



# **LAVANT NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2016 - 2031**

## **CONSULTATION STATEMENT Volume I: Main Text**

Regulation 14 of The Neighbourhood Development  
Planning (General) Regulations 2012

**Lavant Parish Council**

**December 2016**



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## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.01 Lavant village does not have an easily identifiable centre and the village is split into three main residential areas:
- East (the more historical part);
  - Mid, including North (mainly post 1970 housing developments); and
  - West (more outlying properties).
- 1.02 A successful Lavant Neighbourhood Development Plan (LNDP) is entirely dependent on the involvement of sufficient, representative, community individuals, groups and enterprises to drive the project forward to completion. Without them the project would have faltered at an early stage. Appropriate community engagement has therefore been key to the LNDP's success.
- 1.03 Our intention was to ensure that every person within Lavant has a fair opportunity to contribute to the delivery of a successful LNDP for the village of Lavant, West Sussex, via LPC/CDC/SDNPA and a public referendum that will influence planning decisions for the next 15 years.
- 1.04 The SG (SG) needed to have a clear understanding of how the population of Lavant is made up and how each sector is best communicated with. They aimed to develop appropriate techniques to ensure successful communication with each sector. An agreed Vision Statement, referred to in all aspects of the project, assisted the LNDP project to remain focused and prevent any accidental "drift" away from its original intentions.
- 1.05 Communication Objectives: To engage with the right people, at the right time, about the right things; and to provide appropriate and timely support to both the Steering Group (SG) and any Working Groups or Parties, such that the work of the project moves forward in accordance with agreed milestones, through to the ultimate delivery of the LNDP by the planned date and a successful public referendum.

### **Who are the key stakeholders?**

- 1.06 At an early stage, the key stakeholders were identified as:
- Everyone who lives and works in (and on the electoral roll of) Lavant.
  - Resident associations & groups.
  - Schools.
  - Local businesses.
  - Churches/LPCC.
  - External users of village facilities (sports clubs etc.).
  - Chichester District Council.
  - South Downs National Park Authority.
  - West Sussex County Council.
  - Environment Agency.
  - Infrastructure providers.

- Heritage England

### **How we have engaged with our stakeholders**

- 1.07 At an early stage we set out in our Communications Strategy how we planned to engage with the local community. From this we created a plan of key activities that would assist in the overall development of the Neighbourhood Development Plan. These included:
- Consultation Meetings with stakeholders.
  - A dedicated webpage hosted on the Lavant Parish Council website. All key documents and meeting notes are on this website ensuring full transparency.
  - A dedicated email address. Over time a database of contact names of residents and other stakeholders has been established, which forms the basis of any electronic communications.
  - A dedicated mobile phone number, to ensure that any parties who are unable to use electronic methods for communication have a way of contacting the SG.
  - Regular progress updates in the local church magazine, which is circulated to many (but not all) parishioners.
  - Regular progress updates in the LPC newsletter, which is delivered to all parishioners and posted on the LPC website.
  - Press articles in the Chichester Observer to highlight forthcoming events and to report on recent events.
  - Pop-up stalls at village events, e.g. Village Fete, Allotments Open Day, Flower Show, Lavant Community Day
  - Development of a brand Logo to ensure recognition of LNDP activities/communications.
  - Use of surveys and questionnaires to gather data.
  - Public events at key times to inform stakeholders and gather views.
  - Regular leaflet distribution to all properties in the parish, notifying of forthcoming events and providing outcomes of public meetings and other key progress updates.
- 1.08 This document sets out what we have learnt at the various stages of our engagement with the local community and how this has led us to create the plan.

## 2.0 Consultation Activities

2.01 To help us prepare our draft LNDP (also known as the “Pre-Submission Neighborhood Development Plan”) we have been holding events and keeping the community informed as set out in Section 1.

2.02 We have conducted a number of events and these are set out below:



2.03 This section sets out what we have done, what we were told and how we used what we were told to influence the Lavant Neighbourhood Development Plan (LNDP).

## Open Meeting (October 2013)

### What happened

- 2.04 Our first consultation exercise was a meeting to provide an introduction to the LNDP process and purpose, and invited views on three key issues. These were:
- Who should be involved in the consultation about a LNDP?
  - What needs and issues are important for the future of Lavant?
  - How do we capture everyone's views?
- 2.05 We invited local associations and groups (by phone/letter/email) and 30 stakeholders attended.
- 2.06 At the meeting, participants were split in to three groups, which rotated around three tables. These were hosted by a member of the SG who led a discussion on one of the questions above.
- 2.07 Notes were made and a final discussion involving everyone took place this was to gain some idea of a consensus or otherwise.

### What we learnt

- 2.08 The full notes from the meeting are included at Appendix 1a. In summary the meeting established a key principle of the LNDP. This was *'to ensure that every person within Lavant has a fair opportunity to contribute'*. To achieve this it was felt that the most effective way to communicate was via leaflet drops to every household in the parish, ideas from the discussion also helped to inform the Communication Engagement Strategy.
- 2.09 The discussion helped to show issues and opportunities which could be the basis of LNDP policies.
- Preserving the green space between Chichester and Lavant (Village Identity)
  - A hub for the community.
  - Lack of adequate pavements and footpaths.
  - Building developments:
    - Density and Diversity
    - Affordable housing
    - Car parking
    - Creating a Village Centre
  - Protecting green space

## Community Engagement Strategy (February 2014)

- 2.10 The open meeting identified that we wanted *'to ensure that every person within Lavant has a fair opportunity to contribute'*. To achieve this, the Chair of the Communication Group wrote a Community Engagement Strategy to help create a clear understanding of the demographic profile of Lavant.

