**Crowhurst Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group**

**Notes of Meeting held on Monday 2 July 2018 at 7.30pm**

**in Crowhurst Village Hall**

**Present:** Gareth Bright, Ros Day (Chair), Tracy Hoad, Dave Howley, Sonia Plato, Diane Stainsby, Martin White, Willy Wilson, Pat Buckle

**Apologies:** Chris Davidson, Ann Wilson

**In Attendance:** None

Ros Day opened the meeting and thanked everyone for attending.

1. **Declaration of Interests**

1.1. All present declared an interest as residents of Crowhurst.

1.2. Item 3.2 Land Use Task Group – Martin White declared a personal interest as the owner of Church Paddock, Crowhurst.

2. **Notes of Previous Meeting** held on 11 June 2018 - Approved.

2.2 **Matters Arising**

2.2.1 Gareth Bright sought confirmation of the decision taken at the last meeting regarding Hurst Green Parish Council requesting a copy of Crowhurst’s survey form to assist it in it’s preparation of a NP. Ros Day confirmed the decision, and stated that Valerie Grove would be adding the blank surveys and photos from consultation events available on the website as part of the Consultation Statement needed for the final submission of the Plan.

3. **Task Groups Reports**

3.1 **Finance –** Tracy Hoad informed the meeting that the Task Group had not met and there was nothing to report beyond that noted at the last meeting.

3.2 **Land Use Task Group** – Martin White reported that a response had been received from Hannah Diment and Dusker Howells to the Memoranda of Understanding and that Chris Davidson and himself were due to meet Hannah Diment on 10 August 2018. He also reported that an initial archaeological survey had been received from the Hastings Area Archaeological Research Group (HAARG) on the car park area, 2 outline car park designs had been received from Tom Swift, who also suggested a landscape designer who is preparing a scheme. It was also reported that Father Michael had confirmed he had no objections from the Church on the proposed car park.

3.3. **Street Champions** – Diane Stainsby stated there was nothing to report at this stage.

3.4. **Communications** – Gareth Bright thanked members who had responded to his email regarding setting up a rota for the NP stall at the Village Fayre and he would be circulating the rota in due course. He felt it was important to re-engage with residents at this time to encourage a high response to the referendum and he will be discussing this with Valerie Grove on 25 July 2018. The meeting agreed it would be useful to contact NP groups at Sedlescombe and Robertsbridge as to how they had achieved a high response to their referendums. Ros Day stated that the next NP Forum was on 22 August 2018 and she would raise this at the meeting.

3.5. **Research Heritage** – Dave Howley reported that it was helpful to have two people in the village who were part of HAARG and who worked with the County Archaeologist. He also reported that research was underway on the iron workings in the village with a view to designing another walk, although this was currently in the early stages.

3.6 **Environment** – Sonia Plato pointed out that the latest update from the Task Group appears in the Crowhurst News. A visit was made to Crowhurst Park who informed her they have an annual visit from the Sussex Wildlife Trust. They have also received the David Bellamy Conservation Award for a number of years. Sonia Plato was also informed that the previous owner (a timber merchant) had removed all the larger hardwood trees and there are none over 40 years old. The Wests have bought the field between Crowhurst Park and the Water Tower and Sonia Plato and the Environment Group will met with Stephen West to discuss environmental topics around wildlife and farming. Sonia Plato is attending a seminar on wildlife protection, meadows and verges. The meeting was informed that this enthusiastic Group continues to grow.

4. **Update on Revised Plan**

Ros Day reported that there has been no response from Ashley Wynn regarding updates to policies and maps and it was agreed that Ros Day would contact him again the following day. Concern was expressed that time was running out to get the Health Check completed, any possible changes that may result, submission of the NP to Rother DC and the referendum, to meet Rother DC’s deadline. There was some discussion on what is Green Space (definitely no development) and Open Space (preservation of landscape, views, etc., including the part of Church Paddock not being used for the proposed car park). It was agreed that a separate map would be needed for Open Spaces. Sonia Plato pointed out that an update to the trees and ponds map was being done. There followed discussion on the NP stall at the village fayre and the equipment required.

5. **Date of Next Meeting**

**Steering Group** – Monday 3 September 2018 at 7.30pm in Crowhurst Village Hall.

It was agreed that no meeting be held in August as residents would be able to ask questions, etc., on the stall at the Fayre.

The meeting closed at 8.50pm.