through.	Thank you for your supportive comments.
33	The mini roundabouts but one of the councillors told me the shops were against as access to the village will [be] hampered during the work. Surely the work would be carried out over night and there would be access during the day.	We are not aware of the shops being against the idea. Many have made supportive comments. Not strictly a 'mini roundabout', but road markings.
34	Improving Highgate Hill junction & reducing speed on roads that lead to that junction; protecting important green spaces	Thank you for your supportive comments.
35	Landscape content. The emphasis on carefully managed change.	Thank you for your supportive comments.
36	Roundabouts in centre of Hawkhurst	Thank you for your supportive comments.
37	CM3, will be better for access. CM2, better for all Hawkhurst residents. AM1, improvements to crossroads will be a benefit to all residents.	Thank you for your supportive comments.
38	Policy AM1 (Highgate Hill redesign concept) Policy AM2 (Pedestrian improvements) Policy AM3 (Countryside access) esp. North-South Green link! Policy AM4 (Walking and cycling) Policy CM2 (New community hall) All of housing development All of landscape policy, esp. introducing more green spaces to Highgate.	Thank you for your supportive comments.

Which parts of the plan do you most like and why? [online survey — answers to Question 2]		
Ref.	**SUMMARY OF COMMENTS RECEIVED**	**RESPONSE FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL**
39	Highgate Hill junction concept design (AM1). Because we need better access through the village and more movement. Safer route for pedestrians. AM2. Policy AM3.	Thank you for your supportive comments.
40	Highgate Hill junction concept design (AM1) because we need better access through the village, find more movement. Safer route for pedestrians. AM2. Policy AM3.	Thank you for your supportive comments.
— ENDS —		

Which parts of the plan could be improved and why? [online survey — answers to Question 3]		
Ref.	**SUMMARY OF COMMENTS RECEIVED**	**RESPONSE FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL**
01	Any suggestion of building on greenfield sites. There are brownfield areas that can be used.	Thank you for your comment; our current policy is to prioritise brownfield rather than greenfield sites.
02	No mention of where people can park in the village – this will become more of an issue when Waitrose move in. Fowlers – this is an obvious place to locate more spaces – introduce a limit on no. of hours you can park. This would prevent people using it to park their cars all the time – free up space for people using village facilities (not residents).	HPC is aware that car parking is a matter of concern for some residents of the parish. However, it was not a major issue raised through the consultation process for the NDP thus far. HPC will look into the issue and actively explore a range of practical solutions.
03	1) Car parking is a big issue. Additional parking in Fowlers and elsewhere will be required to ensure village viability. 2) Housing policy is too 'nimby' and restrictive. Better to trade houses for facilities.	Thank you for your comment; HPC is aware that car parking is a matter of concern for some residents of the parish. However, it was not a major issue raised through the consultation process for the NDP thus far. HPC will look into the issue and actively explore a range of practical solutions. Comments on (2) noted; the majority of consultees disagree.
04	I think the plan has been carefully and thoughtful [sic] drawn up. I also am wary that there could be element of give and take between HPC and TWBC; that give and take will be required, but this could unwittingly result in the development of areas for more housing within the village or in the area around it. e.g.., village by pass = 1,000 new homes.	The NDP prevents this from happening. Its purpose is to manage future development and to restrict 'give and take'.
05	Emphasis the restriction the congested cross roads has on new builds	KCC acknowledges that the traffic lights are over-capacity.
06	scrap- the lot....get your fingers from up your backsides ,put your heads together and make a plank	HPC takes note of the comment but feels that no reply is warranted.

Which parts of the plan could be improved and why? [online survey — answers to Question 3]		
Ref.	**SUMMARY OF COMMENTS RECEIVED**	**RESPONSE FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL**
07	The Copthall has been the subject of 'strategic neglect' and I believe it could still provide a very good facility. The CEP school is already in public ownership and it's [sic]facilities should be available for wider use.	The school, within its own constraints, does make facilities available. See also policy CM2.
08	It would be great to see more trees planted wherever possible but especially within the village centre. We are concerned that the Colonnade is looking rather shabby at present and looks like it needs a good lick of paint again. So from this perspective we are hoping there will be regular maintenance over the coming years – whether this be funded jointly or independently by the shop tenants, colonnade owner, parish or TWB council. It's a great asset to the village so protection for us is paramount.	Thank you for your constructive comments. HPC agrees about trees. The Colonnade is in private ownership but agree more could be done to keep it in better condition.

Which parts of the plan could be improved and why? [online survey — answers to Question 3]		
Ref.	**SUMMARY OF COMMENTS RECEIVED**	**RESPONSE FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL**
08 / cont.	We have also noticed the signage in and out of the village is in need to a spruce up, especially upon exit of the village towards to Tunbridge Wells (near the Marlborough [House] school). The paint has come completely off. Therefore we would like to see a regular maintenance schedule put in place within the programme. It's the little things like this that make a big difference. They are often the first and last impression of a place and therefore we should take them seriously. It will all help make the look and feel of Hawkhurst even better.	Signage is current being improved.
	We have strong concerns over the speed of vehicles coming up the Cranbrook Road in and out of the village. We fear too much emphasis is being put on speed near the Marlborough school area and not on the Cranbrook Road. We see young students in high volumes darting traffic to get to bus stops on the road. It's a 30 but unfortunately the current straight road design with no speed restriction (be that speed camera, bumps, police speed checks) enables much higher speeds to be driven. Having experienced our own brick pillar being knocked down by a car having coming off the road and arriving in our garden we believe its only a matter of time before there is a serious incident.	The Speedwatch team are active all over the village and are always looking for volunteers.

Which parts of the plan could be improved and why? [online survey — answers to Question 3]		
Ref.	**SUMMARY OF COMMENTS RECEIVED**	**RESPONSE FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL**
08 / cont.	Therefore for us as Hawkhurst residents we would like to see action taken to mitigate the danger of this road and to get people to start driving 30mph again. The other issue outside of speed is the types of vehicles which travel up it. We see artic lorries, coaches and double decker buses. Most of which get sandwiched and stuck, causing additional traffic and chaos. We would be interested to see what plans will be put in place to limit the types of vehicles allowed to roam through our Wealden village. Also it would be good to hear more about the proposed changes to the gold course and a road? Once again many thanks for all your work and we look forward to all the good things to come for Hawkhurst.	As shown in the plan (policy AM1) which addresses HGVs.
09	I don't know	Noted
10	The plan is excellent, no improvement necessary.	Thank you for your supportive comments.
11	The plan appears to be totally silent on the subject of vehicular parking. At present 'Budgen's' car park is used by visitors to the surgery, Colonnade shops, cinema etc. Once Waitrose becomes established the pressure in this particular location will be overwhelming to the detriment of all leading to the closure of shops in the Colonnade and negative footfall in the cinema.	It is arguable if motorised traffic will increase and both supermarkets have their own car parks. HPC is aware that car parking is a matter of concern for some residents of the parish. However, it was not a major issue raised through the consultation process for the NDP thus far. HPC will look into the issue and actively explore a range of practical solutions.
12	More detail of facilities for the increasing numbers of elderly residents, including health care.	Thank you for your supportive comments. Level of detail is deliberately constrained. GPs are taking action of the provision of a new medical centre (see Policy CM3)

Which parts of the plan could be improved and why? [online survey — answers to Question 3]		
Ref.	**SUMMARY OF COMMENTS RECEIVED**	**RESPONSE FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL**
13	Firstly, we are over the quota for housing, so why are more being identified as a primary need. The crossroads, as designed is dangerous, as there are some businesses (primarily from Grove Mills) on the Cranbrook Road that rely on the traffic lights (visible from the windows of Peter Buswell) for safe access out onto the Cranbrook Road.	Thank you for your comments; HPC considers that the housing need will always be present and that change is inevitable. Your comments on the cross roads are noted and will be included in future studies.
14	Concerned that we do not maintain all verges and green spaces and creating more could lead to areas of neglect.	HPC notes the comments but feels that no change to the policy is warranted.
15	Not sure about the ideas for the crossroads.	Your comments are noted.
16	AM2,3 and 4 could do with fleshing out with specific proposed locations of cycling and walking routes which would tie in with the improvement of the footpaths and bridleways suggested in AM3.	Your comments are noted. The policies AM2, AM3 and AM4 provide the context and support for site-specfic projects to come forward at a future date.
17	The part of the roundabout I briefly moved away to a small town that had similar roundabouts. It caused traffic gridlock at most times they have no gone to one roundabout with better effect.	HPC notes the comments but feels that no change to the policy is warranted. HGV routing is a matter for KCC, but HPC is already active in promoting any re-routing and your submitted views (see letter) will be included in the NDP.
18	1. The protected views should include areas north of Highgate towards Gills Green and vice versa. 2. The plan inadequately addresses the shortage of parking in the centre of the village and transport movement difficulties caused by roadside parking.	1. Thank you for your comments. 2. HPC is aware that car parking is a matter of concern for some residents of the parish. However, it was not a major issue raised through the consultation process for the NDP thus far. HPC will look into the issue and actively explore a range of practical solutions.

Which parts of the plan could be improved and why? [online survey — answers to Question 3]		
Ref.	**SUMMARY OF COMMENTS RECEIVED**	**RESPONSE FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL**
19	Perhaps I missed it, but is there anything about rerouting HGVs so that they do not come through Hawkhurst in the first place? Also, I'm not sure there was enough emphasis on development of brownfield sites, and protection of greenfield sites, so long the target of predatory developers.	HPC notes the comments but feels that no change to the policy is warranted. HGV routing is a matter for KCC, but HPC is already active in promoting any re-routing and your submitted views (see letter) will be included in the NDP.
20	Happy with all I have read.	Thank you for your supportive comments.
21	Traffic. HGVs would not negotiate concept plans at crossroads. Car parks only mentioned in passing. With new Waitrose this will become major issue.	Thank you for your comment. The 'roundabouts' at the crossroads are flat – HGVs would drive over them. It is arguable if motorised traffic will increase and both supermarkets have their own car parks. HPC is aware that car parking is a matter of concern for some residents of the parish. However, it was not a major issue raised through the consultation process for the NDP thus far. HPC will look into the issue and actively explore a range of practical solutions.
22	Cranbrook Road - what is going to happen here - I live on the road and yet again another accident - we need a speed camera urgently!!	Speedwatch is active in the village and increasing its activity. HPC has found funding for the group to have their own equipment.
23	It is difficult to think of any major improvements.	Thank you for your supportive comments.
24	None I could see	Thank you for your supportive comments.
25	CM2 - the whole idea of a village hall needs further justification.	The NDP consultation process has identified the need for a centrally sited village hall.
26	OFF STREET PARKING. CAR PARKING. This plan whilst admirable does not tackle this major problem for the town. LAND needs to be purchased halfway up the Cranbrook Road (on the left heading towards the lights) so that residents left and right of the road toward the lights can park OFF the road and thus reduce congestion.	HPC is aware that car parking is a matter of concern for some residents of the parish. However, it was not a major issue raised through the consultation process for the NDP thus far. HPC will look into the issue and actively explore a range of practical solutions.

Which parts of the plan could be improved and why? [online survey — answers to Question 3]		
Ref.	**SUMMARY OF COMMENTS RECEIVED**	**RESPONSE FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL**
27	Policy CM4 should include the pharmacy as one of the protected areas (?)	The Pharmacy is one of the Colonnade services and therefore included.
	No plan or policy is documented for the safety of pedestrians in another busy 'hub' - around Tesco / Fowlers Park / Car Park / School / All Saints / Bowles Lodge.	Pedestrian safety was not raised as a significant issue during the consultation period, but HPC is looking into it as a separate matter.
	Have previously requested inclusion of plan for zebra crossing but there may be more hope this will be followed through if this is part of the NDP.	Provision of a zebra crossing is being discussed with KCC.
	There is a section on community infrastructure but there is no plan to introduce a small community shop for residents outside the main Highgate Hill area - i.e. Gills Green & the Moor.	Small community shops have been shown not to be viable in the past.
	Would be great to find a setup which works for smaller residential areas and serves them without residents having to drive to the larger stores - this will free up traffic and car parking, pollution and serve the elderly better.	
	Nothing in the plan about monitoring pollution levels to see whether a redesign (and ease of congestion) could be highlighted to support continuation of strategies in the future.	Thank you for your constructive comments on pollution.

Which parts of the plan could be improved and why? [online survey — answers to Question 3]		
Ref.	**SUMMARY OF COMMENTS RECEIVED**	**RESPONSE FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL**
28	No community services for residents outside the village and Highgate Hill. Nothing within walking distance to buy provisions. i.e. you have to drive or get the bus to the village to get a loaf and a pint of milk.	Small community shops have been shown not to be viable in the past.
29	No community services for residents outside the village and Highgate Hill. Nothing within walking distance to buy provisions. i.e. you have to drive or get the bus to the village to get a loaf and a pint of milk.	Small community shops have been shown not to be viable in the past.
— ENDS —		

Have you any comments on the "Hawkhurst Today" section? [online survey — answers to Question 4]		
Ref.	**SUMMARY OF COMMENTS RECEIVED**	**RESPONSE FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL**
01	Good general overview	Thank you for your supportive comments.
02	No	Noted
03	No	Noted
04	No	Noted
05	The topic of car parks has been totally ignored. In the likely event that Waitrose is successful the pressure on parking will be overwhelming leading to negative effects on small local traders and additional competition. Supermarket users need vehicular provision and this subject cannot be further ignored.	It is arguable if motorised traffic will increase and both supermarkets have their own car parks. HPC is aware that car parking is a matter of concern for some residents of the parish. However, it was not a major issue raised through the consultation process for the NDP thus far. HPC will look into the issue and actively explore a range of practical solutions.
06	Very clear	Thank you for your supportive comments.
07	A clear description of Hawkhurst	Thank you for your supportive comments.
08	Good description	Thank you for your supportive comments.
09	No	Noted
10	Very good	Thank you for your supportive comments.
11	Very good	Thank you for your supportive comments.
12	Support	Thank you for your supportive comments.
13	bollocks	HPC takes note of the comment but feels that no reply is warranted.
14	No	Noted
15	No	Noted
16	No	Noted
17	No	Noted
18	No	Noted
19	-	Noted

Have you any comments on the "Hawkhurst Today" section? [online survey — answers to Question 4]		
Ref.	**SUMMARY OF COMMENTS RECEIVED**	**RESPONSE FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL**
20	Yes. There is too much emphasis on protecting the Moor at the expense of the rest of the village. That is not to say the Moor should not be protected, the whole village needs to be protected from excessive development. The village needs to acquire All Saints Church and use it for community purposes. Perhaps the Parish Council could relocate there to be more accessible than it currently is on the Moor. No further business development at Gills Green should be permitted. It is already noisy for residents.	HPC takes note of the comment but feels that no change is warranted. The NDP is required to align itself with the current Local Plan that identifies Gills Green as an employment area. Negotiations to acquire All Saints' Church are continuing.
21	No	Noted
22	1) A very good summary. 2) I approve of the comment that "more recent additions of larger groups of properties are not considered to blend effectively with the existing built area".	Thank you for your supportive comments.
23	No	Noted
24	No	Noted
25	Mo [sic]	Noted
26	Re the comment of 'More recent additions of larger groups of properties are not considered to blend effectively with the existing built area' (Page 10), I do think that Norris Close is a good example of a larger development that is in keeping with the village. .	HPC agrees; thank you for your comments. HPC will add a photo of Norris Close to the NDP.
27	Re the comment of 'More recent additions of larger groups of properties are not considered to blend effectively with the existing built area' (Page 10), I do think that Norris Close is a good example of a larger development that is in keeping with the village. .	HPC agrees; thank you for your comments. HPC will add a photo of Norris Close to the NDP.
28	An excellent summary of the village.	Thank you for your supportive comments.