### What we learnt:

- 2.11 The village has a predominantly ageing population where 59% are aged 40 or over (the National Average is 49%)<sup>1</sup>, which has the capacity to skew the outcome of the ultimate LNDP. It was also noted that by the time the LNDP is rolling out across its ultimate life of 15 years, the demographics may have moved and a younger village, with potentially different priorities, will exist. We will need to do our best to try to engage the younger elements of the village. Even without their engagement the SG should consider the long-term social cohesion of our community. The ownership structure of Lavant's housing stock is worth reflecting on as we consider the best way forward to produce a vibrant and balanced community. The closeness and facilities offered by Chichester will have an impact on the views of villagers regarding the preferred degree of separation sought from Chichester and the eventual infrastructure or community facilities offered within Lavant itself. Finally experience with an earlier shop project showed that the village has the capacity to stop a project in its tracks if it doesn't gather sufficient support, particularly amongst influential key individuals. Every effort must be made to get key influencers on board early and keep them there.
- 2.12 The Steering Group (SG) must get the message across that the LNDP needed community involvement; that the primary purpose was to reflect Village views and needs and that the consequences of not having a LNDP (given the huge pressures on the area) were not desirable.
- 2.13 The Communication Engagement Strategy (CES) can be found at Appendix 2a.

### **Initial Household Survey (February 2014)**

- 2.14 As the meeting in October and the CES confirmed, it was important to start to draw in the wider community. The personal invitation to October Open Space meeting was a good starting point but it was felt that there should be a leaflet and survey sent to all households in the Parish. The leaflet would give some information about the LNDP and, in order to encourage participation; it was decided to include an initial survey.

### What happened

- 2.15 All Lavant residents were invited to respond. A leaflet and survey (Appendix 3a) was delivered to every house and an article in the Chichester Observer (Appendix 3b) helped to advertise it.
- 2.16 Local residents were asked for their thoughts and views on three topics, these were:
- What should the main focus areas of the Neighbourhood Development Plan be?
  - What are their preferred types of communication (e.g. household leafleting)?
  - Any further comments about Village matters.
- 2.17 Residents were able to leave their responses at the Memorial Hall and the two churches and the leaflet distributors returned to all houses in order to collect responses. This latter method enabled informal discussions to take place when collecting the surveys.

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<sup>1</sup> source 2011 census



- 2.18 143 responses were received which equates to one from around 20% of all houses in the parish; this is considered a good return.

#### What we learnt

- 2.19 The responses received confirmed and added details to the findings of the first Open Meeting. A number of important matters were identified. These were (in rank order):
- Flooding and Drainage
  - Roads and Traffic Management including parking
  - Environment
  - Use of Open Space and Footpaths
  - Business and Employment
  - Housing
  - Community Buildings and Outside Recreational spaces
- 2.20 While some of the above issues could not be included in a Neighbourhood Development Plan, the SG felt that these issues should be reflected in further consultation and, if the further evidence was gathered, in the non-Statutory part of the final LNDP through a 'Community Matters' document. It was felt that such a document could provide useful guidance and a record which the Lavant Parish Council could refer to.

#### What we did next

- 2.21 The results were collated and analyzed for submission to the SG (Appendix 3c). These results were made available to the general public via a later leaflet drop (Appendix 3d).

### **Open Meeting (February 2014)**

#### What happened?

- 2.22 All houses were invited to the meeting through the previous leaflet drop conducted for the Household Survey (Appendix 3a) and a notice on the Chichester Observer Community Notice Board.
- 2.23 Its purpose was to provide an introduction to Lavant's Neighbourhood Development Plan, encourage local residents to become involved and to gain greater insight into the villager's opinions and thoughts about issues that had been raised to date.
- 2.24 The meeting began with an introduction by the Chair of the LPC and a PowerPoint presentation (Appendix 4a) which outlined what a LNDP is and how information would be gathered for it. After this the meeting was organised as a Round Robin discussion with the participants encouraged to go from discussion to discussion (the event running order is at Appendix 4b). Each area was manned by someone from the SG who gave an introduction before leading the discussion and making a note of the views raised. The areas covered included:
- Environment
  - Housing
  - Vision and Objectives
  - Community Engagement

2.25 The SG were both encouraged and taken by surprise at the level of interest and engagement. Over 80 people attended, the hall was packed and discussion groups large.

#### What we learnt

2.26 Detail was added to our current understanding and the nature of villager's concerns and aspirations were shown. These included:

- Housing: Phasing, Housing Need, Location and Design (meeting notes at Appendix 4c).
- Landscape and the Environment (meeting notes at Appendix 4d).
- Lavant as the gateway to the South Downs National Park is an asset that should not be ignored
- .
- Green Spaces: We need a plan and effort to make the most of the green spaces, Centurion Way, the allotments and the centre of the village.
- Vision: Lavant in 15 years' time: should maintain its individuality and enhance its community identity as a rural village within the South Downs National Park. Lavant should be a safe place to live (traffic, roads) and provide extra community meeting facilities.
- Community Engagement: Leaflets and meetings were the best (but not the only way to communicate) there also needed to be opportunities to meet, discuss and decide (meeting notes at Appendix 4e).

#### What we did next

2.27 Unfortunately the unexpected numbers meant that not all the Villagers were able to fully have their say, the discussion groups were large so the SG felt that they would want to continue to give Villagers opportunity to contribute.

