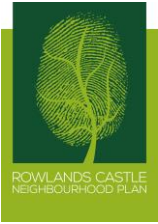


# Rowlands Castle Neighbourhood Plan

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**Rowlands Castle Parish Council Meeting Monday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2023**

## **Report of Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group**



Since the last Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group (NPSG) report to the Parish Council (PC) on 9 January, and the Council's approval at that meeting to proceed with the Regulation 15 submission, all the necessary NP documentation was submitted to East Hampshire District Council (and copied to the South Downs National Park Authority) on 24 January.

In response to EHDC comments, some relatively minor amendments were made to documents submitted, and this allowed EHDC to proceed with the Regulation 16 Public Consultation on the Plan starting from 13 February for six weeks until 27 March. EHDC is organising and has publicised this consultation with our assistance. Posters have been displayed in the Parish and publicity has been given on the PC website, on Facebook, and via Grapevine messages, encouraging any comment on the content of the draft Plan during the consultation period. The Regulation 16 NP documentation is available for consultation on the EHDC website, and the NP content on the PC website has been updated. Regulation 16 NP documents are also available for viewing at the Parish Office.

During the Regulation 16 consultation period, EHDC with the agreement of the Parish Council will appoint an Independent Examiner. It is intended to seek the advice of our consultant, who is a very experienced NP examiner and advisor, on EHDC's proposals. The Examiner will review the draft NP documentation along with all comments received during Public Consultation, and produce a report which will be sent to EHDC and the Parish Council. EHDC will consider the report and decide on the next step, including whether the NP can proceed to a Referendum.

During the various consultations on the NP, a number of observations and comments have been raised that cannot be addressed in the NP. These observations and comments have been compiled into a Community Aspirations Report which does not form part of the NP. This Report has been forwarded to the PC to inform future considerations of the issues raised by residents, as necessary. The Report could be made available on the PC website as further feedback on the NP consultations but it was considered that the PC would wish to have sight of the content and consider the way ahead before approving its publication.

We continue to be very grateful for the ongoing vital support of Gill Whatley in particular, and of Lisa Walker, in bringing the NP to the Regulation 16 stage.

Ian Young  
Chairman RCNPSG