Have you any comments on the "Hawkhurst Today" section? [online survey — answers to Question 4]		
Ref.	**SUMMARY OF COMMENTS RECEIVED**	**RESPONSE FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL**
29	Apparently, St Laurence's church has parts dating back to 1340s, not as stated.	The document does refer to the fourteenth century.
30	None	Noted.
31	Hawkhurst actually has 6 pubs plus cafes and takeaways.	Thank you for your comments, but the plan at this point was referring to the Highgate area.
32	None, all most sensible - but what can be done about All Saints Church - demolish it, develop it - do something urgently.	Negotiations to acquire All Saints' Church are continuing.
— ENDS —		

Have you any comments on "Landscape Context" section? [online survey — answers to Question 5]		
Ref.	**SUMMARY OF COMMENTS RECEIVED**	**RESPONSE FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL**
01	I've been pleased with the maintenance of footpaths - very important so people can appreciate the beauty of the area.	Thank you for your supportive comments.
02	Discretion needed in decisions regarding countryside. Agriculture is essentially a rural food factory, forestry involves dangerous and heavy works. Before encouraging increased access (invariably accompanied by increased trespass) a process of education is needed. Land and woodlands are not open access. To enable people to work in rural businesses there will also be a requirement for rural homes to be built, albeit in much smaller numbers than in the Village.	Thank you for your comments. HPC takes note of the comment but feels that no change to policy is warranted.
03	crap	HPC takes note of the comment but feels that no reply is warranted.
04	Good detail	Thank you for your supportive comment.
05	No	Noted
06	No	Noted
07	No	Noted
08	I feel there is little one can add to this section. It is very important the AONB is protected. The recent approval of the large development in Highgate Hill is very regrettable.	Thank you for your supportive comments.
09	Very good	Thank you for your supportive comment.
10	AONB clearly described, helpful maps. Development concerns could be more in depth.	Thank you for your supportive comment.
11	Excellent, especially historic character.	Thank you for your supportive comment.
12	No	Noted
13	No	Noted
14	No	Noted

Have you any comments on "Landscape Context" section? [online survey — answers to Question 5]		
Ref.	**SUMMARY OF COMMENTS RECEIVED**	**RESPONSE FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL**
15	No	Noted
16	No	Noted
17	-	Noted
18	The selling off of agricultural land for development around the village must be stopped. We need to encourage the agricultural landscape to be profitable and viable for local farmers. Woodlands must be protected at all costs and footpath usage encouraged. Again Gills Green always loses out to the Moor and should be given some protection to stop it becoming an industrial eyesore in a rural village. The owner of the industrial area is prominent in the village and his voice must not be heard above those of the residents. We need to stop urban sprawl to protect the 'outlying settlements' from becoming engulfed and to stop the village becoming a town. A better option for the traffic lights in the village needs to be obtained. We need to press for a bypass. For those not resident in Highgate and the Moor, the sports facilities are just not easily accessible. There needs to be more emphasis on this in the centre of the village or, if necessary, spread around the village to promote more integrated use.	HPC agrees with your comments about agricultural land and woodland protection. The NDP is required to align itself with the current Local Plan that identifies Gills Green as an employment area. A bypass is likely to require significant amounts of extra housing. The existing sports facilities at Heartenoak are accessible to residents of Gills Green.
19	No	Noted
20	Its content and layout were very clear, and rightly emphasised the need to understand key points such as landscape features and topography.	Thank you for your supportive comment.
21	No	Noted

Have you any comments on "Landscape Context" section? [online survey — answers to Question 5]		
Ref.	**SUMMARY OF COMMENTS RECEIVED**	**RESPONSE FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL**
22	No	Noted
23	No	Noted
24	The bottom left photo on page 21 refers to 'the green space protection policy'. I suggest adding something like 'See LP3 on page 39' as at that stage while reading the NDP I had not come across this.	Page 21 will be clarified.
25	The bottom left photo on page 21 refers to 'the green space protection policy'. I suggest adding something like 'See LP3 on page 39' as at that stage while reading the NDP I had not come across this.	Page 21 will be clarified.
26	A useful and informative description of the village and it's environment.	Thank you for your supportive comment.
27	A good and balanced overview.	Thank you for your supportive comment.
28	None	Noted
29	No comments other than I found the maps very interesting	Thank you for your supportive comment.
30	Agree modern styles need caution. Good that footpaths should be enhanced - they are underused by the walking bus going to school. Protection of long distance views very important. Cottage Hospital site too far out for surgery - most patients currently walk to Talbot Road and Colonnade.	Thank you for your supportive comments; regarding Cottage Hospital, the majority of surgery patients live outside the village and the location of the new medical centre is in the hands of the GPs.
31	None	Noted
— ENDS —		

Have you any comments on "Vision & Objectives" section? [online survey — answers to Question 6]		
Ref.	**SUMMARY OF COMMENTS RECEIVED**	**RESPONSE FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL**
01	The 8 objectives are written as 'processes' rather than targets. They are broad and generic in tone.	Thank you for your comment.
02	I agree that Hawkhurst has developed gradually and I don't think any of us want much change, certainly not big changes.	Thank you for your comment.
03	Overuse of generic policy jargon	Thank you for your comment.
04	complete and utter drivel	HPC takes note of the comment but feels that no reply is warranted.
05	No	Noted
06	No	Noted
07	Section 4 ignores the fact that motorised travel is likely to increase with the opening of a second successful supermarket which will attract a new client base who probably currently shop elsewhere. Hawkhurst will be 'overserved' by successful supermarkets bringing additional vehicles to the village. It is surely wishful thinking to believe otherwise and wrong to ignore this subject.	Thank you for your comment. It is arguable if motorised traffic will increase and both supermarkets have their own car parks. HPC is aware that car parking is a matter of concern for some residents of the parish. However, it was not a major issue raised through the consultation process for the NDP thus far. HPC will look into the issue and actively explore a range of practical solutions.
08	Protect Hawkhurst and support NDP	Thank you for your supportive comment.
09	Clear outline, control on future new housing numbers should be stressed. Also design and alterations on housing extensions or rebuilds should be carefully monitored as to avoid ugly buildings when planning approval is applied for.	Thank you for your supportive comment. These matters are covered within the NDP.
10	Vision statement is good	Thank you for your supportive comment.
11	No	Noted
12	No	Noted
13	well presented	Thank you for your supportive comment.
14	No	Noted

Have you any comments on "Vision & Objectives" section? [online survey — answers to Question 6]		
Ref.	**SUMMARY OF COMMENTS RECEIVED**	**RESPONSE FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL**
15	No	Noted
16	Sounds very good in theory. Can it be put into practice though. The village character must be maintained and not overdeveloped just to meet 'planning policies' from the government or borough. It is time the local people were listened to.	Thank you for your supportive comments; the whole point of the NDP is to put planning policy into the hands of the local community.
17	Very clear - easy to find the references to the bits of the plan with which one is most concerned	Thank you for your supportive comment.
18	No	Noted
19	Are points 1-8 in order of importance? If not, please could we make that clear. If they are set out in order of importance, I would like point 5 to be given higher priority.	The points do not reflect any order of importance.
20	No	Noted
21	No	Noted
22	A new sports/community centre is much needed as is new doctors surgery.	Thank you for your supportive comment.
23	All good objectives.	Thank you for your supportive comment.
24	A good and balanced overview.	Thank you for your supportive comment.
25	None	Noted
26	Seems very sound	Thank you for your supportive comment.
27	Very good!	Thank you for your supportive comment.
— ENDS —		

Have you any comments on "Planning Policy Structure" section? [online survey — answers to Question 7]		
Ref.	**SUMMARY OF COMMENTS RECEIVED**	**RESPONSE FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL**
01	Nothing on employment? Otherwise a clear overview. Plan monitoring may not be best positioned in this section.	Thank you for your comments.
02	you really want to know?	HPC takes note of the comment but feels that no reply is warranted.
03	No	Noted
04	No	Noted
05	I see this as a good baseline for the village's evolution going forward.	Thank you for your supportive comment.
06	Strong policies. Consideration to style and design of extension builds to current homes should be sensitive and blend with the housing style, avoid a mix of modern and traditional	Thank you for your supportive comment.
07	More opportunities for small businesses	Your comments are noted
08	Why are you opening the dialogue for more housing, sites and developers when the housing quota is fulfilled?	Thank you for your comments; HPC considers that the housing need will always be present and that change is inevitable, but better controlled than imposed.
09	I don't know where policing and emergency services provision should feature. Ambulance arrival times / police coverage?	This was not raised as a significant issue during the consultation process. Furthermore, such issues are not matters that are addressed directly by the planning system.
10	No	Noted
11	No	Noted
12	-	Noted
13	To emphasise the need for small properties is not altogether viable in this area which is family oriented. If small properties are to be provided they must have sufficient garden and parking space and not be built on greenfield sites.	HPC takes note of the comment but feels that no change to policy is warranted.
14	No	Noted

Have you any comments on "Planning Policy Structure" section? [online survey — answers to Question 7]		
Ref.	**SUMMARY OF COMMENTS RECEIVED**	**RESPONSE FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL**
15	No	Noted
16	No	Noted
17	Like it	Thank you for your supportive comment.
18	No	Noted
19	An acknowledgement of the place of the arts in Hawkhurst might have been useful, but this is perhaps covered by CM2.	The new community hall is intended to provide multiple facilities including those for the arts.
20	None	Noted
21	Not sure if I am putting this in the right section but: If we have a referendum how do the council intend to get the village motivated. I understand that there are over 4,500 residents but very few have shown interest in the exhibitions and meetings.	Various publicity avenues have been explored and all of them will be used. A good proportion of residents have been involved in the NDP process.
22	Nothing on employment? Otherwise a clear overview. Plan monitoring may not be best positioned in this section.	See policy CM 4.
23	No	Noted
24	Very good.	Thank you for your supportive comment.
— ENDS —		

What are your views on Policy HD1 Site Selection Criteria? [online survey — answers to Question 8]		
Ref.	**SUMMARY OF COMMENTS RECEIVED**	**RESPONSE FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL**
01	I am not keen on building on greenfield and also think 10 dwellings is quite allot considering the type of land.	HPC notes the comments but feels that no change to the policy is warranted as potential site sizes are considerably smaller than previously.
02	Are these site selection criteria any different from those of previous planning regimes? Again, a generic tone rather than tight constraints. Personally I am not sympathetic to 'infill'. Rural character should encourage space within the built environment, and promote wildlife and a 'peaceful' & secluded atmosphere.	HPC notes the comments but feels that no change to the policy is warranted as potential site sizes are considerably smaller than previously.
03	Too restrictive. Our expanding population has to live somewhere! Development brings benefit of S106 - The village can benefit from the 'cash' that brings - perhaps payment for the new roundabout junction?!	S.106 does not come to the Parish. The restrictions have been developed by the NDP consultees.
04	Housing provision too restrictive	The restrictions have been developed by the NDP consultees
05	Using brownfield sites where possible is clearly preferable to developing our surrounding countryside which in part give [sic] the village its special character; +/- 10 dwellings seems to me to be the right number in any development.	Thank you for your supportive comments.
06	However, there is the likelihood (which I do NOT support) of a small development being the precursor to a large development which is adjacent	The NDP does not accept large developments.
07	I strongly agree with this policy as it will support maintenance of the village scale in the future.	Thank you for your supportive comments.
08	Stop large housing development	The NDP does not support large development.
09	Small scale is appropriate	Thank you for your supportive comment.

What are your views on Policy HD1 Site Selection Criteria? [online survey — answers to Question 8]		
Ref.	**SUMMARY OF COMMENTS RECEIVED**	**RESPONSE FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL**
10	See previous comments about further development sites for housing without the infrastructure.	Noted
11	Absolutely endorse the preference for brownfield sites over greenfield, and the emphasis on small-scale developments, 10 houses or fewer	Thank you for your supportive comments.
12	NO greenfield development. It seems as if the big developers just see the village as an open invitation to develop big housing sites. We have had enough and they need to go somewhere else and stop developing on greenfield sites like Circus Field. This decision was appalling and should never have been able to go through. One would suspect that money has changed hands at a high level to facilitate this decision.	HPC notes the comments but feels that no change to the policy is warranted.
13	It should be borne in mind that with the elimination of shops on the Moor and the only remaining shops now being located at Highgate, the criterion no.2 will be difficult to meet, in that there are few potential sites now left within walking distance of the shops.	Noted
14	In point 3 on p. 29, could we - add the following to point 3 on p. 29, after "Any greenfield housing sites should", add "be developed only in exceptional circumstances, and should" - amend "approx." to "no more than"	HPC notes the comments but feels that no change to the policy is warranted.
15	Fully agree with prioritising brownfield development and limiting the size of any one development to reduce sudden impact on local services and infrastructure.	Thank you for your supportive comments.
16	I agree to small housing developments, my main concern is the ongoing development plans of 60+ houses on Highgate Hill which is still going ahead despite being turned down more than once.	Thank you for your supportive comments. HPC agrees but the appeal decision cannot be overridden.