2.28 What we learnt at the meeting was recorded, an article was written for the Lavant News and for the Chichester Observer which was published on 27<sup>th</sup> February 2014 (Appendix 4f).

2.29 Also from the meeting 12 members of the community came forward and volunteered to become part of three work groups that would look at the Built Environment, Natural Environment and Community Engagement. However, we felt that gaps still remain: parents; people with physical disabilities and teenagers. In addition there were no volunteers to look at Traffic and Road Management (which was a shame as this issue was highlighted the most on the initial survey), or Community Facilities. The SG would need to



encourage more people to volunteer to assist in these areas and these were referred to in the articles.

### **Vision Statement Workshop (March 2014)**

- 2.30 Following on from the discussions at the February Meeting it was felt there was enough information to create a Vision Statement and Logo, which would steer the plan and give it a purpose.

#### What happened

- 2.31 We invited representatives from various groups and interested parties. In total 24 people joined the workshop alongside the SG.
- 2.32 A workshop style discussion took place, guided by the themes and issues and ideas from previous consultation exercises. Participants were shown quotes from the February Open Meeting and examples from other NDPs so that they knew what they were working towards.
- 2.33 At the meeting, a Vision Statement for Lavant's Neighbourhood Development Plan was established, it read: '

#### *Lavant will:*

- *Celebrate its heritage, distinctive rural character and downland location.*
  - *Ensure that all development results in a built and natural environment which is attractive, sustainable, environmentally sensitive and proportionate to the needs and wishes of its community.*
  - *Enjoy inclusive community facilities and take advantage of safe and integrated connections throughout the village.*
  - *Benefit from recreational spaces and opportunities which support and enhance the lives of all its residents and visitors.*
- 2.34 How this statement evolved and the logo chosen can be found at Appendix 5a.

### **Housing Needs Survey (May 2014)**

#### What happened

- 2.35 CDC Local Plan specifically identified a zero requirement for the 22% of Lavant that lies under CDC control. SDNPA could not provide any allocation figures as it was too early in the development of the Local Plan. As such SDNPA charged the LNDP to undertake their own study to determine the Housing Need for Lavant. It was the LNDP's responsibility to identify the need for housing in the parish: how many, type, size, affordability, type of ownership, timescales. The survey undertaken was based on a model survey recommended by the CDC Councillor and SDNPA.
- 2.36 With the collaboration of CDC, surveys were delivered to all households in the parish (Appendix 6a). Boxes were made available in various locations around the village and a door to door collection was made with the vast majority of streets being visited twice, once during the week and once at the weekend. All collectors were given official badges and the surveys were sealed in individual envelopes. 331 valid returns: 331 (source: CDC) were received which is equal to 45% of the village

households and the draft results were published (Appendix 6b). This was entirely due to the persistence and energy of the collectors. CDC analyzed the survey finding and prepared a report; this is available as one of the evidence documents for this NDP. In addition a report with recommendations was made by one of the SG members (Appendix 6c).



### What we learnt

2.37 This exercise gave the LNDP Core Principles which were

- Housing development to be for local need (mainly 1&2 bedroom), irrespective of national housing targets. (Consistent with SDNPA Policy)
- Preference for local people and Affordability for both rental and ownership (shared or full).

### What we did next

2.38 The following Recommendations were made

- No planned open Market development
- Concentrate on one and two bedroom dwellings.
- Affordable housing for both rent and shared ownership.
- Explore possibilities for “exception” sites / Community Land Trust sites
- 75 dwellings were proposed
- Leaflets were distributed around the village with the outcomes and an invitation to an open meeting which would both inform and hopefully develop further the community view of the key issues.

### **Public Meeting (7th June 2014)**

2.39 All were invited to the meeting through a leaflet drop (Appendix 7a) and a Notice on the Chichester Observer Community Notice Board.

2.40 The purpose of the meeting was primarily to provide villagers with the initial feedback about their responses to the Housing Needs Survey (conducted in May) and to inform them about the upcoming Beating the Bounds event in the autumn, at which the residents of Lavant would have the opportunity to contribute to a Local Landscape Character Assessment and to record their observations and comments. The new LNDP logo was launched as was a photographic competition “What I love about Lavant” – to be judged at the forthcoming Village Fete (Appendix 7b)

### What happened

2.41 Over 90 residents attended on the day, and viewed a variety of boards highlighting the key outcomes from the Housing Needs Survey, initial information about the Beating the Bounds event

and several other topics (Appendix 7c). In addition the next event was advertised (Appendix 7d) volunteers were sought (Appendix 7e) and some more people joined the growing list of helpers. A report of the event appeared in the Chichester Observer on 12 June (Appendix 7f).

#### What we learnt

- 2.42 That some amendment to the proposed route for the Beating the Bounds would be required, as some people thought that one area of the village had been deliberately omitted (and therefore would be excluded as a potential site for future development). This had been entirely unintentional and changes were made.

#### What we did next

- 2.43 A review of all the comments was created to inform decision making . (Appendix 7g). More detailed analysis from the Housing Needs Survey still needed to be prepared, and the plan was that this along with feedback from the comments would be presented at the forthcoming Village Fete later in the month.

