

## Meeting of the General Purposes Committee

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2019

### **Agenda Item 9.1 (vi)**

#### **REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES: PARISH PLANNING PANEL**

##### Villages (Local Plan)

There was a discussion on villages in relation to the planning core areas, where there is to be a development of residential building. If there is no main road then the density will only be small (possibly only two houses) but if the core area is adjacent to a road it can accommodate a slightly larger number. This seemed to satisfy the village representatives present at the meeting.

##### Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)

This money can be spent on infrastructure related projects such as highway improvements, streetlighting, education etc to support new developments. The local planning authority, Wealden District Council in this case, advise local councils of the amounts available, on a regular basis and there are set dates, when funds are paid to the councils (for example Uckfield Town Council is notified every six months – April and October with an update on funds received in the previous six-month period).

##### Policy updates

The new proposed Local Plan submission document is now closed for consultation. 3,000 responses were received and the proposed submission document will be sent to the Inspectors before the deadline of 24<sup>th</sup> January 2019.

There have been changes to the National Planning Policy Framework. There is now a presumption in favour of development in areas where there is a lack of Land Supply. In future, all sites will be deemed viable - it is down to the developer to prove without doubt that a site is unviable. Affordable housing built on major sites - affordable is to be 20% cheaper to buy and rent is to be affordable. Smaller sites are to be encouraged, more checks are to be made on brownfield sites, new rules on Highways in terms of capacity of traffic as well as access. If classed as dangerous, it will need to be addressed.

Neighbourhood plans are to be fully supported. There is to be stronger protection for ancient woodland in the national framework. There will also be stronger pre-build conditions in place to give more protection to trees, heritage sites and listed buildings.

Councillor H. Firth