**West Wittering Neighbourhood Development Plan 2017-2029**

**Scope of Plan**

**October 2018**

**Vision**

By 2035 West Wittering will remain a beautiful, tranquil and biodiverse part of the Manhood Peninsula, retaining its character while promoting sympathetic developments meeting local needs.

Residents and visitors to the village will benefit from a thriving economy, improved transport and infrastructure together with a better quality of life. West Wittering beach will remain an outstanding, environmentally-friendly beach.

**Objectives**

**ASSETS AND TREASURES**

* To conserve and preserve the distinct character areas, designated areas and the green spaces in village
* To provide for a sustainable future for the heritage assets and green spaces in the village by ensuring new development preserve and enhance them
* To update the Village Design Statement for new developments to adhere to

**BIODIVERSITY**

* To accommodate development and change without undermining the natural beauty of the landscape, visual impact and landscape character.
* To Produce a Parish Habitat Map identifying vulnerable and special areas
* To maintain riparian ditches and waterways including impact from new development.
* To promote measures to reduce traffic, air, noise and light pollution.

**LOCAL ECONOMY**

• Support and encourage existing local businesses to thrive all year round

• Encourage small scale and appropriate new business start-up

• Promote and develop a sustainable local economy with local employment opportunities

**HOUSING**

* Provide small scale affordable housing in perpetuity for local people
* Provide suitable housing for downsizing to enable people remain in the village
* Support the delivery of affordable housing through community led housing schemes such as a CLT

**TRANSPORT**

**•** Promote and support sustainable transport

• Map out cycle paths and quiet lanes for designation

**FACILITIES**

* To maintain and enhance existing village facilities
* Maintain and improve sporting, cultural and recreational facilities

**Planning Policy Areas**

**Design**

To have a policy that makes specific reference to the Village Design Statement (VDS) as assisting designers to comply with Policy S20’s requirement that a development respond positively to a site and its surroundings, cultural diversity and history, conserving and enhancing historic character and reinforcing local identity. Update VDS to include important views, Conservation Area Appraisal management proposals and Good Practice Guide.

**Transport**

To have a policy that identifies public rights of way and quiet lanes suitable for recreational use and safeguards them from development that might affect that use.

**Housing** (to meet Policy S5: Parish Housing Requirements for 25 homes for the needs of the local community of West Wittering)

To have a policy that allocates a site or sites for affordable housing to meet local needs, to be delivered via a Community Land Trust or similar organisation that will deliver homes at a rent that local people / key workers can afford in perpetuity; or

To rely on Policy DM4: Affordable Housing Exception Sites and have a Community Aspiration to facilitate a Community land Trust or similar organisation to take this forward.

*(Evidence: site selection work, housing needs assessment, local evidence of waiting lists, willing landowners for first option).*

To have a policy that only permits new build open market housing in West Wittering where there is a restriction to ensure its occupancy as a Principal Residence.

*(Evidence: housing needs assessment, number of second homes in parish compared to average for Chichester district).*

**Visitor Accommodation**

To have a policy that allocates a site or sites for additional visitor accommodation that would encourage longer term and les seasonal visitors who would contribute more to the local economy than the summer day-trippers.

**Commercial and Economic Development**

To have a policy that identifies a site or sites for development for small businesses such as a business hub service; or rely on Local Plan policies Policy DM9 Existing Employment Sites and DM10 New Employment Sites.

*(Evidence: need/demand for such a facility. Will require a site selection process if a site is to be allocated).*

To have a policy that supports local retail facilities and identifies on the policies map local parades that are relevant for Policy S10: Local Centres, Local and Village Parades. Coastal Enhancements

To have a policy that identifies opportunities for enhancement of the coast within the parish, taking account of Integrated Coastal Zone Management strategies for the Manhood Peninsula, including upgrading of existing footpaths and cyclepaths and visitor facilities at West Wittering Beach.

**Biodiversity**

Have a policy linking to Policy S26: Natural Environment, Policy DM29 Biodiversity and DM31 Trees, Hedgerows and Woodlands that identifies and maps areas of biodiversity interest and opportunity areas in the parish.

*(Evidence: Defra MAGIC maps and Sussex Biodiversity Records Centre)*

**Community Facilities**

To have a policy that identifies the community assets of West Wittering and safeguards them against loss to redevelopment.

**Local Green Spaces**

To have a policy that identifies the Local Green Spaces and other green infrastructure and safeguards them against loss to redevelopment.

*(Evidence Local Green Spaces Study)*

**General Infrastructure**

Identify specific community infrastructure requirements, including any needs for new or improved health facilities for West Wittering in an annex to the NDP and feed into CDC’s Infrastructure Development Plan.

**Community Aspirations**

**Community Aspiration 1 – Engagement and Inclusion**

To engage with all residents effectively to achieve a highly-inclusive village community.

**Community Aspiration 2 – Highways and Transport**

To work with WSCC and CDC to manage traffic and parking, especially in the holiday season and to promote and support sustainable transport.

**Community Aspiration 3 – Community Led Housing**

To facilitate a Community land Trust or similar organisation to take forward a proposal for affordable housing to meet local needs.

**Community Aspiration 4 – Lighting**

To encourage local authorities, businesses and residents to make improvements to existing street, commercial and domestic lighting.

**Community Aspiration 5 – Management of Green Spaces**

To seek to adopt land provided as open space as part of new development.

**Community Aspiration 6 – Trees**

Where the mapping of biodiversity features has identified trees of value to the community that appear at risk from development pressure then these will be submitted to CDC for assessment for Tree Preservation Orders

**Community Aspiration 7 – Community Assets**

Community buildings and land identified as being of value to the community will be submitted to CDC for registering as Assets of Community Value, which offers some protection against any future plans for disposal.

**Community Aspiration 8 - Integrated Coastal Zone Management for the Manhood Peninsula**

To work with CDC to ensure that the local community is fully engaged in any future plans, strategies, projects and other measures to manage the Manhood Peninsular.

**Community Aspiration 9 – Watercourse Management**

To encourage landowners to maintain riparian ditches and waterways.