### **Village Fete (21 June 2014)**

- 2.44 A sub-committee of the Lavant Parish Council runs this event each year and conducts all the pre-publicity. It attracts hundreds of visitors, both from the village and further afield, and is a much-anticipated event in the village's annual social calendar. The day was bright and sunny and the LNDP had pre-advertised our stall at the earlier meeting (Appendix 7d). The SG had two gazebos present detailed information from the Housing Needs Survey, all the comments from the recent public meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> June including what action SG is taking in response (Appendix 7g), and to display the entries to the photographic competition "What I love about Lavant". Balloons and stickers were available for younger villagers. Our new logo sail banners helped to attract people to the stall (and have done ever since). Details of the Beating the Bounds event was also on display.



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#### What happened

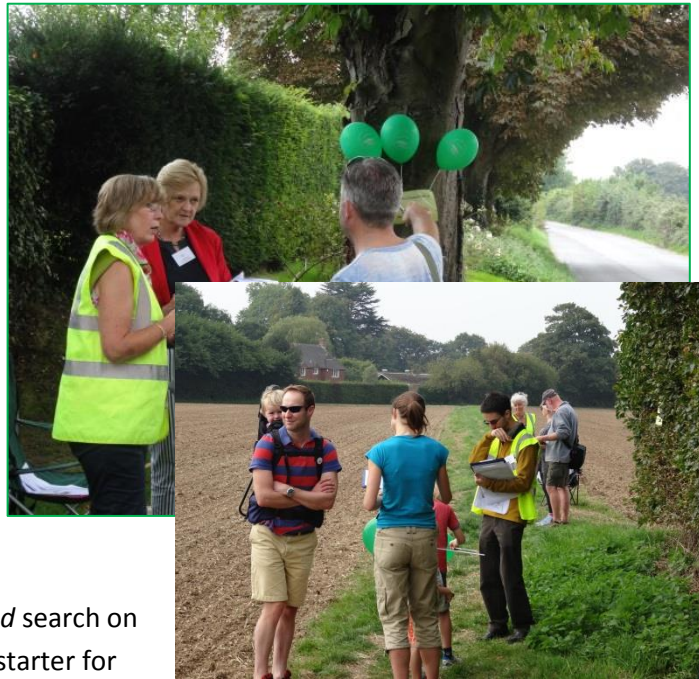
- 2.45 Although it was difficult to keep track of the exact number of visitors to the stall as it was very busy, we attracted 140 votes for the Photographic Competition and this is probably a good indicator of the number of visitors to the stall overall. The vast majority of visitors were supportive of what the SG was doing and the information being provided. There were many comments about how professionally matters were being conducted, which was encouraging for the SG.

#### What we learnt

- 2.46 More volunteers came forward to help us, and a number of comments were received, which were added to our bank of information (notes on the Fete stand are at Appendix 8a):
- 20 is plenty signs down Two Barns Lane



- I want a shop. Why have we not got a shop?
- Don't need any more houses – I have no children
- What is the point of the housing survey? At the end of the day it's down to what people can afford.
- Beating the Bounds. Still suspicious about leaving out East Lavant from BtB. Does the Parish Council have an ulterior motive?
- You should do a *contaminated land* search on East Mead Industrial site, as your starter for this area, by asking CDC.
- What time and where will BtB start? ( from I think non-residents but interested and would like to participate)
- Where is the Rat-Run?



2.47 The huge popularity of the village fete meant that this was an excellent event, and helped to further widen the awareness of the LNDP in the village.

#### What we did next

2.48 Final preparations for the Beating the Bounds was the next major focus. This was a big event, being supported by both CDC and SDNPA, and it was vital to ensure we did everything to make it go as successfully as possible.

### **Beating of the Bounds (September 2014)**

#### What we did

2.49 The concept for this arose from the Built Environment Working Group. Historically Lavant held a church led annual Beating of the Bounds used to establish and confirm the Parish Boundaries (Appendix 9a). Tempting as it was to send small boys climbing over fences and trampling over fields, our 'Beating' involved a walk within Lavant's Settlement Area. It was used to record what residents value about the distinctive landscape of Lavant and their opinions about changes of land use including new housing development, community and recreational use and footpaths at 9 locations. It was a circular route along footpaths– a total distance of approximately 2.5 miles (Appendix 9b). Transport between points was organized for any villagers who needed it.

2.50 All Lavant residents were invited via leaflets delivered to all households, the Chichester Observer and the Lavant News (Appendix 9c). Parents with children were particularly targeted through the inclusion of a children's quiz (with a prize). Teenagers were encouraged through the involvement of

the Lavant Football Club, who also organised a quiz. Representatives from SDNPA, CDC and the Chichester Observer were also invited.

- 2.51 At each Observation Point there was a short description of the area: questions about the present use, what is valuable about the surrounding landscape and environment, and about future use (Appendix 9d).

#### What happened

- 2.52 This was a very successful event attended by over 161 people, Lucy Howard Strategic Planning Lead at SDNPA walked the route with two Rangers. A large number of people from the village helped: leaflet deliverers, these were particularly targeted with extra drops at the school at the beginning and end of the school day; marshals who had no time to sit in the folding chair they provided for themselves, and others willing to do the 'donkey work' by, helping set up and /or take down the chairs and the tables and the boards, serve tea, run around, put up signs or take them down or show people across the road (Appendix's 9e & 9f).
- 2.53 After the event day there was a request for other opportunities. So, via the website and another leaflet drop (Appendix 9g), a self-guided walk and three guided dates were organised; the deadline for completed forms was extended and drop off boxes provided in various locations around the village. Over 1000 response sheets were completed.
- 2.54 After all the events an article was written for the Lavant News and one appeared in the Chichester Observer (Appendix 9h).