What are your views on Policy HD1 Site Selection Criteria? [online survey — answers to Question 8]		
Ref.	**SUMMARY OF COMMENTS RECEIVED**	**RESPONSE FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL**
17	However, there is the likelihood (which I do NOT support) of a small development being the precursor to a large development which is adjacent	The NDP does not support large development.
— ENDS —		

What are your views on Policy HD2 Future Housing Mix? [online survey — answers to Question 9]		
Ref.	**SUMMARY OF COMMENTS RECEIVED**	**RESPONSE FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL**
01	I don't believe there is a shortage of housing.	HPC feels that this responds to the current need given planning approvals in process but not yet built. The policy is reviewed annually.
02	Mix is too binary. A balance [sic] community needs a mix of new housing and 0% for >3 beds is impractical.	HPC feels that this responds to the current need given planning approvals in process but not yet built. The policy is reviewed annually.
03	I support the policy on future housing mix. It will maintain the character of the village and provide for those who are first-time buyers or 'downsizers'. HPC working alongside TWBC to identify rural exception sites is tapping into local knowledge and to be encouraged, as long as TWBC will listen.	Thank you for your comments.
04	See earlier comments about requirement for affordable housing	Your comments have been noted.
05	1 bed unites sounds like flats which does not sound visually appealing.	HPC notes the comments but feels that no change to the policy is warranted.
06	Please see above	Your comments have been noted.
07	Older 4 bed houses with larger gardens are too expensive although 'well catered for'. Perhaps some room for manoeuvre on this point.	'Well catered for' already includes developments that have received planning permission, but not yet built.
08	No more eye sores like old toilet site (Should have kept toilets. No where [sic] to go till cinema opens Lorry Drivers & Bus Drivers no where [sic] to go only nearest hedge.	Your comments have been noted.
09	i agree the need for smaller properties.	HPC agrees. Thank you for your supportive comments.
10	-	Noted

What are your views on Policy HD2 Future Housing Mix? [online survey — answers to Question 9]		
Ref.	**SUMMARY OF COMMENTS RECEIVED**	**RESPONSE FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL**
11	But houses must be given sufficient space around them and not built on top of each other just to give developers bigger profits. The development at Gills Green (former garage) is ridiculously overdeveloped. People need space to breathe and to live. Too high a density causes difficulties between neighbours because of noise and general social problems because of lack of privacy.	HPC notes the comments but feels that no change to the policy is warranted.
12	Although they are popular for certain types of social housing, the use of blocks of flats, even if only two stories should only be constructed as a last resort.	HPC notes the comments but feels that no change to the policy is warranted.
13	We need more affordable housing	HPC agrees – covered in policy HD2
14	The last sentence of this section includes the phrase 'rural exception sites'. What does this mean? Perhaps an explanation would be helpful.	Rural exception sites are where an exception is made to normal planning policy to allow affordable homes to be built to help meet local housing need. (Source: Royal Institute of British Architects, RIBA)
15	Too many one-bed houses, Even people who live on their own need space to pursue hobbies and also to have family to stay. Also, an aging population will need the services of a live-in carer, and one bed properties preclude this. This policy is short sighted and benefits developers who can squash more of these properties into a given space, thus maximising their profits.	An explanation of the percentages is being added. Room sizes are an important factor.
16	New homes should be ring fenced for 1st time buyers/downsizers NOT for people to buy to tent. [sic]	Noted
17	Far too little housing available for youngsters who wish to live and work in the village.	HPC agrees.
— ENDS —		

What are your views on Policy HD3 Modern Living? [online survey — answers to Question 10]		
Ref.	**SUMMARY OF COMMENTS RECEIVED**	**RESPONSE FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL**
01	I especially support the provision of bungalows	Thank you for your comment.
02	See above. [I don't believe there is a shortage of housing.]	HPC notes the comments but feels that no change to the policy is warranted.
03	fantastic to encourage home working	Thank you for your comments.
04	Subject to (9) above [Mix is too binary. A balance [sic] community needs a mix of new housing and 0% for >3 beds is impractical.]	HPC notes the comments but feels that no change to the policy is warranted.
05	I would be interested to know what the Parker-Morris space standards actually were in terms of m^2, as compared to the current standards, as within the RIBA guidelines. New houses seem to be 'pretty boxes' and somewhat small. I agree consideration should be given to an aging population and those with mobility issues.	Thank you for your comments. We agree that many houses being built today are not particularly generous in terms of internal space standards and we hope that the neighbourhood plan will help address this.
06	The most recent approved developer planning applications for Hawkhurst all have inadequate living space leaving no room for storage this must be addressed with all future applications as per the above policy.	Thank you for your comments.
07	Avoid road side parking	Thank you for your comment. See Policy HD4
08	I love the idea of more bungalows!	Thank you for your comment.
09	-	Noted

What are your views on Policy HD3 Modern Living? [online survey — answers to Question 10]		
Ref.	**SUMMARY OF COMMENTS RECEIVED**	**RESPONSE FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL**
10	Minimum sizes are far too small. A double garage is approx 40m sq. This is nowhere near enough for realistic living! Give people enough room to live and maybe they will not cause disturbance to neighbours, litter etc. and will respect their environment. These sizes must be increased to allow sensible living spaces. Bungalows should be encouraged.	RIBA guidance is larger than most developers' proposals.
11	Like it or not, road traffic is here to stay so there must be adequate provision for a reasonable number of cars per household, facing up to the fact that younger people will be driving separately from the parents - i.e. the decline of the family car once children reach 18 years - whereas a lot of the retired and elderly will give up their cars sooner, provided they are within easy reach of the facilities and are not isolated. Bear in mind too that with the increasing numbers of people working from home the provision of efficient broadband is essential, and housing must be designed in such a way as to take advantage of this and other upcoming technologies.	HPC notes the comments but feels that no change to the policy is warranted.
12	Vital also to ensure that adequate car parking is allocated on all new developments.	Noted. There are regulations for the numbers of parking spaces per dwelling depending on size.
13	It is hard for the ordinary person to know what these square metre dimensions mean in reality, You need to provide something for comparison to make this more meaningful.	HPC notes the comments but feels that no change to the policy is warranted. Please also note RIBA guidance.

What are your views on Policy HD3 Modern Living? [online survey — answers to Question 10]		
Ref.	**SUMMARY OF COMMENTS RECEIVED**	**RESPONSE FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL**
14	Floor area on 1/2 bedroom properties should still be of a reasonable size. People downsizing should be able to keep the furniture they have, not have to go out and buy all new smaller. Smaller gardens may be acceptable but rooms should still be a decent size.	HPC agrees and encourages self-finishing to allow variation of internal arrangement.
15	But not too many bungalows - wasteful of space.	Your comment is noted.
16	Purple main text should be 2 points, not 3. (Point 2 is a subsection of 1) Energy sustainability should be highlighted and imposed [underlined] on new development.	Thank you for your comment; energy sustainability is part of the TWBC Local Plan.
— ENDS —		

What are your views on Policy HD4 Design Quality? [online survey — answers to Question 11]		
Ref.	**SUMMARY OF COMMENTS RECEIVED**	**RESPONSE FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL**
01	We are always going to have local opposition to some designs. Some modern designs may sit happily if alongside other modern buildings, e.g. the new house alongside the fire station.	Thank you for your comments.
02	I'm pleased to see that modern or contemporary architecture could be considered & encouraged (when it is appropriate).	Thank you for your supportive comment.
03	Traditional architectural style is preferable but I don't believe new buildings are needed.	Thank you for your comments on architectural style; HPC feels change is inevitable.
04	Special attention should be given to design detail and front and back enclosed porches should be encouraged to reduce heat loss and create extra storage space.	HPC notes the comments but feels that no change to the policy is warranted.
05	Design quality objectives here all admirable, but I think build quality also needs to be high so they don't deteriorate and look tatty quickly.	Noted. Words have been added to the design guide section of the plan to cover issues around build quality and maintenance.
06	I am in strong agreement with this policy. Modern styles should be cautiously integrated giving recognition to the surrounding area. Further proposals like the ghastly edifice (top right) page 19 should be strongly resisted.	Thank you for your supportive comments
07	Traditional design can also offer modern facilities within the building.	Thank you for your comment.
08	Traditional design should be enforced	HPC notes the comments but feels that no change to the policy is warranted.
09	Please see above	HPC notes earlier comments.
10	-	Noted

What are your views on Policy HD4 Design Quality? [online survey — answers to Question 11]		
Ref.	**SUMMARY OF COMMENTS RECEIVED**	**RESPONSE FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL**
11	Some of the current developments are hideous. Any new development should be kept to an absolute minimum and must be in keeping with the character of the village both in terms of aesthetics and proportion (size and layout). The new houses next to Tesco, e.g. are ugly in the extreme and in yellow brick which does not fit with the village in any way. This should not have been allowed and no further such eyesores should be permitted.	Thank you for your supportive comments. Design criteria are an important part of the NDP and the use of local materials is encouraged.
12	As much emphasis as possible should be placed on the preservation of hedgerows and wooded areas. There should be severe penalties for those who ignore such guidelines. Where new trees and shrubs are introduced as part of developments, they should be native species and not foreign breeds such as leylandii.	Thank you for your comment.
13	Although I basically support the idea of new houses having all the 'bells and whistles' of modern technology the properties must not then become unaffordable to the first time buyer.	Thank you for your comment. HPC encourages self-finishing in order to attract first-time buyers.
14	We need new buildings to blend in appropriately	Thank you for your supportive comment.
15	Hawkhurst has a great variety of buildings from different decades/ centuries. I entirely agree with including some modern designs as well as more traditional buildings.	Thank you for your supportive comments.
16	Providing a template for 'layout, character and style' is always going to be difficult. The plan achieves a reasonable balance without being too prescriptive.	Thank you for your supportive comments.

What are your views on Policy HD4 Design Quality? [online survey — answers to Question 11]		
Ref.	**SUMMARY OF COMMENTS RECEIVED**	**RESPONSE FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL**
17	Personally I think parking should be next to the individual property not in a general parking area. Both young families and the elderly need easy access to their cars both for loading and unloading.	HPC notes the comments but feels that no change to the policy is warranted.
18	Variety is the spice of life.	Noted
— ENDS —		

What are your views on Policy LP1 Views Between Village & Countryside? [online survey — answers to Question 12]		
Ref.	**SUMMARY OF COMMENTS RECEIVED**	**RESPONSE FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL**
01	I wish to add a further protected area: the ancient woodland in Whites Lane which lies immediately beyond Whites Farm on the corner on the opposite side of the road. View from school field towards Whites Lane.	Thank you for your comments. The policy on views is being revised and your contribution will be considered as part of this.
02	2 very important views have been missed out:- 1 From back of primary school looking north 2 Rye Road junction to Water Lane looking north west.	Thank you for your comments. The policy on views is being revised and your contribution will be considered as part of this.
03	I totally agree with this policy ambition.	Thank you for your supportive comment.
04	Strongly support this	Thank you for your supportive comment.
05	missed 2 views 1. the view south from the Rye Road going towards Four Throws 2. the view west from Conghurst Lane, north of Stream Lane junction	Thank you for your comments. The policy on views is being revised and your contribution will be considered as part of this.
06	I think that there are many more 'views' that could be considered, i.e. the valley over Little Switzerland looking north and view behind Woodham Hall back up to the church/village centre.	Thank you for your comments. The policy on views is being revised and your contribution will be considered as part of this.

What are your views on Policy LP1 Views Between Village & Countryside? [online survey — answers to Question 12]		
Ref.	**SUMMARY OF COMMENTS RECEIVED**	**RESPONSE FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL**
07	On Page 37 a number of protected views are superimposed on a plan of the village. These show protected views from the south and west towards the village centre and its landmarks but no protected views from Gills Green at the north of the village towards the village outline. The view south up the hill to Highgate from the two footpaths emerging onto Heartenoak Road is one of the most spectacular views in Hawkhurst . Reciprocal views from the village south across the valley towards Gills Green are no less spectacular. (See photos supplied separately to the Clerk). The High Weald AONB is characterised by "an attractive small scale landscape containing a mosaic of small farms and woodlands, historic parks, sunken lanes and ridge top villages." These views are a fine example of this and represent a significant 'green lung' for the village. The footpaths along this whole area are in constant use and the advent of a new care home at Gills Green provides an additional reason for providing a green belt on this side of the village for generations to come. I have sent a suggested amendment to the map to the Clerk, with the photos, which includes views from Gills Green to Highgate and vice versa for the Council's consideration.	HPC is appreciative of the submitted photos. The policy on views is being revised and your contribution will be considered as part of this.

What are your views on Policy LP1 Views Between Village & Countryside? [online survey — answers to Question 12]		
Ref.	**SUMMARY OF COMMENTS RECEIVED**	**RESPONSE FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL**
08	The views from the fields/footpaths at the back of Heartenoak Road are not protected and must be. The views reach across the valley to the village (and from the other side back up) and also out across towards Rye. These are exceptional views which are far better than the proposed views and must be included in the protected views to and from the village and further landscape. These particular views are accessed by a huge number of walkers/ramblers/dog-walkers/general public/Duke of Edinburgh scheme participants and horse-riders (along Roadway) and provide a valuable and very much used leisure amenity with excellent views and character.	Thank you for your comments. The policy on views is being revised and your contribution will be considered as part of this.
09	Need to keep the nice views!	Thank you for your comment.
10	Very important to try and retain these.	Thank you for your supportive comments.
11	Essential	Thank you for your supportive comments.
— ENDS —		

What are your views on Policy LP2 Area Of Outstanding Natural Beauty? [online survey — answers to Question 13]		
Ref.	**SUMMARY OF COMMENTS RECEIVED**	**RESPONSE FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL**
01	Remove the word 'compliance' and replace with 'consideration'.	Thank you for your comment, but we disagree.
02	[tick box not filled in]. The AONB status MUST be protected. It cannot be recreated and should be protected, promoted and treasured. Once it has gone, it is lost for ever.	HPC agrees; thank you for your comment.
03	Pleased to read that the HNDP clearly states support for the CROW Act 2000 and The High Weald AONB Management Plan 2014 - 2019 as TWBC takes absolutely no notice of either.	The Hawkhurst Neighbourhood Plan is intended to reinforce compliance with CROW and the The High Weald AONB Management Plan.
04	Absolute and total agreement.	Thank you for your supportive comment.
05	Preserve the AONB for future generations.	Thank you for your comment.
06	Protect the AONB,	Thank you for your comment.
07	What else differentiates us as we are inside AONB?	The AONB status conferred upon the parish offers a very high level of landscape and environmental protection. Therefore, the neighbourhood plan has tried to interpret this context at a neighbourhood level with sections of additional detail.
08	13. All Saints Pond has been encased in very unattractive metal fencing? Is this what can be done to AONB [sic]?	Noted
09	Don't know the details but any AONB must be protected from destruction in any way.	Thank you for your supportive comment.

What are your views on Policy LP2 Area Of Outstanding Natural Beauty? [online survey — answers to Question 13]		
Ref.	**SUMMARY OF COMMENTS RECEIVED**	**RESPONSE FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL**
10	This is all very well, but it clearly counts for little when financial and other considerations come into play, such as the 62 house Highgate development, when AONB greenfield land is calmly given out to a developer. With this attitude prevailing it seems to be futile to protest this desecration of AONB land unless and until a genuine commitment is made by TWBC to preserve the status and principles of AONB land.	Thank you for your comment. HPC agrees about AONB. This is one of the fundamental reasons for producing an NDP.
11	We have to keep these areas - we need to preserve the countryside.	Thank you for your supportive comment.
12	It is a disaster that the development on Circus Fields does not adhere to this, as most people would consider it binding. How did this happen?	Your question is noted. The developer lodged an appeal, and won.
13	Given the threat to AONBs, this is one of the most important parts of the document.	Thank you for your supportive comment.
— ENDS —		

What are your views on Policy LP3 Designated Green Spaces? [online survey — answers to Question 14]		
Ref.	**SUMMARY OF COMMENTS RECEIVED**	**RESPONSE FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL**
01	[support] subject to below!! The Recreation Ground / Sports Fields has been missed off as a Protected space	This is already allocated in TWBC's Local Plan.
02	Add the sports fields at the Moor to the list & plan	This is already allocated in TWBC's Local Plan.
03	I support this, but believe Circus Fields, protected area 9, has been lost to development already. I feel it would be aspirational and hard to enforce or police.	Thank you for your comments – Circus Fields is included in case development does not occur within the time constraints.
04	I feel there is an important green space MISSING from the list on p. 41 = the land to the north of Vale Road & bordering on Cranbrook Road. It is an important green space with a brook and a spring & full of wildlife. Please add to the list of protected spaces if possible.	HPC will investigate further this small space along with its ownership.
05	Essential to maintain these	Thank you for your comment.
06	While I generally agree with this policy I see an exception in the case of All Saints Church frontage. This area should be given over to car parking the pressure on which will become intensified.	Thank you for your comment. This area is legally protected as All Saints' Church is listed.
07	Of course I would like to include Site 64 in the Designated Green Spaces, given how hard we had to fight to protect it, and given that it has still be identified by TWBC as a site for potential development, once the Birchfield site has been developed...	Site 64 is too big to be a designated green space.

