



# Rowlands Castle Neighbourhood Plan

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Rowlands Castle Parish Council Meeting Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2018

## Report of Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

Since the last Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group report to the Parish Council meeting in October, Councillor Liz Longman has been succeeded by Councillor Frank Ball as a member and David Holt has been succeeded by Ian Young as Chairman of the Group. Members of the Group are very grateful to David Holt and Liz Longman for their contributions, welcome Frank Ball, and are pleased that David Holt will continue as a member of the NPSG.

RCNPSG has continued to engage with EHDC over production of its new Local Plan, and five members of the group attended a Land Availability Assessment meeting with EHDC on 11 October to receive an update on progress and discuss aspects of land development. Local Plan Pre-publication consultation is expected to start at the end of January 2019.

The NPSG has continued to meet monthly and prepare information (evidence) about NP policies that could support any input/comment on the EHDC LP policies as well as informing the production of the policies for the draft RC Neighbourhood Plan. To this end, a "Housing Needs" survey (questionnaire) was completed and delivered to all households in the Parish and made available online, by the middle of October. The requested closing date for completion was 30 November and a reasonably good number has been returned. These questionnaires are now being analysed to provide evidence.

The Group will be meeting again tomorrow to consider further needs for evidence gathering and to progress plans for developing the RCNP, taking account of the timing of production of the South Downs NPA Local Plan and in particular the new EHDC Local Plan, with the latter not expected to be adopted until late 2020.

To inform production of the RCNP, two members of the Group attended a Hampshire Rural Housing Conference organised by CPRE on 6 November.

Although the programme for production of the RCNP has been delayed due to the production of the EHDC Local Plan, the Steering Group remains focused on producing a Rowland Castle Parish Neighbourhood Plan in accordance with the agreed RCNP **Vision: "To conserve and enhance the parish of Rowlands Castle as an attractive community whilst maintaining its separate identity, character and distinctiveness"**.

Ian Young  
Chairman RCNPSG