#### What we learnt

- 2.55 What we learnt went well beyond the quantitative information gathered. Feedback from participants revealed a greater understanding of the distinctive qualities of the 'three' Lavant's, and of Lavant's history. How the route down to the Memorial Hall used to be grazed by cows; and how that view across football field to the Trundle used to be open and how that scraggy and unloved hedge really hides a Devil's Ditch from 1000BC The Observation point at the Football Field provoked comment and debate about how the Village uses the recreational facilities and how and where the Village could provide good facilities for young and old alike. (There are many who would like a bowling green that isn't *inside* the hall and a small skate park would come in handy.
- 2.56 The event was very accessible and atmosphere collaborative. The Marshals at the Observation Points were complimented for their open and friendly helpfulness while several said that they talked to and met new people from the village. A relative newcomer of 20 years said that he felt there was on this walk a '*real feeling of community*'-. The main and most welcome of side effects of the process of creating The Lavant LNDP seemed to be a feeling of a Village rediscovering itself.
- 2.57 A further team of volunteers helped record all the comments and observations. A workday with lunch and cake took place.

## Summary Feedback by Observation Point

### *OP1 (Behind the School)*

- 2.58 60% for 28% against – partial development of the site – i.e. east of old Roman Road only. Shop/community hub, shared car park with school, extra classrooms for the school, community recreational facilities e. g Football pitch. Landscaping important – screening of new development from the Downs. Footpaths to link into Centurion Way. Traffic – safe access onto A286, plus traffic calming. Design to be in keeping with Downland village, plus adequate individual residents parking provision.

### *OP2 (Alongside Centurion Way at South end of village)*

- 2.59 26% for 48% against. Limited scope, small site, not central for community facilities. Village sprawl, fear of gap erosion with Chichester. Traffic issues, site access onto A286 etc. Potential Allotment *overspill* site. Footpath maintenance and improved signage.

### *OP 3 (Football Pitch)*

- 2.60 19% for 61% against. Rejection driven by communities' strong desire for quality recreational facilities to be available somewhere in Lavant. Traffic issues particularly along Pook Lane. Extension of Footpath from A286 down to Memorial Hall, maybe inside the current hedge boundary, not narrowing Pook Lane.

### *OP 4 (Barns – East Lavant)*

- 2.61 48% for 23% against. Re-development of existing brick barns, not flatten and start again, existing footprint only. Footpath, inside field boundary, to link up footpath network to the east of site. Traffic issues, site lines, and junction with Fordwater Road and Pook Lane.

### *OP5 (Marsh Lane)*

- 2.62 58% support for footpath link to Churchmead. "Re-claim" village pond area. Restore the water meadow.

### *OP6 (Near Old Railway Station)*

- 2.63 30% for 49% against; because of risk of flooding. Only suitable for small development (flooding & traffic) along east side of road. Footpath to Marsh



Lane, protect the water Meadows. Extend the play area. Potential site for shop / community centre but traffic and parking issues would need to be resolved. 20 mph speed restrictions.

### *OP7 (Eastmead Industrial Estate)*

- 2.64 72% for 6% against. Majority in favour of mixed development of Industrial / Business Park / Start Up quality premises and community housing including elderly and disabled. Community centre Inc. village shop. Site must be properly landscaped to fit in to overall environment. Traffic issues of great



concern; proper roundabout at entrance to site on A286 to slow traffic down; Car parking must be adequate.

#### *OP8 (Lavant Down Road)*

- 2.65 23% for 58% against. Northerly sprawl into green space, extending village, and remote from and for village facilities. Traffic calming required.

#### *OP9 (West of A286)*

- 2.66 25% for 53% against. Village sprawl, westward extension into green space. Great concern about traffic issues along A286, traffic calming. Traffic alleviation would be needed.

#### What we did next

- 2.67 Where people did not record, perhaps by mistake, that they lived in Lavant, efforts were made to track them down. Where this was not possible the Observation Sheets were discarded.
- 2.68 The process of recording showed a need for some Clarification. There were some problems with the questions asked about OP5 (Marsh Lane) as residents were being asked about a potential Footpath linking the Village Green to Churchmead Close and not built development. Many OP6 (next to the Old Railway Station) responses assumed that the whole site flooded. Flood mapping shows that this is not the case next to Churchmead Close. The football field at OP3 is seen as a vital Lavant facility and many responses indicated that this facility should be retained – not necessarily at this site. If relocated this site is potentially available for development. An opportunity for residents to comment on these clarifications needs to be made at the feedback meeting
- 2.69 Finally the SG met to collate and quantify the results; a report was written which gave a % support or otherwise for each location and grouped themes and issues under three headings: Building, Environment and Amenity (Appendix 9i & 9j). A Feedback report was produced for both residents and the SG (Appendix 9k & 9l). The next stage of the process was to:-
- Review the community views and to try to reflect and balance the views with the outcomes of the Housing Need survey.
  - Landowners needed to be formally consulted and other issues (environment and community facilities) needed to be taken into consideration. A Call for Sites needed to be organised.
  - Check with SDNPA and CDC that the draft proposals fit with the National Planning Policy Framework as well as Local Plans.
  - Start environmental assessment, traffic study and other supporting studies in order to turn the views into Options which would include the vision for combining housing, community facilities, footpaths and roads.

### **Open Meeting (December 2014)**

#### What we did

- 2.70 Via a leaflet drop and a notice on Chichester Observer Community Notice Board all residents were invited to an Open Meeting (Appendix 10a & 10b). This took the form of hourly feedback talks,

display boards and maps, handouts with key data, opportunities to ask questions and leave comments via a form and/or post it notes. Examples of typical comments were posted around the room and a PowerPoint was created. A Glossary was also provided (Appendix 10c, 10d, 10e & 10f).