What are your views on Policy LP3 Designated Green Spaces? [online survey — answers to Question 14]		
Ref.	**SUMMARY OF COMMENTS RECEIVED**	**RESPONSE FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL**
08	The designated space at Gills Green is not shown in Gills Green - the location seems to be incorrect on the map. More green spaces need to be identified and protected. - what about the area in front of the almshouses or the golf course? How can you protect Circus Field when it is earmarked for excessive development? Why is the play area near Basden Cottages in Heartenoak Road not protected? Tesco landscaped edge is not a green space but they should be required to maintain it better! Even better, protect the area around All Saints Church and stop it being developed.	Location will be adjusted – thank you for your comment. The frontage of Dunk's Alms Houses will be added. If building does not take place within the required time, Circus Fields will be protected. Play area is owned by HPC and is therefore protected. All Saints is protected by being an important listed building.
09	Should Gunthers Close playground and field be included? And the allotments down Heartenoak Lane?	Playground and allotments are owned by HPC and protected by them.
10	Agree that these spaces must be retained, but also perhaps more opportunity to make a better green space at Highgate. Suggest the land in front of Highgate Church? Or land adjoining the school car park?	The land in front of All Saints' Church is already protected by listing. Birchfield already has planning permission.
11	Spelling of Laurence needs to be corrected, it is not spelt with a w. Why is Circus Field on the list when it is also a designated LARGE housing project, it can't be both.	Noted and actioned. If building does not take place within the required time, Circus Fields will be protected.
12	Especially Circus Field	If building does not take place within the required time, Circus Fields will be protected.

What are your views on Policy LP3 Designated Green Spaces? [online survey — answers to Question 14]		
Ref.	**SUMMARY OF COMMENTS RECEIVED**	**RESPONSE FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL**
13	Nothing about where new green spaces are thought to be introduced?	Thank you for your comment; LP3 policy justification does in fact deal with this.
14	Would like more green spaces - maybe a landscaped area in Gills Green.	Thank you for your comment; LP3 policy justification does in fact deal with this. Suggestions for an area in Gills Green would be welcome.
— ENDS —		

What are your views on Policy AM1 Highgate Hill Junction? [online survey — answers to Question 15]		
Ref.	**SUMMARY OF COMMENTS RECEIVED**	**RESPONSE FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL**
01	I think we should give the new system a try for improved traffic flow and safety but it should be monitored as we don't know if it will work.	Thank you for your comments. HPC agrees.
02	Fantastic idea – with right road surface which would make drivers think Pedestrians. Possibly more crossings back from junction to help safety. They have to go slow (such as in France).	Thank you for your comments. HPC agrees.
03	Strongly support. This is vital for village improvement	Thank you for your comments. HPC agrees.
04	I think this development would be great, but suspect there will be and associated pay-off, in that the village may have to accept the buildings of x thousand or hundred dwellings in return.	Thank you for your comments; the NDP does not support large developments.
05	Strongly support a viable model for improving the traffic flow (at a slower speed) and also giving pedestrians the opportunity to cross more frequently. It would be wonderful to have a more pleasant space near the War Memorial.	Thank you for your supportive comment.
06	The junction is at maximum capacity especially during peak periods therefore no new large developments (above 20 dwellings) should be given planning approval until the problem at the junction has been addressed.	Thank you for your supportive comment. The Reg. 14 draft clearly states 'approximately 10'.
07	Certainly needs improved design.....current proposals can see problems with HGV movement. Is there anything we can do to re-route HGVs?	The 'roundabouts' are flat – HGVs can drive over them.
08	this should really be fun trying to watch double trailer lorries trying to negotiate roundabouts good luck with that	The 'roundabouts' are flat – HGVs can drive over them.

What are your views on Policy AM1 Highgate Hill Junction? [online survey — answers to Question 15]		
Ref.	**SUMMARY OF COMMENTS RECEIVED**	**RESPONSE FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL**
09	The plan changes, together with traffic slowing measures on the 4 approach roads will be beneficial to slow traffic over a long distance on all approach roads .	HPC agrees; thank you for your comments.
10	I support this policy and believe it's worth trying it out despite the fact that it's difficult to see it working successfully in practice. The geometry is very limited and sightlines are poor. There are a large number of pedestrians, particularly those attending the local school, who might find it difficult to cross the arms of the junction. Currently at least traffic is controlled and pedestrians protected.	HPC notes the comments but feels that no change to the policy is warranted. Shared space solutions prioritise pedestrians and have been shown to work in practice.
11	Concern that the double round all design will be a hazard for pedestrians, the use of designated crossings is safer. Children are taught road safety and could be confused by this system with serious consequences. Enforce no roadside parking at Highgate and Cranbrook Road. Improve the traffic light system with filter arrows in operation at peak times	HPC notes the comments but feels that no change to the policy is warranted. Shared space solutions prioritise pedestrians.

What are your views on Policy AM1 Highgate Hill Junction? [online survey — answers to Question 15]		
Ref.	**SUMMARY OF COMMENTS RECEIVED**	**RESPONSE FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL**
12	Concern over the Highgate Hill Junction layout suggestion, to remove pedestrian crossings and hope that moving traffic navigating a double roundel system will slow and allow pedestrians to cross the busy lines of two way traffic is risking safety to the public. Children are coached in using a safe way of crossing roads by using designated crossings, this design contradicts this and could have unfortunate consequences. Street parking should be prohibited within Highgate and Cranbrook Road, A filter arrow system at Highgate crossroads for traffic turning into Cranbrook Road should be tried at busy times.	HPC notes the comments but feels that no change to the policy is warranted. Shared space solutions prioritise pedestrians.
13	Outline for possible change is good but I don't think Hawkhurst is willing to "pay" with houses?	HPC agrees; the NDP does not accept large developments.
14	There is too much traffic through the village as it is. This is especially true into, through, and out of the summer mouths [sic]. Reducing traffic through the village might be a better solution even though this could also bring with it impact problems to other areas around the village.	HPC notes the comments but feels that no change to the policy is warranted.
15	Please come down to visit Grove Mills and other properties in Cranbrook Road and you will be able to see what a potentially dangerous proposal this is. Without a realistic plan here, it potentially creates havoc for all other developments.	Your comments are noted and will be included in future studies.
16	Can we assume that this will never happen or dare we hope? Remove the HGVs on to motorways, take slithers of verges where possible to create more parking.	Enforceable action is largely in the hands of KCC and beyond HPC's control. This is an example of what could be done and a full technical feasibility study by KCC is awaited. The comment on verges is noted.

What are your views on Policy AM1 Highgate Hill Junction? [online survey — answers to Question 15]		
Ref.	**SUMMARY OF COMMENTS RECEIVED**	**RESPONSE FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL**
17	Can not see how it will work. Traffic does not stop on round abouts [sic] you only give way to traffic from your right to pedestrian crossings will not work.	HPC notes the comments but feels that no change to the policy is warranted. Shared space solutions prioritise pedestrians. The 'roundabouts' are flat – HGVs can drive over them.
18	It is absolutely key to the village that the traffic lights are removed and replaced with roundabouts. This approach has worked very well on the North Farm Industrial Estate in Tunbridge Wells. What was a congested nightmare now runs pretty smoothly.	Thank you for your comments. KCC has shown that roundabouts will not work and will not fit without damaging listed buildings. However, shared-space roundabouts – which are flat – can work. Hence the example in the NDP.
19	This looks a good idea but is there room at this junction to cope with the volume of traffic and size of articulated lorries at peak times?	This is an example of what could be done and a full technical feasibility study by KCC is awaited.
20	I really like the double roundabout plan! Also the idea to have the car park of the Royal Oak turned into Civic Space	Thank you for your supportive comments.
21	Push for a bypass! However, anything has to be better than the traffic lights. Also there needs to be more effort to deter large HGVs coming through the village rather than using the A21. Perhaps by traffic calming/narrowing etc. outside the village? Hams buses need to train their drivers better to be more considerate also - they are very often the cause of major hold-ups in the run up to the lights.	The decision over the junction improvements lies with KCC. HPC is working with them regarding HGVs. Both roads are 'A' roads and options for traffic calming are therefore limited.

What are your views on Policy AM1 Highgate Hill Junction? [online survey — answers to Question 15]		
Ref.	**SUMMARY OF COMMENTS RECEIVED**	**RESPONSE FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL**
22	At the HPC presentation I attended great play was made about the effectiveness of a dual "roundabout" scheme in some village elsewhere in the country. The fact that it was a single case introduced at a considerable distance from Hawkhurst and not widespread leads me to question its effectiveness. I would also like to know whether the village in question was dealing with two A Class roads intersecting in the middle of the community and whether it was on a designated HGV route. I do not think that HGVs will be able to negotiate the scheme proposed with any ease and I doubt its general ability to deal with our current (and future) problems.	Poynton is merely an example and does have two 'A' roads that intersect; there are many other shared-space solutions and a full technical feasibility study by KCC is awaited.
23	There are some very good ideas here.	Thank you for your supportive comment.
24	How will this be funded?	KCC would have to fund such a scheme.
25	I believe a by-pass is the only solution	Noted
26	Need to improve traffic flow urgently	Noted
27	I do think that the concept design for the crossroads would be successful and alleviate congestion and queues and therefore reduce fumes improving the environment. The two serious issues to consider would be the effect on businesses while this is being implemented, and whether this would result in more houses being allocated to Hawkhurst.	HPC agrees. Thank you for your supportive comments.
28	But great care must be taken to ensure that businesses in the village are not adversely affected if a radical solution is to be attempted.	HPC agrees.

What are your views on Policy AM1 Highgate Hill Junction? [online survey — answers to Question 15]		
Ref.	**SUMMARY OF COMMENTS RECEIVED**	**RESPONSE FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL**
29	However, very pessimistic that anything can or will be done in the next few years. It suits KCC and the lorry owners to continue though the village. KCC also will not spend any money on this. They do not live here, obviously.	Noted.
30	Something has to be done about this junction, particularly in light of the approval for 64 houses on the Circus field.	HPC agrees.
31	Is there no way of encouraging through lorries to change route. If they came off the M5 at J5 they would use the new dualing of the A21 at Tunbridge Wells. The lorries are getting bigger and bigger and can't be doing the foundations of the houses on Cranbook Road any good.	HPC agrees. Kent Association of Local Councils has funded a feasibility study on the M25 connections with the M26 and A21. HPC is monitoring its progress.
32	Strongly support a viable model for improving the traffic flow (at a slower speed) and also giving pedestrians the opportunity to cross more frequently. It would be wonderful to have a more pleasant space near the War Memorial.	Thank you for your supportive comments.
33	Concept design looks good - bad pavement on east of Highgate Hill needs widening.	Thank you for your supportive comments.
34	Fully support If this isn't carried out after the cost and effort of the NDP it would be criminal!!	Thank you for your supportive comments.
35	* This is vital to the future of Hawkhurst. Movement and access through the village is paramount.	Thank you for your supportive comments.
— ENDS —		

What are your views on Policy AM2 Improve the Pedestrian Environment? [online survey — answers to Question 16]		
Ref.	**SUMMARY OF COMMENTS RECEIVED**	**RESPONSE FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL**
01	MUST get home or landowners to cut back greenery where it is encroaching on pavements / highways.	HPC notes the comments but feels that no change to the policy is warranted. This is a KCC responsibility, and HPC frequently reminds them of this.
02	Walking around the village can be like dicing with death due to very narrow, poorly maintained pavements and paths.	Thank you for your comment.
03	Air pollution around the junction should be regularly monitored and pressure put on the Roads Department to improve the width of the very narrow footpaths within the village centre.	Thank you for your comments; HPC has frequently requested air pollution monitoring.
04	This policy is highly laudable but it does ignore the fact that supermarket users will require the use of their vehicles and parking, already a problem, will likely become under even greater pressure going forward.	HPC notes the comments but feels that no change to the policy is warranted. It is arguable if motorised traffic will increase and both supermarkets have their own car parks. HPC is aware that car parking is a matter of concern for some residents of the parish. However, it was not a major issue raised through the consultation process for the NDP thus far. HPC will look into the issue and actively explore a range of practical solutions.
05	Provide suitable car parking and maintain footpaths	Thank you for your comment on footpaths. HPC is aware that car parking is a matter of concern for some residents of the parish. However, it was not a major issue raised through the consultation process for the NDP thus far. HPC will look into the issue and actively explore a range of practical solutions.
06	There is a urgent need for a pedestrian crossing for Tesco access.	HPC agrees but feels that no change to the policy is warranted.

What are your views on Policy AM2 Improve the Pedestrian Environment? [online survey — answers to Question 16]		
Ref.	**SUMMARY OF COMMENTS RECEIVED**	**RESPONSE FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL**
07	Having nearly been hit by wing mirrors of HGVs on the Cranbrook Road twice in the past week, this will not reduce the potential of people sustaining brain injuries, as a consequence of this narrow path.	HPC agrees but feels that no change to the policy is warranted.
08	Householders are not forced to maintain their hedges enough. A man with a spade could easily improve what we already have!	HPC agrees. This is a KCC responsibility and HPC frequently reminds them of this.
09	This section mentions parking only briefly when the topic demands much deeper consideration. Parking is becoming a critical issue for Highgate. The public car parks, understandably, are completely filled with day long parking by those who work in the centre of the village. The supermarkets impose limitations on duration for parking which is not fair on those traders whose clients/customers may need to park longer than an hour or two hours to take advantage of their services. This is likely to get worse with the arrival of Waitrose later this year. The traffic flow up Cranbrook Road is seriously affected by roadside parking which a new junction will not resolve. These parking issues should figure more prominently in the plan so that they can be a focus for future village planning.	It is arguable if motorised traffic will increase and both supermarkets have their own car parks. HPC is aware that car parking is a matter of concern for some residents of the parish. However, it was not a major issue raised through the consultation process for the NDP thus far. HPC will look into the issue and actively explore a range of practical solutions.

What are your views on Policy AM2 Improve the Pedestrian Environment? [online survey — answers to Question 16]		
Ref.	**SUMMARY OF COMMENTS RECEIVED**	**RESPONSE FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL**
10	This must include protection of footpaths across fields and bridleways and encouraging people to use them responsibly. The route to Highgate along the main road from Gills Green for a pedestrian or dog walker is terrifying because of the number of heavy vehicles and the speeds of vehicles. There also needs to be improvements to quiet road surfacing around the village to make walking and talking to your co-walker more possible.	This is part of the NDP (Policy AM3). New footpath map on public display shows route from Heartenoak Road to Ockley Road that is a safer route.
11	I don't like cars parked on pavements.	HPC notes the comments but feels that no change to the policy is warranted. Enforceable action is largely in the hands of KCC and beyond its control.
12	I live less than a mile from the village centre, the only way I can be sure of getting to an appointment on time is to walk. Some parts of the pavements on the Rye Road, and others, have become very narrow due to gardens 'escaping'. If we are to encourage walking this needs to be addressed.	HPC agrees. This is a KCC responsibility and HPC frequently reminds them of this.
13	The condition of the footpaths and pavements around the village is often nothing short of disgraceful.	HPC agrees; see also Policy AM2.
14	We need to educate car users not to park on pavements. Personally, I have had to go out into a busy road to pass a parked car on many occasions and people on mobility scooters cannot easily pop on and off pavements. I know of one that tipped over because of a car obstruction.	HPC agrees.
15	Walking around the village can be like dicing with death due to very narrow, poorly maintained pavements and paths.	Noted.

