**West Wittering Neighbourhood Plan**

 **Invitation to become involved in the Neighbourhood Plan**

West Wittering Parish Council has agreed to prepare a Neighbourhood Plan in **2016.** The Parish plan boundary was designated by Chichester District Council (CDC) recently**.**

The following paragraphs explain “What is neighbourhood planning”

**Neighbourhood Planning**

* Is a new way for communities to decide the future of the places where they live and work
* Allows communities
	+ To choose where they want new homes, shops and offices to be built and what they look like
	+ Potential gains under Community Infrastructure Levy and Community Rights
	+ To grant planning permission for the new buildings they want to see go ahead – There is legal force behind the plan.

**Neighbourhood Plans must:**

• Be in accordance with the principles of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)

• Conform with the Local Planning Authority (LPA) Local Plan

• Pass an independent Examination and be voted in at a referendum. All those on the Electoral Role of West Wittering Parish are eligible to vote, and 50% of the turnout must be in agreement for the Neighbourhood Plan to go through

The West Wittering Neighbourhood Plan is managed by a Steering Group who are supported byFocus Groups. The Focus Group Topics are listed below

* 1. Community (organisations, village infrastructure)
	2. Environmental (to include water services and issues)
	3. Heritage/Local Knowledge
	4. Transport and Accessibility (to include communications)
	5. Housing/Buildings Design/future build
	6. Communications, Marketing and events
	7. Business and employment

Our aim is to consult with all local groups and societies based in the Parish and we hope that you will be able to assist us. Perhaps you would like to be added to the list of consultees, and agree to promote Neighbourhood Plan events and consultation surveys through your networks. Or, if you would like someone to visit your group to talk about the Neighbourhood Plan, we can arrange for a speaker from either our Steering Group or one of the focus groups, depending on your area of interest.

 We will where applicable also liaise with the Neighbourhood Plan groups of adjacent parishes.

If you are willing to be involved in the process, then there are various ways to provide the information:

Arrange a meeting with a Focus Group representative by contacting The Clerk, Joanne Brown on wwpc@redhouse100.freeserve.co.uk.

Attend Parish Council meetings

Check the WWPC web site for updates on westwitteringparishcouncil.gov.uk

We thank you for your support and co-operation.

Kind regards

Mrs Joanne KM Brown, ACIS

Clerk West Wittering Parish Council