2.71 The aim was to feedback the results of the Beating of the Bounds exercise, flag up the ambiguity of the response to OP3. Clarify OP5 and OP6 results,

Present through maps and diagrams some early suggestions to address the following:-

- Footpaths: current and proposed
- Roads to mitigate the effect of traffic on village
- How to combine housing development with community facilities, open space and other qualities (affordable housing/views/ flooding issues) asked for by the community.

2.72 Over 90 villagers came and a great number of comments were received verbally and on the poster notes. All the comments were logged and given a number to correspond to the board and location (Appendix 10g & 10h).

2.73 Typical comments were:-

- *....careful development and buildings which are sympathetic to the location, retaining a 'village look'*
- *.....this would be only the beginning of vast sprawl*
- *....these paths are used by many villagers for walking dogs and exercise, there are lovely views and .... (this place)....it's not suitable for development*
- *....site very suitable for redevelopment, it would enhance the location/community highly recommended/no resistance to development*

#### What we learnt.

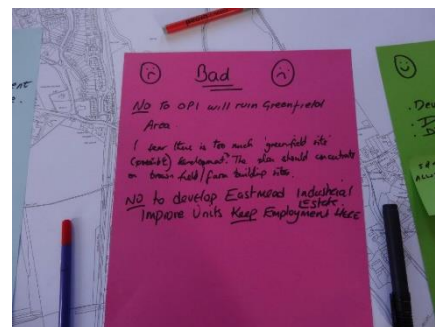
2.74 That issues regarding flooding were seen as very important .This issue would need further research.

2.75 That the concept of a Community Centre with associated recreational facilities centrally located was welcomed although the impact of this on some key views, the gap between Mid and West Lavant and footpaths needed to be addressed.

2.76 That a radical solution to Lavant's traffic problems which would result in a large area of housing had some support but there was a lot of concern about the effect on the landscape, views, and the impact on the Village nature and gaps between Mid and West Lavant.

2.77 That there was support for housing which brought with it some kind of community gain.

2.78 It was clear that viable options needed to be created and be presented which could balance the needs, wishes and demands of SDNPA, landowners and current residents. Although each option would cause controversy, the time for choices and preferences was approaching. The LNDP needed to get some sort of consensus on the scale and type of development that the Village wanted and /or needed.



2.79 It was important to continue to give real opportunities for villagers to be actively involved, comment and affect the Policies.

#### What we did next.

2.80 Through the Lavant News, e mail contact and web posting, residents who were unable to come along were told how they could get hold of the summary sheets and copies of the information boards. Residents were invited to join the SG and the various Working Groups and to comment about how well the consultation process was going.

2.81 Two main concepts were created Concept 1 offered three variations a, b and c. Each concept offered possible housing numbers, possible locations and community facilities, traffic options and footpaths that might be associated. Concept 2 offered a radical view of a new relief road and the implications in terms of housing etc. of this.

2.82 A Call for Sites was made in January 2015 and arrangements were made to formalise the contact with landowners and / or their agents and other interested parties such as the Governing Body of the Primary School. They were all invited to a meeting on the eve of the next Consultation Event when the Options would be presented to the Village.

### **Lavant Community Day and 'Vote for your Preferences' (February and March 2015)**

#### What we did

2.83 Immediately prior to the first of these events all the Landowners / agents and other key stakeholders were invited to a meeting in the Lavant Room at St Mary's Church. This was to enable them to see how their interests were affected by the possible outcomes of the LNDP (Appendix 11a).

2.84 This meeting was attended by all the key stakeholders. An introduction was made by the Chair of LPC and presentation was made by the SG. General questions were answered. Afterwards informal discussions continued between individuals and appointments for formal follow-up meetings were made.

2.85 Three events were organised at which villagers were shown 4 options for the future development of Lavant. The first event was held in conjunction with Lavant Parish Council's Community Day. This was held on a Saturday at the Memorial Hall and gave all local associations and groups an opportunity to promote their activities to the local residents. The event was publicized through two Leaflet drops and the Lavant News to all residents (Appendix 11b, 11c, 11d & 11e).

2.86 The main hall was used for the Community Day tables and the Green Room was used to display the options. Each Option had its own board with a designated SG member who could talk through and answer any questions. Summary handouts were provided and while some participants made their 'vote' at the event, there were boxes at various locations and a webpage link with a closing date (Appendix 11f). The March dates were held at St Nic's with the Thursday date timed to coincide with the regular Fish and Chip Van's opening hours. After the event there was a request to extend the closing date, this was done and a poster was put up in the Memorial Hall (Appendix 11g).



2.87 Over the three dates 157 residents came along, of these 120 left comments. In total 234 'preference votes' were registered either from these events or via the webpage or the boxes. Of these 212 were accepted as valid in that a clear Lavant address was recorded and the comments were not a word for word duplication of another response. All the responses were audited by a maths professor from Southampton University who was suitably qualified and was not connected to the LNDP SG or the LPC (Appendix 11h). All the comments were collated (Appendix 11i). An article was written for the Lavant News and Chichester Observer (Appendix 11j & 11k).

#### What we learnt

2.88 Based on first preference: - Concept 1 received 144 'votes'; Concept 2 received 62 'votes'. Concept 2 did not receive sufficient 'votes' to be taken further.