What are your views on Policy AM2 Improve the Pedestrian Environment? [online survey — answers to Question 16]		
Ref.	**SUMMARY OF COMMENTS RECEIVED**	**RESPONSE FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL**
16	It would also help if vehicles could be kept off the footpaths.	Noted.
17	Hear, hear!	Thank you for your supportive comments.
18	To include extra safety implementation such as a zebra crossing at Hawkhurst school / car park / Bowles Lodge. This should also include regular maintenance & monitoring of vegetation as this has a major impact on accessibility of pavements in the already narrow and restricted Highgate Hill junction area – especially on Cranbrook Road.	Provision of a zebra crossing is being discussed with KCC. This is a KCC responsibility and HPC frequently reminds them of this.
19	Zebra crossing needed at Hawkhurst School	Provision of a zebra crossing is being discussed with KCC.
— ENDS —		

What are your views on Policy AM3 Countryside Access? [online survey — answers to Question 17]		
Ref.	**SUMMARY OF COMMENTS RECEIVED**	**RESPONSE FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL**
01	Support, but with caveats of improved education regarding dogs, footpath usage and access to land without public access.	Thank you for your comments.
02	I am totally in support of this policy aim.	Thank you for your supportive comments.
03	Local cycle and walking maps would be appreciated	Thank you for your comment. The new footpath map is already on public display.
04	Continue to protect the boundaries	Thank you for your comments.
05	More detail required	Thank you for your comments. More detail is being added.
06	IF this will genuinely curtail excessive development and the sprawl of the village then footpaths (not roads) must be encouraged and maintained properly.	Thank you for your supportive comments.
07	Needs balance. Good, trustworthy signposting is essential.	HPC agrees. Thank you for your supportive comments.
08	We all need better access to the surrounding countryside.	HPC agrees. Thank you for your supportive comments.
09	Many footpaths on the local map are now poorly signed, and overgrown. Inertia on the part of KCC and lack of funding, Perhaps the village could get together and fund some better signage and upkeep of these very important paths.	Thank you for your supportive comments. This initiative is already underway.
10	But some signage is redundant and not many signs are sensitive to their surroundings.	Noted.

What are your views on Policy AM3 Countryside Access? [online survey — answers to Question 17]		
Ref.	**SUMMARY OF COMMENTS RECEIVED**	**RESPONSE FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL**
11	BUT Slip Mill Land / Road too busy & needs lower speed limits. Speeds at present are 30mph to Nat[ional] speed limit. Access in & out for residents is difficult & dangerous esp. as it is part of a rat-run from Flimwell to Cranbrook. Priority barriers reqd. (i.e. give-way to oncoming traffic). This would slow down lorries etc. Extremely dangerous for pedestrians.	Noted.
— ENDS —		

What are your views on Policy AM4 Walking & Cycling Strategies? [online survey — answers to Question 18]		
Ref.	**SUMMARY OF COMMENTS RECEIVED**	**RESPONSE FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL**
01	I'm one of the very few people who uses a bike to get from A to B - in fact the only one I know. Would be nice if it could be encouraged.	HPC agrees. Thank you for your comments.
02	Whilst agreeing with the policy, I think it will be very difficult achieving these aims.	Thank you for your comment.
03	It sounds very good in planning speak but I feel there's a degree of wishful thinking here.	Thank you for your comment.
04	Local walking, cycling maps would be helpful	HPC agrees but feels that no change to the policy is warranted. A new footpath map is already on public display.
05	More detail required. Possibly link through to Bedgebury with it's emphasis on cycling.	Policy AM4 is supportive of any such initiative and a series of Green Links are being identified.
06	This will however require control of the excessive HGV use of the roads in and out of the village for it to be safe and for people to want to use such footpaths and cycle routes.	HPC notes the comments but feels that no change to the policy is warranted.
07	Great idea	Thank you for your supportive comment.
08	I agree with the aims, but with our generally narrow roadways in the centre of the village I can't see how we can practically change things for cyclists.	Noted
09	Walking and cycling should be placed at the forefront of village life. If commuting, particularly to the schools, were to be transferred from car to foot where possible, think of the difference it would make to the traffic at certain times.	Thank you for your comment. The local primary school already has a 'walking bus'; other (private) schools are outside the centre of the village.
— ENDS —		

What are your views on Policy CM1 Sports Provision? [online survey — answers to Question 19]		
Ref.	**SUMMARY OF COMMENTS RECEIVED**	**RESPONSE FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL**
01	the only thing that seems to matter round here is hawkhurst bloody utd....no other sports are catered for	HPC takes note of the comment but feels that no reply is warranted.
02	Support and maintain The Moor facilities and playground	Thank you for your supportive comment.
03	Continue to maintain and improve facilities on The Moor	Thank you for your supportive comments.
04	If the golf and squash club comes up for development, please can we still have a community squash club?!!	Noted
05	If only you can get children to use them. They seem to want to use road and car parks for football & cricket causing damage to cars and property e.g. fences and hedges.	Noted
06	Again, too much emphasis on the Moor. Whilst this does need to be protected it is not easily accessible for perhaps 80% of the village except by car. There needs to be more centralised provision with good foot and cycle access.	HPC takes note of the comment but feels that no change is warranted. The NDP is required to align itself with the current Local Plan that identifies KGV as a sports area. There is also a satellite facility at Heartenoak Road.
07	Until HPC knows if All Saints Church can be purchased I do not feel we should 'close the door' on The Moor being a possible Community Centre site. There do not seem to be any other suitable sites in the centre of the village.	Whilst negotiations continue for the church, other sites are being explored in parallel.
08	Teenagers particularly need some better sports provision for them - 13 and over.	HPC agrees. Action is already underway as per Policy CM1
09	Much better to be all sport orientated & not a community hall. Please keep the Post Office there.	Thank you for your supportive comment. Post Office locations are a great concern to HPC.
— ENDS —		

What are your views on Policy CM2 New Community Hall? [online survey — answers to Question 20]		
Ref.	**SUMMARY OF COMMENTS RECEIVED**	**RESPONSE FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL**
01	We live directly opposite and support the use of this building for community benefit.	Thank you for your supportive comment.
02	The old All Saints church is a rather sad building at the centre of the village that needs to be used. A community hall here would be more appropriate than having it sold for residential use.	Thank you for your supportive comments.
03	All Saints Church	Thank you for your comment.
04	All Saints Church is a central location which is a huge advantage. Problem: where can people park to drop off & collect or attend events? The space in front of the church could (should) be landscaped beautifully with trees, benches, fountain (!) to make a peaceful oasis in the centre of the village.	HPC notes the comments but feels that no change to the policy is warranted.
05	that will never happen because the church are the biggest bunch of thieves round here	HPC takes note of the comment but feels that no reply is warranted.
06	Welcome the possibility of All Saints becoming centrally based community centre - could it contain the new medical centre too?	Thank you for your comment; the location of the new medical centre is in the hands of the GPs.
07	I support the conversion of the church into a Community Centre, especially as the site is so central.	Thank you for your supportive comment.
08	The use of the church is excellent, but where will the capital cost be found, and as important how will the very high maintenance costs be found? Has a budget been prepared to cover these? Can external aid funds be found?	Thank you for your supportive comment. A full business plan would have to be agreed before purchase.

What are your views on Policy CM2 New Community Hall? [online survey — answers to Question 20]		
Ref.	**SUMMARY OF COMMENTS RECEIVED**	**RESPONSE FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL**
09	While accepting a new community centre in Highgate is required I'm not convinced All Saints is the correct solution. Were the surgery to be relocated at the cottage hospital the current building could maybe be converted at lesser cost than All Saints. All Saints has become a disappointing area of dereliction and dilapidation delivering very little credit to the village. I suggest it is demolished and the building footprint together with the adjacent green frontage given over to car parking.	Thank you for your comments. Both All Saints and current North Ridge surgery are listed buildings.
10	A new hall would be popular, if funding is adequate to purchase and renovate All Saints Church, this would be beneficial and provide a green space too	Thank you for your supportive comments.
11	Strongly support a new community hall, All Saints Church would be ideal if it is possible to purchase the building and funds available to restore and adapt to provide a suitable hall that can provide for the needs of Hawkhurst.	Thank you for your supportive comments.
12	ASC would be a great place for a Community Hall, if we can buy it.	Thank you for your supportive comments.
13	The village school is owned by the public and should be made available for use rather than duplicate expense by creating an additional building. What happens if Kino withdraws?	Noted. The school is not owned by HPC. It does make the hall available within the constraints of use.
14	Was told by Mr Ray Harding & the then Parish Clerk that we did not need a village hall as it was not used enough. They then let the Victoria Hall to the cinema. So why do we need a new one.	Noted.
15	I agree that any new community centre should be situated at Highgate where most of the footfall is.	Thank you for your supportive comments.

What are your views on Policy CM2 New Community Hall? [online survey — answers to Question 20]		
Ref.	**SUMMARY OF COMMENTS RECEIVED**	**RESPONSE FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL**
16	This would be so much better use of an impressive building that at the moment is really rather sad and neglected. At the moment it is a rotten tooth in the face of Hawkhurst.	Thank you for your supportive comments.
17	Another alternative is to come to an arrangement with the Royal British Legion who have an (underused) community facility.	Whilst negotiations continue for the church, other sites are being explored in parallel.
18	Copt Hall is not fit for this purpose. The Church would be ideal and perhaps a community fund raising effort could be started to help the village purchase and convert it. Good access to it would be vital as well as appropriate parking. A community fund raising effort may be useful to develop community spirit as well as a community hall.	Thank you for your supportive comment.
19	There was an attempt to obtain Lottery funding for developing All Saints Church as a community hall almost 20 (?) years ago. This was declined as Hawkhurst was not considered to be a sufficiently deprived area.	Lottery funding has changed over the years.
20	Should be sited such that the maximum number of residents can walk to it.	HPC agrees. Thank you for your supportive comment.
21	This will bring the village together more especially if it was central	HPC agrees. Thank you for your supportive comment.

What are your views on Policy CM2 New Community Hall? [online survey — answers to Question 20]		
Ref.	**SUMMARY OF COMMENTS RECEIVED**	**RESPONSE FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL**
22	I do agree that this must be complementary to investment at The Moor. My major concern about using All Saints Church is the lack of parking - especially as Waitrose's car park is likely to be much busier than it currently is for Budgens . The finances also need to really be watertight to make sure that the village can afford this project and that it does not become a white elephant. Regarding parking, might it be worth discussing extending and maximising the parking space at the British Legion and making it 'Pay and Display' with the proceeds going to the Legion?	It is arguable if motorised traffic will increase and both supermarkets have their own car parks. Your comments are noted. A full business plan would have to be agreed before purchase. HPC is aware that car parking is a matter of concern for some residents of the parish. However, it was not a major issue raised through the consultation process for the NDP thus far. HPC will look into the issue and actively explore a range of practical solutions.
23	Strongly support. The possible use of All Saints is exciting, and it is to hoped that, if this were to take place, suitable thought would be given to a space for the performing arts.	Thank you for your supportive comments.
24	All Saints Church could be a good location but there are parking restrictions. Another central site could be Circus Field.	Whilst negotiations continue for the church, other sites are being explored in parallel.
25	We have numerous halls which are well used & if there is money it should be spent on renovating Copthall which is ideally situated between Highgate and the Moor.	Copthall is now considered too small for many events and is no longer fit for purpose.
26	No other sites are suggested as preferable if All Saints is unobtainable.	Whilst negotiations continue for the church, other sites are being explored in parallel.
— ENDS —		

What are your views on Policy CM3 New Medical Centre? [online survey — answers to Question 21]		
Ref.	**SUMMARY OF COMMENTS RECEIVED**	**RESPONSE FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL**
01	Is there really nowhere more central to Highgate? (Or the Moor?)	Thank you for your comment; the location of the new medical centre is in the hands of the GPs.
02	Great idea	Thank you for your supportive comment.
03	For patients, more medical staff in one med. centre must be the way ahead. North Ridge is a charming building but I wonder if a purpose built centre would give scope for the provision of more services. As it stands, however, both ends of the village are catered for, and it is helpful to have one's drs superbly close by!	Thank you for your comment; the location of the new medical centre is in the hands of the GPs.
04	Cottage Hospital	Thank you for your comment; the location of the new medical centre is in the hands of the GPs.
05	thats clever.....reduce the need for personal transport by moving the doctors surgeries out to the cottage hospital.....really?	HPC takes note of the comment but feels that no reply is warranted.
06	An excellent location, and convenient for all. Can external funding be found from the NHS or elsewhere ?	Thank you for your comment; the location of the new medical centre is in the hands of the GPs.
07	I strongly support this proposal particularly if it were to result in a new surgery at the cottage hospital with adequate parking facilities.	Thank you for your supportive comments.
08	Support this and the Cottage Hospital which is a [sic] asset.	Thank you for your supportive comments.
09	Ease of parking is important for GPs practice. The Cottage hospital has the advantage of other medical services on the same site.	Thank you for your comment; the location of the new medical centre is in the hands of the GPs.
10	Wish it could be more central or wish it could provide free shuttle bus transport for non drivers.	Thank you for your comment; the location of the new medical centre is in the hands of the GPs.
11	Not at Cottage Hospital site. How do people get there who have not got transport. How about using All Saints Church. Centre of village and parking.	Thank you for your comment; the location of the new medical centre is in the hands of the GPs.

What are your views on Policy CM3 New Medical Centre? [online survey — answers to Question 21]		
Ref.	**SUMMARY OF COMMENTS RECEIVED**	**RESPONSE FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL**
12	A great idea to use an under exploited site. The only issue is to ensure that those people who do not have private transport can gain access to the site. Maybe get Tesco or Waitrose to sponsor a minibus that runs from Highgate and the Moor to the Cottage Hospital.	Thank you for your comment; the location of the new medical centre is in the hands of the GPs.
13	Wish it could be more central or wish it could provide free shuttle bus transport for non drivers.	Thank you for your comment; the location of the new medical centre is in the hands of the GPs.
14	Adequate on site parking provision will be critical for the success of a new medical centre	HPC agrees. Thank you for your comment.
15	The current doctor surgery in Talbot Road has lost its way. Cannot speak for the other surgery. However there needs to be a return to a system where doctors actually know their patients rather than a 'walk in' impersonal service. Also there is a need to stop using out of hours doctors who are not good and for this to be returned to the surgery for cover. I do not think a merged large practice will achieve what many people want which is good doctors who care and look after them well. it will just become another 'small hospital' with associated bureaucracy.	HPC takes note of the comment but feels that no change is warranted. This is a matter for the NHS and the GPs themselves.
16	Fine, but where?	The location of the new medical centre is in the hands of the GPs.
17	If only Tesco would vacate their site, so that it could be used for a new medical centre	Noted.
18	Much needed for a growing village population	HPC agrees. Thank you for your comment.
19	With patients coming from a wide area, and an expanding ageing population a single purpose-built facility seems the only sensible way forward.	HPC agrees. Thank you for your comment.

