**Crowhurst Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group**

**Notes of Meeting held on Monday 3 September 2018 at 7.30pm**

**in Crowhurst Village Hall**

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

**Apologies:** Martin White, 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.

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

3. **Task Groups Reports**

3.1 **Finance –** Tracy Hoad stated that the Task Group had not met and there was nothing to report. The meeting was informed that Ashley Wynn had completed his work and should be encouraged to send in his invoice for £1,000. The Health Check had been carried out and the Steering Group was pleased to note that only a small number of changes were suggested. The meeting agreed that Chris Davidson would contact Ashley Wynn to see if he would be prepared to assist with any of the changes should this be required. A meeting was arranged for Monday 10 September 2018 to go through the Health Check response and make any changes necessary.

3.2 **Land Use Task Group**

3.2.1 **Proposed Station Road Site -** Chris Davidson reported that he and Martin White had met with Hannah and Adam Diment on 10 August 2018. Both were complimentary about the NP, Hannah Diment’s only concern being about the Strategic Gap impinging on the farm. No objection was made to the proposed Greenway across Cinderbrook. Hannah and Adam Diment also talked about improving the farm buildings and Chris Davidson expressed to them the Steering Group’s hope that it would continue to be a working farm. The availability of some extra land for a children’s play area below Forewood Rise was raised and they stated they would be happy to discuss this. They both appeared to accept the Memorandum of Understanding although Hannah Diment felt it was too legalistic, and it was agreed that she could rewrite it if she wished. As no rewrite has been received, Chris Davidson had tried to contact her and was awaiting a response. Both Chris Davidson and Martin White felt reassured by the discussions.

3.2.2. **Proposed Car Park** – A final design has been received and a lengthy Impact Assessment is being updated but it was felt that there is sufficient information for this to be included in the NP.

3.2.3 **Meeting with High Weald AONB** – Chris Davidson and Martin White had met with Claire Tester, High Weald AONB Ubit, who was very helpful. She looked at the two proposed development sites and the proposed car park area, and gave advice for suitable ground materials to use on the car park. She also suggested farmhouse-type houses on the Station Road site; and advised not to have a cul de sac on the development at Forewood Rise but to leave the road open at the end. It was agreed that these comments should be added to the NP. Claire Tester was very positive and happy to look at developing plans.

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

3.4. **Communications**

Gareth Bright thanked members for their help on the NP stall at the Village Fayre and reported that there did not appear to be as many people visiting the stall as last year. It was hoped that this was because residents had all the information available at this stage, and there appeared to be no concerns about the NP. A couple of points raised at the stall were the Greenway across Cinderbrook and traffic calming. Dave Howley raised the need to fence the Greenway to protect users from animals in the field. Gareth Bright reported he had met with Valerie Grove on 25 July 2018 to discuss re-engaging with residents to encourage a high turn-out for the referendum, with particular reference to the website. The meeting discussed whether other NP areas templates could be used for posters, window stickers, countdown ‘clock’, etc.

3.5. **Research Heritage** – Dave Howley stated there was nothing to report.

3.6 **Environment**

Sonia Plato reported that the High Weald AONB Unit had visited the Environment Group and they had positive, helpful discussions and plenty of advice, particularly around having our own contract for verges on new developments and approach roads. Sonia Plato raised concerns about the neglect of the marshes and the need to look at future maintenance. The Environment Group had made two clearance visits so far but more needs to be done. The Brownies were keen to be involved, and 2 new Group members had been recruited from the Village Fayre stall.

4. **High Weald Unit Meeting Feedback –** See items 3.2.3 and 3.6 above.

5. **Neighbourhood Forum Meeting Feedback**

Sonia Plato attended the Forum meeting on 22 August 2018 which was well attended by neighbouring towns and parishes. It was announced that AirS is holding a conference in Battle on 10 October 2018 on Community Led Housing. Advice from the Forum included - referendum questions should be set by a group independent of the Steering Group; lots of advertising of the referendum; voters must live in the area and be on the electoral register; voters registration should be checked; include a policy stating street lighting is not appropriate in the Plan; have an aspirational list of how CiL money will be spent. Huw Merriman, MP, will be arranging a meeting to find out the pros and cons of neighbourhood plans. The meeting agreed that Sonia Plato will contact some architects regarding possible housing designs in preparation for a village meeting.

5. **Date of Next Meeting**

**Steering Group** – To be confirmed.

The meeting closed at 8.50pm.