2.89 Regarding Concept 1:- Option C was the least popular, preference was almost equally split between Options A and B.

2.90 A decision was made to proceed on the basis of Option B, as taking the comments received over this exercise and the previous consultations suggested that the community would support some Market Housing if it enabled affordable housing to be built and would help provide some Community gain



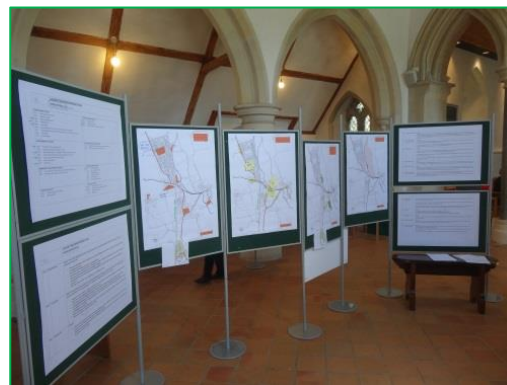
2.91 **Option B** consisted of 45 affordable housing dwellings plus up to 30 Market Housing dwellings spread across several sites. It also included possible improvements to parking, traffic calming measures and enhancement of leisure facilities and footpaths.

#### What we did next

2.92 Further and formalised one to one discussions with Landowners, SDNPA and CDC took place. Environmental Impact and Landscape Assessments were started.

2.93 Policies were drafted by various members of the SG.

2.94 Between these events and throughout the summer of 2015, two village groups made contact regarding their particular concerns and/or vision for the Village. E mail exchange and meetings took place, representatives from the two groups were invited to SG meetings. The comments were noted, discussed and reviewed with SDNPA, LPC and other advisory bodies or stakeholders. Adjustments and modifications were made to try to take the concerns into consideration while balancing the other themes and issues revealed through the consultation process. As a consequence of this in



September 2015 a leaflet called 'Recently Asked Questions' (Appendix 11i) was distributed to all households.



### **Plans and Policies (May 2015)**

#### What we did

2.95 Leaflets were distributed and an article placed in Lavant News (Appendix 12a) about the two Open Meetings, one on a Saturday and the other to coincide with the Fish and Chip van were held in at St Nic's. These took the form of hourly feedback talks after which there were opportunities for questions and comment on some of the draft Policies (Appendix 12b & 12c). These were displayed next to various maps, which were used to try to help villagers visualise the impact of the draft policies. Two more sites 11 and 12 were presented with photographs and observation sheets (Appendix 12d, 12e, 12f & 12g). 58 people came along and due to considerable resident interest in one of the sites further opportunities for responses via the website and collection boxes were made.

#### What we learnt

- 2.96 On the whole the policies were seen as reflecting the previous issues and strands. However, as these policies were in draft form most of the time was spent in discussion rather than feedback on the forms provided (Appendix 12h & 12i).
- 2.97 Comments picked up issues to do with sites, housing, gaps and footpaths.
- 2.98 Views about the effects of flooding in the Lavant Valley were strongly felt; there is a difference between the perceived and experienced flooding area and that designated by the Environmental Agency. This may affect both the Landscape Assessments and Policies.

#### What we did next

- 2.99 There remained gaps in consultation to inform the policies. Community Facilities, Important Views and Roads and Traffic. The first two would be researched at the Village Fete





in June and a Roads and Traffic Day with Roads and Traffic consultant Ben Hamilton –Ballie was organised for July 2015.

- 2.100 A report was written on the new possible sites (Appendix 12j & 12k)
- 2.101 We needed to continue to refine and work on the rest of the Policies and a workday was organised for June 2015. Advisors from Aires and EnPlan as well as link people from SDNPA and CDC were invited. Neither of the latter attended. The SG would like to note that the SDNPA link person was a regular attendee of the Steering Group meetings throughout the process and his advice has been valuable and much appreciated.
- 2.102 A visit to Lavant Primary school to talk to pupils was organised and took place in July 2015
- 2.103 The LNDP Scoping Report went out to the Statutory Bodies 6<sup>th</sup> June 2015

## Community Facilities and Important Views at The Lavant Fete (June 2015)

### What we did

- 2.104 Before the fete a collection of photographs was made of views looking outside and into the Village. The views chosen were based on consultation comments and the draft Landscape assessments. These were very varied and a range were chosen from all the three Lavants.
- 2.105 The LNDP's stall was located in a good position between the Dog Show and the Bric and Brac stall. Balloons and Flags were used to attract attention and giant Jenga and Dominos were ready for the children to play with. A display board gave some information about current progress (Appendix 13a). Members of the SG were on hand to answer questions and encourage residents to comment on Important Views and Community and Recreational facilities. A questionnaire was drawn up using suggestions made at previous consultations (Appendix 13b & 13c) and large pictures of the less familiar types of facilities were provided. The types of facilities were divided up in to age ranges, as it was felt important to gain an idea of the needs of teenagers and children. Even if not many teenagers responded at least the older generation would be able to consider that age group's needs. Villagers were asked to indicate any that they might be supportive of and then choose 5 which they would prioritise.
- 2.106 Large photographs of the key views were put up along with some older views from the 1960s. These had been given to us by a resident. Villagers were asked to choose their top three views by sticking red, green and amber dots on to the photos. They were also asked if they felt any other important views had been missed.
- 2.107 The fete is attended by a wide age range and this was reflected in the responses. Everyone was asked if they were a Lavant resident before being given the questionnaire or the dots. Due to the nature of the event a lot of informal discussion took place and several new people were made aware of the LNDP.