What are your views on Policy CM3 New Medical Centre? [online survey — answers to Question 21]		
Ref.	**SUMMARY OF COMMENTS RECEIVED**	**RESPONSE FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL**
20	Would be very pleased with this although some older parishioners feel that the Hospital location is too far for them. Would need some regular transport for those unable to walk or who have not cars.	Noted; the location of the new medical centre is in the hands of the GPs.
21	Strongly support. The need for a single, unified, practice is established beyond doubt and it is to hoped that the GPs will together find a suitable site.	Thank you for your supportive comments.
22	The Cottage Hospital site would be ideal as parking is available and is also on a bus route. Circus Field is another good site as it too is on a bus route.	The location of the new medical centre is in the hands of the GPs.
23	But it must be central (not the Cottage Hospital) and accessible for pedestrians as both current surgeries are.	The location of the new medical centre is in the hands of the GPs.
24	Are there any possible sites for this? What over services could a new medical centre provide which current GP practices cannot?	The location of the new medical centre is in the hands of the GPs.
25	We use the Wish Valley practice and can only get there by car. Same with cottage hospital. If 2 practices combined it would need a large site centrally located and with plenty of parking spaces.	The location of the new medical centre is in the hands of the GPs.
— ENDS —		

What are your views on Policy CM4 Preservation & Enhancement of Community Services? [online survey — answers to Question 22]		
Ref.	**SUMMARY OF COMMENTS RECEIVED**	**RESPONSE FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL**
01	I'm sorry to keep mention it but unless adequate car parking is provided many of these outlets will perish!	HPC agrees; thank you for your comment.
02	Support small businesses and trades within the area. A shop on The Moor would be beneficial and reduce local shopping traffic to Highgate.	HPC agrees; thank you for your comment. However, small community shops have been shown not to be viable in the past.
03	Not all pubs can survive nor can all shops. Please don't fight to protect premises that are no longer viable. We must have smaller and more frequent/affordable buses for youngsters to access employment.	HPC agrees; thank you for your comments.
04	1 and 2 supported. 3 objected to very strongly. Why is it always Gills Green ? Because the owner is politically active in the village and gets listened to against the views of the local people. The 'employment hub' is actually an industrial estate that causes annoyance to many and should not be allowed to expand at all. Has anyone thought to protect the views from the old railway station site which are stunning!	HPC takes note of the comment but feels that no change is warranted. The NDP is required to align itself with the current Local Plan that identifies Gills Green as an employment area. Views: these are now restricted by the new development.
05	It is worth bearing in mind that we are likely to lose our one remaining bank as the major High Street banks pursue their policy of driving us to electronic banking with scant regard to the bulk of the community that does not wish to use this system of banking. Similarly our four post offices have been reduced to one, and this is dependent upon Waitrose embodying it into its design. Royal Mail has already downgraded the facilities on offer anyway. What will be done to reintroduce shops into the Moor area.	If the bank is well-used, there is no reason to assume that it will close. There are two Post Offices, one at Highgate and one (part-time) at the KGV playing fields. Small community shops have been shown not to be viable in the past.

What are your views on Policy CM4 Preservation & Enhancement of Community Services? [online survey — answers to Question 22]		
Ref.	**SUMMARY OF COMMENTS RECEIVED**	**RESPONSE FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL**
06	The key to this is "high quality" - and a mix of - shops and services. I would prefer change of use (from retail, to residential) if the alternative is yet more take-away food businesses.	HPC takes note of the comment but feels that no change to policy is warranted.
07	Strongly support, especially para. 2.	Thank you for your supportive comment.
08	Pity we didn't resist the loss of shops / PO at the Moor. Employment hub sounds a good idea.	Small community shops have been shown not to be viable in the past. A part-time Post Office is at the KGV playing fields.
09	Not enough on community services in Gills Green & the Moor. A business venture in these areas should be encouraged and supported to provide basic provisions, i.e.. somewhere to buy milk and bread.	Small community shops have been shown not to be viable in the past.
10	ALSO more community services read for Gills Green. Nowhere to buy and loaf and a pint of milk - or even first aid.	Small community shops have been shown not to be viable in the past.
— ENDS —		

Pre-Submission Consultation

This table sets out the responses received in writing and the considered responses from the parish council

Written responses received		
Ref.	**RESPONDENT**	**RESPONSE FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL**
01	Email received from alectravers40@hotmail.com Alec Travers raised concerns about the protection of farmland and the agriculture industry.	Hawkhurst Parish Council acknowledges receipt of your email in response to our Regulation 14 Pre-Submission Consultation Draft Neighbourhood Development Plan. Wording supporting the agricultural and forestry industries is being formulated for inclusion within Policy LP2. The best and most versatile farmland currently receives protection under the NPPF and this will be referenced in the submission version of the plan. Thank you for your contribution and feedback, which we greatly appreciate.
02	Email received from Jillian.Barr@cprekent.org.uk Jillian Barr of CPRE Kent makes comments about the biodiversity and habitat network elements.	Hawkhurst Parish Council acknowledges receipt of your email in response to our Regulation 14 Pre-Submission Consultation Draft Neighbourhood Development Plan. Thank you for your supportive comments relating to the Landscape Protection Policies. The plan intends to reflect the issues felt by residents to be the most important for the future of their village and the inclusion of individual policy strands is indicative of this. However Hawkhurst Parish Council supports the Tunbridge Wells Local Biodiversity Action Plan. Thank you for your contribution and feedback, which we greatly appreciate.
03	Email from Jennifer.wilson@environment-agency.gov.uk Jennifer Wilson suggests stronger protection for watercourses, streams, springs, gills, ponds and ancient woodland.	Hawkhurst Parish Council acknowledges receipt of your email in response to our Regulation 14 Pre-Submission Consultation Draft Neighbourhood Development Plan. Policy LP2 supports protection of the AONB and The High Weald AONB Management Plan 2014 – 19. The High Weald AONB covers the entire designated area for the Hawkhurst Neighbourhood Development Plan and would afford some protection for ancient woodland as an important feature of the High Weald AONB landscape. Watercourses, streams, springs, gills and ponds are protected by separate local and national planning policy. Thank you for your contribution and feedback, which we greatly appreciate.

Written responses received		
Ref.	**RESPONDENT**	**RESPONSE FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL**
04	Letter from Marlborough House School, Mr D. St John Parker. Mr St John Parker described the prominence of the school in the village and therefore as a stakeholder and offered views on Access and Movement Policies and Community Infrastructure Policies.	Hawkhurst Parish Council acknowledges receipt of your letter in response to our Regulation 14 Pre-Submission Consultation Draft Neighbourhood Development Plan. Thank you for your support for Policy AM1. Thank you for sharing your plans and showing your support for Policy AM3. Thank you for your support for Policy CM1. The aim of this policy is to identify locations for particular focus and public investment for sporting facilities. Unfortunately it would not be appropriate to channel public finance into a private, commercial organisation. However the parish council very much welcomes the school's aim to broaden its own facilities and offer them to the wider community. Thank you for your support for Policy CM2. The aim of this policy is to identify locations for particular focus and public investment for community hall facilities. Unfortunately it would not be appropriate to channel public finance into a private, commercial organisation. However the parish council very much welcomes the school's aim to broaden its own facilities and offer them to the wider community. Thank you for your support for Policy CM4. CM4 is focussed on commercial and employment services at Highgate and no consultees raised the need to protect private schools. Thank you for your contribution and feedback, which we greatly appreciate.
05	Email received from mike.appelbe@barrettsgreen.co.uk Mike Appelbe offers some corrections and comments on Policies CM1 and CM4.	Hawkhurst Parish Council acknowledges receipt of your email in response to our Regulation 14 Pre-Submission Consultation Draft Neighbourhood Development Plan. Thank you for your spelling correction for the Church and naming of the Church Pond. The Royal Oak has been correctly referenced on page 53. We note your comment about Sports Provision. Policy CM1 reflects the views expressed by respondents and also the availability of space. We do not feel it is appropriate to include the chemist in policy CM3 as this policy is very specifically about doctor and GP provision. The Colonnade is protected in Policy CM4. Policy CM4 is focussed on commercial and employment services at Highgate and no consultees raised the need to protect any of our churches. Thank you for your contribution and feedback, which we greatly appreciate.

Written responses received		
Ref.	**RESPONDENT**	**RESPONSE FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL**
06	Email received from Rebecca.Bishop@naturalengland.org.uk Rebecca Bishop of Natural England points out an area of SSSI woodland along the far north boundary of the designated area.	Hawkhurst Parish Council acknowledges receipt of your email in response to our Regulation 14 Pre-Submission Consultation Draft Neighbourhood Development Plan. We note the location of Robins Wood that has been identified and also the sensitivity to residential development of over 100 units within 500m of the designated habitat. This location is amongst well established agricultural land, far outside the LBD and not adjacent to it. Policy HD1 would not support this location for housing development. Furthermore, policy LP2 supports protection of the AONB and The High Weald AONB Management Plan 2014 – 19. The High Weald AONB covers the entire designated area for the Hawkhurst Neighbourhood Development Plan and would afford some protection for ancient woodland as an important feature of the High Weald AONB landscape. Thank you for your contribution and feedback, which we greatly appreciate.
07	Letter received from local resident Robert Johnson. Robert Johnson suggests two views that he believes are worthy of addition to Policy LP1	Hawkhurst Parish Council acknowledges receipt of your letter in response to our Regulation 14 Pre-Submission Consultation Draft Neighbourhood Development Plan. Thank you for your comments relating to Policy LP1 and the two views that you have suggested for consideration. The policy on views is being revised and your contribution will be considered as part of this. Thank you for your contribution and feedback, which we greatly appreciate.

Written responses received		
Ref.	**RESPONDENT**	**RESPONSE FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL**
08	clerk@staplehurstvillage.org (Staplehurst Clerk) I have just looked back the minutes for the May meeting when your NP consultation was discussed and see that Councillors noted the details and expressed their best wishes to Hawkhurst PC. No further comment was made.	Thank you for your contribution and feedback, which we greatly appreciate.
09	Teresa.Gonet2@highwaysengland.com (Highways England) Having examined the above document, we do not offer any comment on its contents.	Thank you for your contribution and feedback, which we greatly appreciate.
10	enquiries@nationaltrust.org.uk (National Trust, Marsha Kelly) I have forwarded your email to the relevant team for consideration. If they need to get in touch I am sure you will hear from them shortly.	Thank you for your contribution and feedback, which we greatly appreciate.

Written responses received		
Ref.	**RESPONDENT**	**RESPONSE FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL**
11	Letter received by email from Charlotte Mayhall of Southern Water. Charlotte Mayhall seeks to add wording to Landscape Policies LP1 and LP3 so as not to make needed infrastructure improvements impossible.	Hawkhurst Parish Council acknowledges receipt of your letter dated 18th May 2016 in response to our Regulation 14 Pre-Submission Consultation Draft Neighbourhood Development Plan. We note your concern that important infrastructure may be undeliverable with the wording of LP1 and LP3 in their current forms. We feel that your suggested amendments to LP1 and LP3 are reasonable and practical. However a more general additional policy to provide new and improved infrastructure to support development will not be added as it is felt that developers are obliged to provide this for new developments in any case. Thank you for your contribution and feedback, which we greatly appreciate.
12	Email from Matthew Arnold@ stagecoachbus.com Matthew Arnold expresses disappointment that there is not a public transport section in the draft plan and also recommends a feasibility study for the A229/A268 junction proposal to include bus movements.	Hawkhurst Parish Council acknowledges receipt of your email in response to our Regulation 14 Pre-Submission Consultation Draft Neighbourhood Development Plan. We understand your concern at a lack of policy relating to public transport services. However the Plan reflects issues raised by residents and other stakeholders during widespread consultation as paramount for the village in their view. This was not one of them. Thank you for your very helpful comments concerning the Highgate Hill Junction and Policy AM1. This was a source of a great deal of concern in consultation responses from residents and stakeholders. Hawkhurst Parish Council is currently seeking confirmation from Kent County Council that a feasibility study can be carried out, which would necessarily need to examine all bus and HGV movements, particularly since the A229 is a designated HGV route. Thank you for your contribution and feedback, which we greatly appreciate.

Written responses received		
Ref.	**RESPONDENT**	**RESPONSE FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL**
13	Letter received from Craig Noel of Strutt & Parker. He seeks to have land belonging to his client allocated for future housing and raises concerns about the coordination of the Hawkhurst Neighbourhood Plan with the new TWBC Local Plan.	Hawkhurst Parish Council acknowledges receipt of your letter in response to our Regulation 14 Pre-Submission Consultation Draft Neighbourhood Development Plan. As you will be aware, the Hawkhurst Neighbourhood Development Plan does not allocate land for housing. During the consultation process, Hawkhurst residents have identified a need for incremental, organic growth, which we believe, although our infrastructure is in some areas at full capacity, can be accommodated on a gradual basis. We do not accept that Hawkhurst can be considered a sustainable location due to well accepted infrastructure constraints, particularly traffic. The Countryside Properties development at Circus Field was permitted on appeal and was refused planning permission at the local planning decision stage. As you will doubtless know, the Hawkhurst Neighbourhood Plan represents future planning policy for Hawkhurst and represents the views of local people. Furthermore, we refer you to page 28 of the Hawkhurst Neighbourhood Plan (Reg. 14) draft. Hawkhurst has over-delivered on the supply requested of it to 2026. Hawkhurst Parish Council is confident that sufficient market and affordable housing can be delivered under the policies of the Hawkhurst Neighbourhood Development Plan. Policy HD2 also makes it clear that larger houses are not significant in the mix of houses needed in the village. Having worked closely with Tunbridge Wells Borough Council (TWBC) from the very early stages of the Hawkhurst Neighbourhood Development Plan, compliance with current local and national planning policy has been very carefully considered.

Written responses received		
Ref.	**RESPONDENT**	**RESPONSE FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL**
13 / cont.	Letter received from Craig Noel of Strutt & Parker.	The Hawkhurst Neighbourhood Development Plan will be reviewed annually and a continued close working relationship with TWBC will ensure its continued alignment with TWBC planning policy as that emerges. We therefore do not consider any delay in completing the Hawkhurst Neighbourhood Development Plan to be necessary and find the suggestion inappropriate. The Hawkhurst Neighbourhood Development Plan does not "promote less development than set out in the Local Plan". The Plan expects to deliver housing over time as Policy HD1 clearly states. No annual restriction is suggested and small sites have generated most of the 277 units supplied since 2006. Hawkhurst is now oversupplied by 37 units against its current allocation with 10 years of the current Plan period remaining. Hawkhurst Parish Council is therefore confident that it can realistically deliver future housing in appropriate quantities without any need for large development sites. The Hawkhurst Neighbourhood Development Plan states on page 30 its commitment to work with TWBC to identify rural exception sites for affordable housing with finance being accrued from developer contributions from smaller sites. It is inaccurate to suggest that the Hawkhurst Neighbourhood Development Plan 'relies upon speculative infill brownfield sites', as policy HD1 makes clear. The Hawkhurst Neighbourhood Development Plan has been considered for SEA screening and TWBC advise that SEA screening is not required.

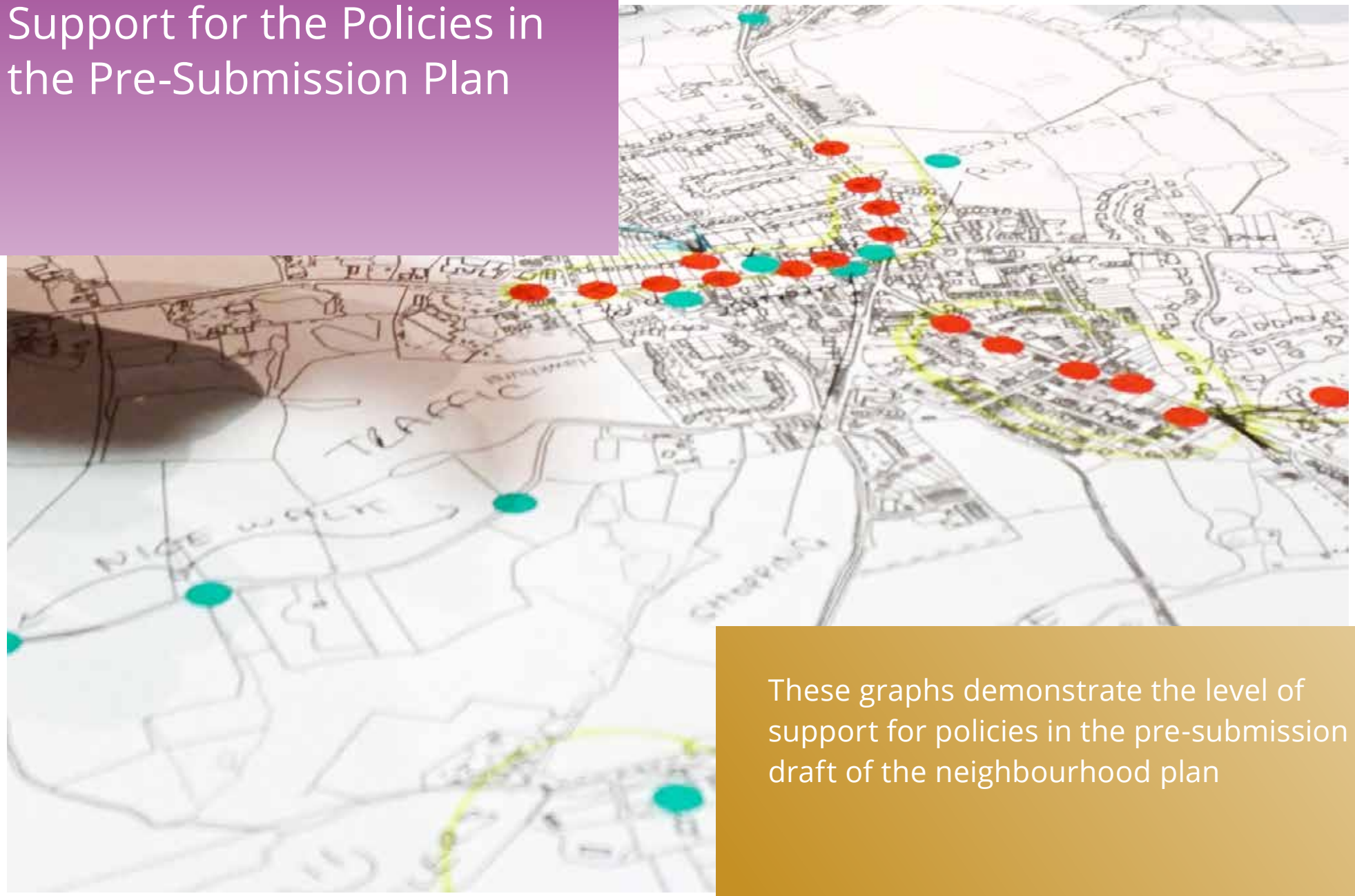
Written responses received		
Ref.	**RESPONDENT**	**RESPONSE FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL**
13 / cont.	Letter received from Craig Noel of Strutt & Parker.	Hawkhurst Parish Council is very surprised to see the suggestion of land west of Circus Field for allocation as it has long been our understanding that the owner acquired it to prevent its development. The Parish Council does not anyway believe that this site is deliverable. Furthermore, it is clear from consultation with the community that Hawkhurst residents believe that large housing estates are inappropriate in a rural village context and housing should be delivered in smaller groups. The community believes that the housing levels supplied in Hawkhurst, in the last 10 years amply demonstrate this. CIL and S.106 contributions would still apply and be sought. The Landscape Policies reflect strongly held views of the residents of Hawkhurst who greatly value the beauty of the countryside that characterises their village. Hawkhurst Parish Council will work closely with its consultants and TWBC to ensure that policy LP1 continues not to conflict with local or national planning policy. Should Circus Field not be built on or until it is, the residents of Hawkhurst would like to see it protected in the beautiful state it is in at present. Therefore it will remain as an identified site for Policy LP3.

Written responses received		
Ref.	**RESPONDENT**	**RESPONSE FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL**
13 / cont.	Letter received from Craig Noel of Strutt & Parker.	Hawkhurst Parish Council believes that the Hawkhurst Neighbourhood Development Plan complies with all conditions required of it. We believe the Hawkhurst Neighbourhood Development Plan will bring many long-term benefits to the village, including local employment, support for local industries, improved sports facilities, increased landscape protection, improved village centre, and improved housing design and an appropriate range and level of housing to meet local needs. Furthermore, the sustainability of the Hawkhurst Neighbourhood Development Plan Policies has been expressly examined in the Sustainability Appraisal that accompanies the Hawkhurst Neighbourhood Development Plan. Finally, Hawkhurst Parish Council rejects the notion of a 'conflict' with TWBC's emerging plan evidence as the Plan has been created with intense consultation with TWBC from inception. We will continue to liaise closely throughout the Local Plan review. The call for sites and site allocation will be handled by TWBC in collaboration with Hawkhurst Parish Council. Furthermore, the Hawkhurst Neighbourhood Development Plan will be reviewed annually and a continued close working relationship with TWBC will ensure its continued alignment with TWBC planning policy as that emerges. We do not therefore agree that a formal hearing session can be justified or warranted and would be a waste of public money. Thank you for your contribution and feedback.

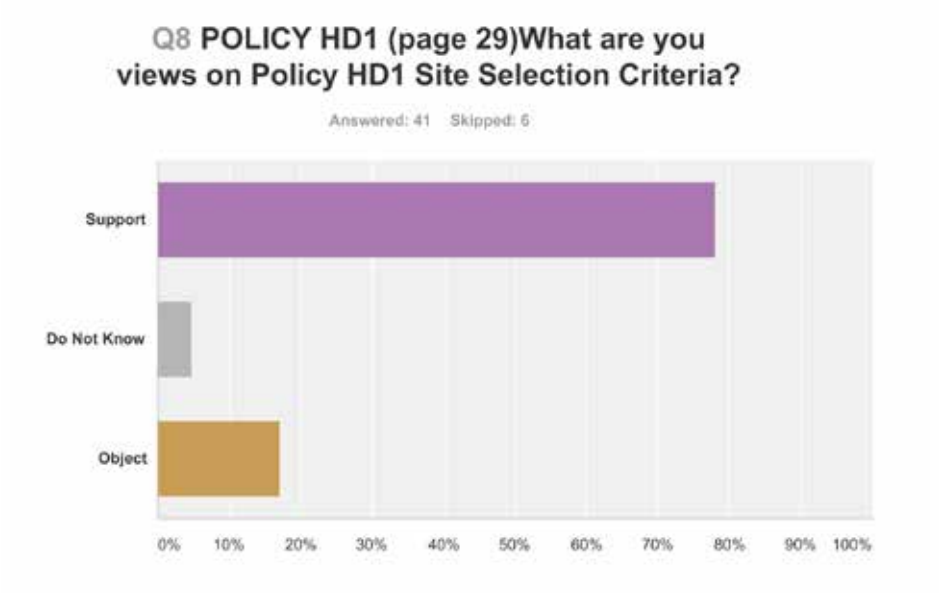
Written responses received		
Ref.	**RESPONDENT**	**RESPONSE FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL**
14	Letter received by email from Judith. Onuh@tetlow-king.co.uk for Tetlow King Planning, Stephen Hinsley. Stephen Hinsley seeks to have land belonging to his client allocated for future housing and raises concerns about the coordination of the Hawkhurst Neighbourhood plan with the new TWBC Local Plan.	Hawkhurst Parish Council acknowledges receipt of your letter in response to our Regulation 14 Pre-Submission Consultation Draft Neighbourhood Development Plan. Hawkhurst Parish Council has taken a proactive and positive approach in its dealings with TWBC's Planning Team .The Plan has been created with intense consultation with TWBC from inception. We will continue to liaise closely throughout the Local Plan review. The call for sites and site allocation will be handled by TWBC in collaboration with Hawkhurst Parish Council. Furthermore, the NDP will be reviewed annually and a continued close working relationship with TWBC will ensure its continued alignment with TWBC planning policy as that emerges. Thank you for your support for the visions and objectives of the Hawkhurst Neighbourhood Development Plan. We do not believe it is necessary to include the suggested wording to HD1 as site allocation is being handled by TWBC and the Hawkhurst Neighbourhood Development Plan will be required to be in conformity with that part of the new Local Plan. We do not believe that it is necessary to include the suggested wording to HD2 as viability reporting is adequately provided for in local and national planning policy and process. We do not believe it is necessary to include the suggested wording to Policy AM1 as this is adequately addressed in the Local Plan. Thank you for your contribution and feedback, which we greatly appreciate.

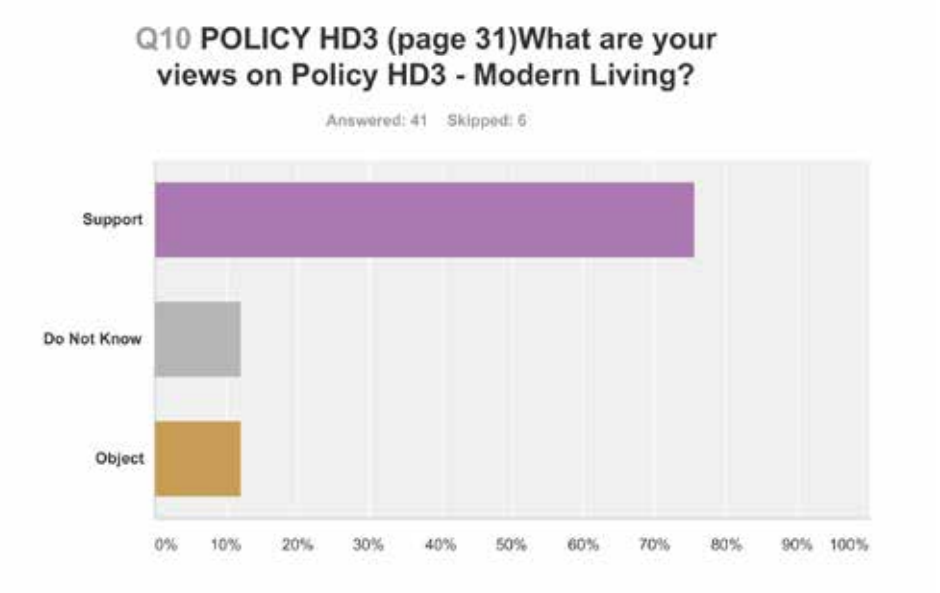
Written responses received		
Ref.	**RESPONDENT**	**RESPONSE FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL**
15	Email from petagrant@me.com Weald of Kent Protection Society, Peta Grant. Peta Grant congratulates the Parish Council on their Neighbourhood Development Plan and lists 8 aspects in particular that have appealed to WKPS.	Hawkhurst Parish Council acknowledges receipt of your email in response to our Regulation 14 Pre-Submission Consultation Draft Neighbourhood Development Plan. Thank you for your supportive contribution and feedback, which we greatly appreciate.
— ENDS —		

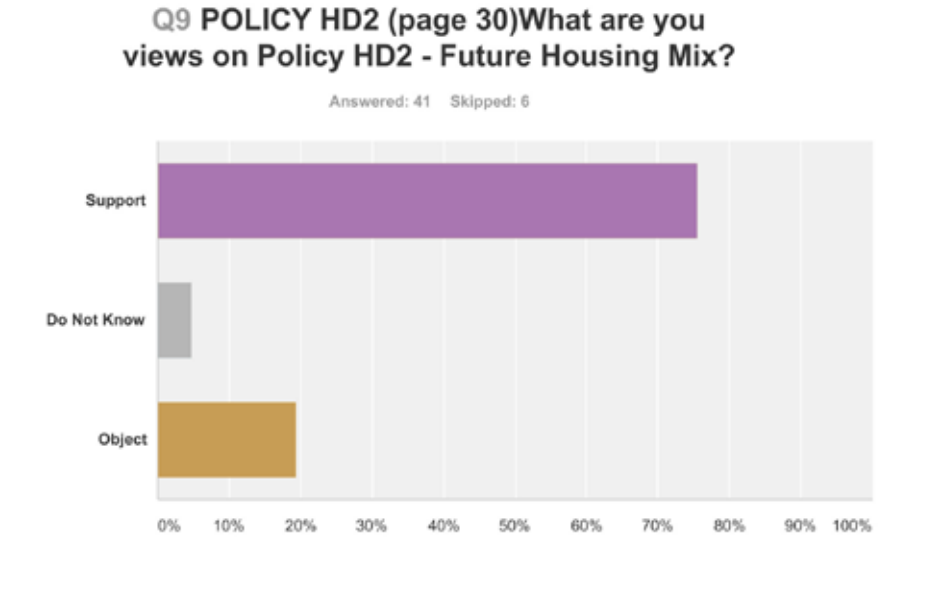
Support for the Policies in the Pre-Submission Plan

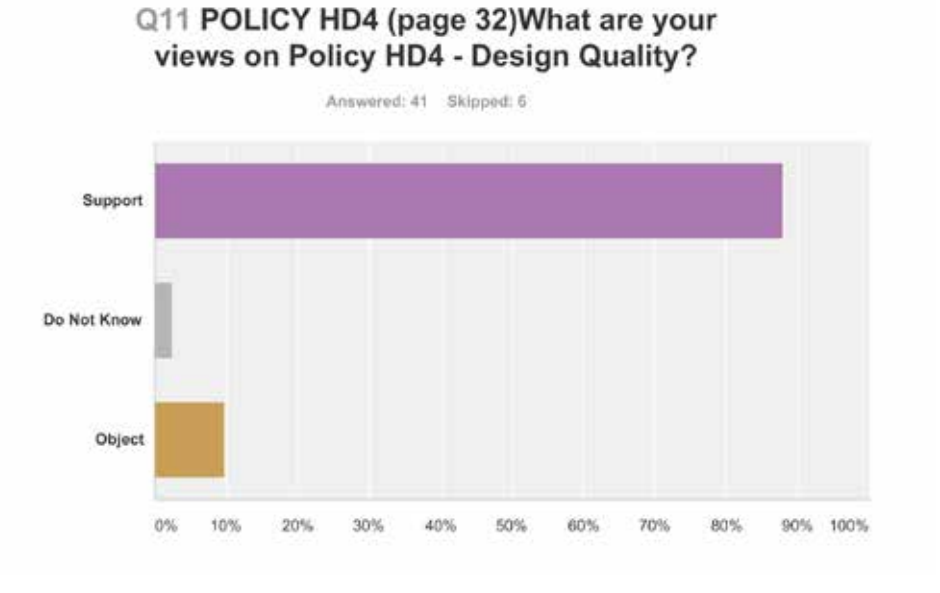


These graphs demonstrate the level of support for policies in the pre-submission draft of the neighbourhood plan


Q8 POLICY HD1 (page 29)What are you views on Policy HD1 Site Selection Criteria?
Answered: 41 Skipped: 6
Support
Do Not Know
Object
0% 10% 20% 30% 40% 50% 60% 70% 80% 90% 100%

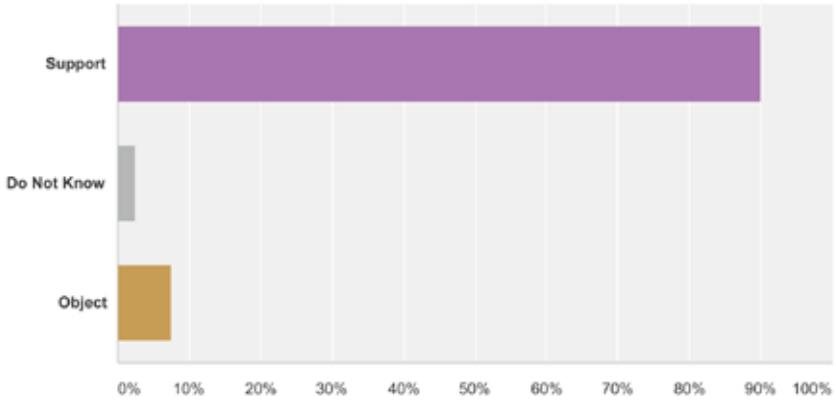

Q10 POLICY HD3 (page 31)What are your views on Policy HD3 - Modern Living?
Answered: 41 Skipped: 6
Support
Do Not Know
Object
0% 10% 20% 30% 40% 50% 60% 70% 80% 90% 100%


Q9 POLICY HD2 (page 30)What are you views on Policy HD2 - Future Housing Mix?
Answered: 41 Skipped: 6
Support
Do Not Know
Object
0% 10% 20% 30% 40% 50% 60% 70% 80% 90% 100%


Q11 POLICY HD4 (page 32)What are your views on Policy HD4 - Design Quality?
Answered: 41 Skipped: 6
Support
Do Not Know
Object
0% 10% 20% 30% 40% 50% 60% 70% 80% 90% 100%

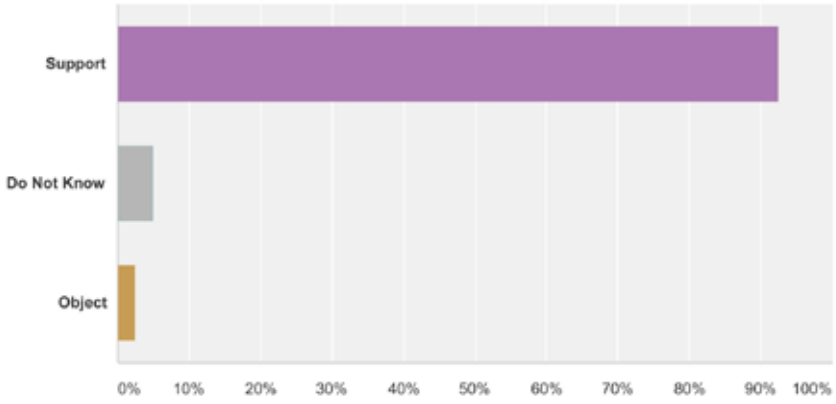
Q12 POLICY LP1 (page 37)What are your views on Policy LP1 - Views Between Village & Countryside?

Answered: 40 Skipped: 7



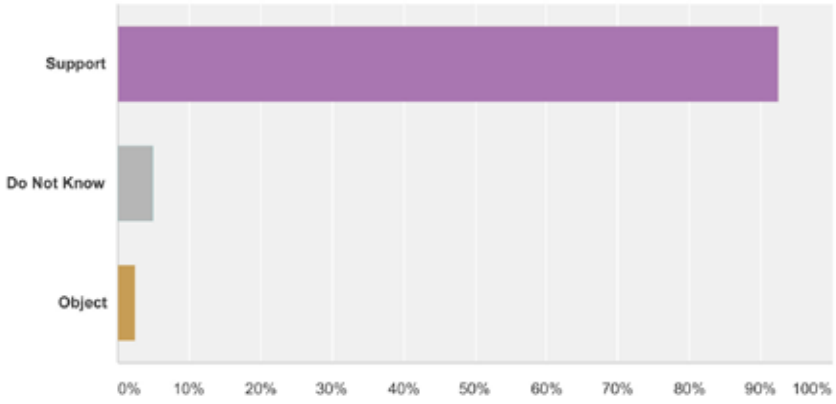
Q13 POLICY LP2 (page 38)What are your views on Policy LP2 - Area Of Outstanding Natural Beauty?

Answered: 40 Skipped: 7



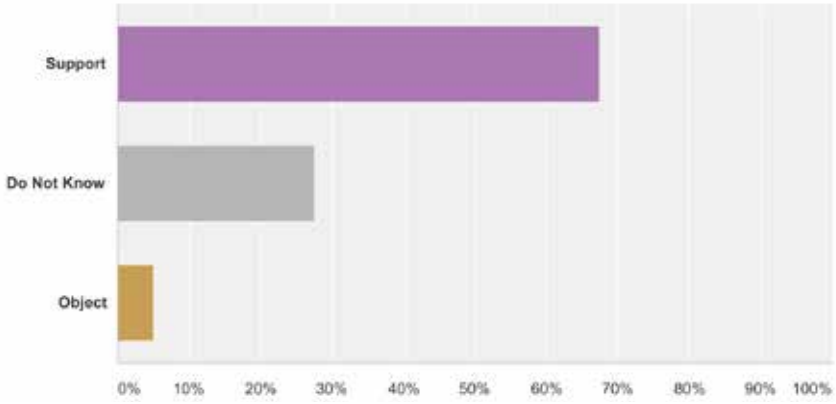
Q14 POLICY LP3 (page 39)What are your views on Policy LP3 - Designated Green Spaces?

Answered: 40 Skipped: 7



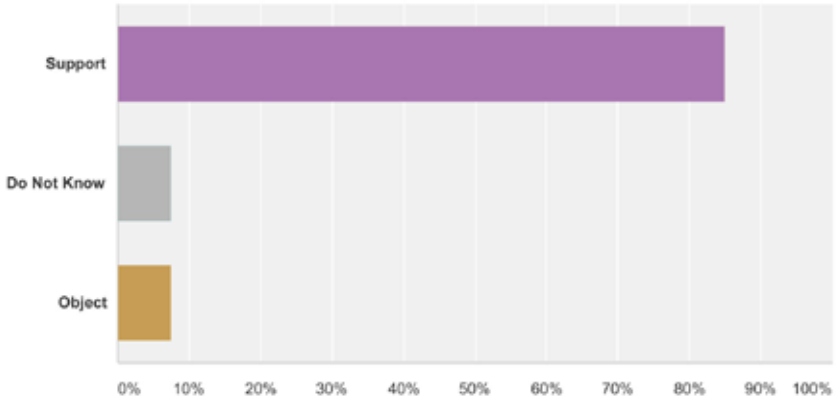
Q15 POLICY AM1 (page 43)What are your views on Policy AM1 - Highgate Hill Junction?

Answered: 40 Skipped: 7



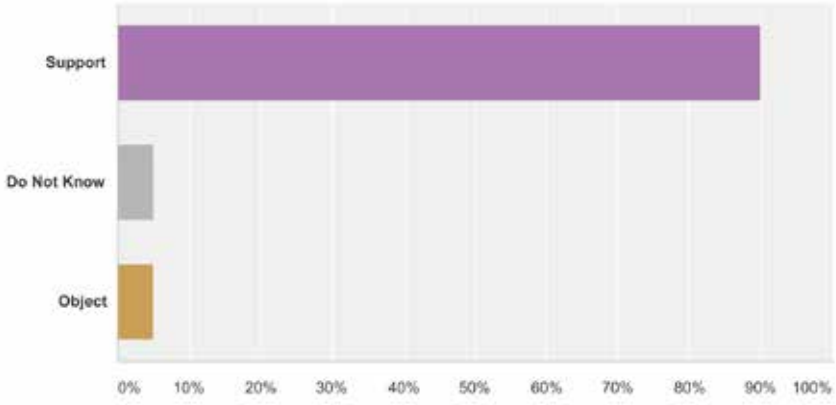
Q16 POLICY AM2 (page 45)What are your views on Policy AM2 - Improve the Pedestrian Environment?

Answered: 40 Skipped: 7



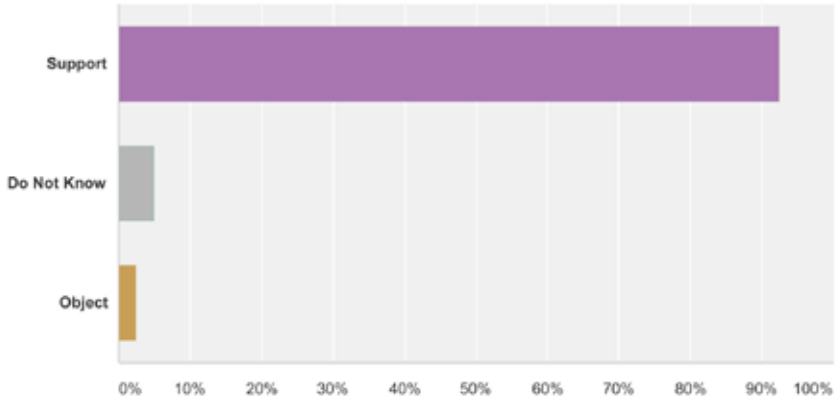
Q17 POLICY AM3 (page 46)What are your views on Policy AM3 - Countryside Access?

Answered: 40 Skipped: 7



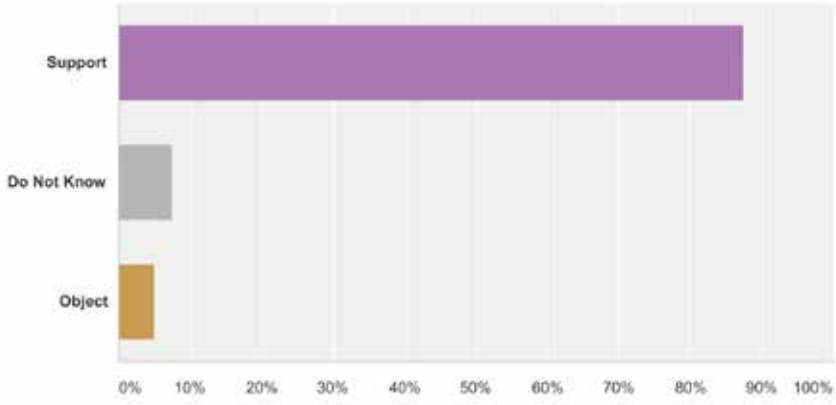
Q18 POLICY AM4 (page 47)What are your views on Policy AM4 - Walking & Cycling Strategies?

Answered: 40 Skipped: 7



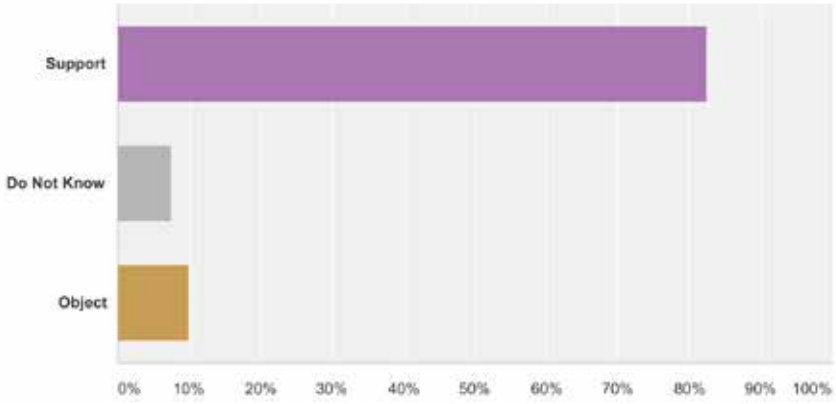
Q19 POLICY CM1 (page 49)What are your views on Policy CM1 - Sports Provision?

Answered: 40 Skipped: 7



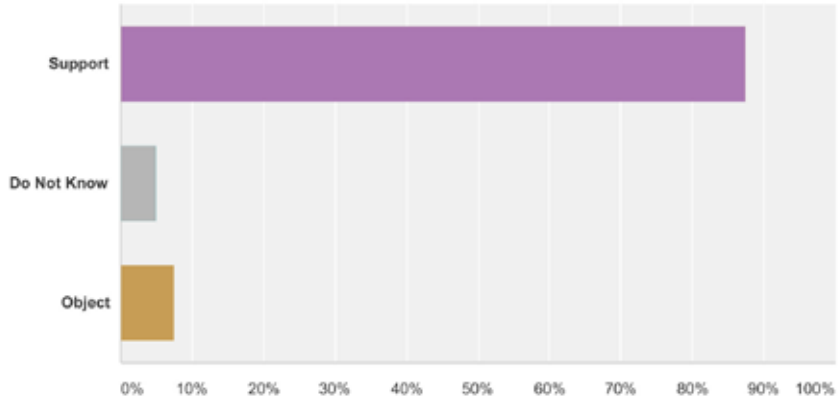
Q20 POLICY CM2 (page 50)What are your views on Policy CM2 - New Community Hall?

Answered: 40 Skipped: 7



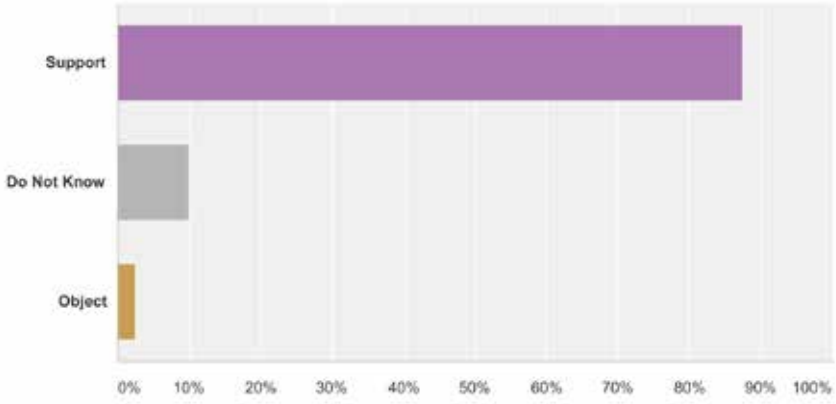
Q22 POLICY CM4 (page 52)What are your views on Policy CM4 - Preservation & Enhancement of Community Services?

Answered: 40 Skipped: 7



Q21 POLICY CM3 (page 51)What are your views on Policy CM3 - New Medical Centre?

Answered: 40 Skipped: 7



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