### What we learnt

- 2.108 Community Facilities: - 53 completed responses were received. There is a lot of enthusiasm for enhanced or new cycle routes, including routes which would connect to Centurion Way and other parts of Lavant (featuring 50 times). Many members of the public were supportive of improved facilities for Teenagers; including the idea of a Teenage Shelter (13) and skateboard park (13) and an outdoor fitness trail (19) for all ages. Once again there was a lot of support for a Village Shop/ Hub and Café (42). Although the need for a Doctor's Surgery had not



previously featured in consultation responses the responses to this questionnaire indicated a high level of support (26), (Appendix 13d).

2.109 Important Views: - the following were given the most dots as first choice (Appendix 13e).

**Views into the Village**

- View into field behind Primary School from West Lavant
- View towards East Lavant from Trundle
- View towards Mid Lavant from Trundle
- Across Village Green towards Trundle



**Views out of the Village**

- View across to the Trundle from Churchmead
- The view from the Earl of March down towards and across the Village Green towards East Lavant and up towards the Trundle.

What we did next.

2.110 A site for a Village shop/ hub café was seen as a priority and led to consideration as to where it could be situated. The other responses would be referred to in the Community Matters Section of the Plan.

2.111 The responses about views would be taken into consideration when the final drafts of the Landscape and Character Assessments were written. SDNPA also had considerable impact and interest in the maintenance of views out of and into the National Park.

**Other consultation involvement. LAVANTR4RR. (February 2015 to October 2015)**

What happened?

2.112 The issue of traffic and parking was reoccurring theme through the consultation. A villager who was particularly concerned about this was invited to attend SG meetings in order to help ensure that this issue was properly addressed. It was felt that the option for a bypass should be presented to the Village- this was done initially at the meeting of December 2014. The responses at this time were divided. The cost of such a development was questioned as was the impact both on the nature of the village character. However, as a potential solution to the increased pressure of through traffic there were some supportive comments.

2.113 The option for a Relief Road was formally presented at the Options Vote for your Preferences exercise of February and March 2015. The audited results of this showed that 29% of those who



expressed a preference supported an option which would include a Relief Road. The issue was discussed at the SG meeting of April 2015; this was attended and contributed to by a resident who felt strongly that a Neighbourhood Development Plan which did not include this option would lack vision and capacity for the future (Appendix 14a). The SG resolved to continue on the basis of option A/B which did not include provision for a Relief Road

- 2.114 After this a group called LAVANTR4RR (Lavant Residents for the Relief Road) in the Village made representations to WSCC, CDC and SDNPA. In all instances the authorities indicated that they were not supportive of a Relief Road. Nonetheless pressure remained to include this option as part of the LNDP and a leaflet produced by the group was distributed around the village in August 2015 (Appendix 14b).

#### What we did

- 2.115 An email outlining the issues and seeking to address confusions that had arisen as a result of LAVANTR4RR's leaflet was sent to the contacts held on the data base of the LNDP (Appendix 14c). We received 5 responses, one wondering what was going on as they had not received the leaflet, one asking for the location of information, two supportive of the content of the e mail, (one of these pointed out that they would resist any inclusion of OP1 in any plans), one acknowledging that the vote for preferences 'went against them' but pointing out that there was support for LAVANTR4RR. The SG continued to engage with the group, for example by attending a meeting that they held and via e mail communication. LAVANTR4RR were invited to send representatives to a meeting with WSCC Highways and SDNPA in September 2015 at which the ideas for a Relief Road were presented. The financial model was rejected by WSCC as being unrealistic, and undercosted by at least 50% SDNPA considered this proposal as highly detrimental to the SDNP and environment and against the core principles of the Park.
- 2.116 In addition to the comments arising from this meeting the SG further consulted SDNPA and other consultants regarding what could be included as a policy. Due to these factors, the significant doubts as to the deliverability of the Relief Road concept, and the outcome of the 'Vote for your preferences' evidence. SG felt that they no mandate to pursue the concept. A briefing note was prepared by a member of the SG (Appendix 14d) and the meeting of October 2015 the issue was discussed. What follows is an extract from the Meeting Notes.

*'A great deal of time and effort has been spent on this by SG and others in support of the RR. As the pre submission documents nears its completion and, in particular, site allocation decisions are about to be made at LPC meeting November 10th the time has come when the SG really needs to make a decision as to RR place in the LNDP.*

*Decision needs to be based on evidence.*

*Formal votes on following options:*

- 1. RR to be included as a Policy in LNDP*
  - 2. RR to be included in Community Matters section*
  - 3. Proposed RR route to be reserved by a Policy so it is available beyond the 15 years of our plan.. A safeguarding Policy*
  - 4. AT suggests a 4th choice. To exclude it altogether.*
- *Vote on option 1 No votes in favour. Unanimous vote against... 8*

- *Vote on Option 2 in favour ... 6 vote against it ... 1*
- *Vote on Option 3 In favour ... 0 vote against it ... 8*
- *Vote on Option 4 No needed due to votes as above'*



2.117 However, the SG agreed to record the concept within the NDP. Thus in addition to this entry the concept has been recorded in Section 4 of the 'Community Matters' Document. The concept is therefore captured for future reference, should traffic volumes become a future priority for LPC and the community. Details regarding LR4RR are in the following appendices:

- Appendix 14f – Email dated 23/10/15 from Derek Kingaby (chair of L4RR) to the SG
- Appendix 14g – L4RR Proposed Draft Policy
- Appendix 14h – L4RR Draft Proposal

## **Roads and Traffic Day (July 2015)**

### What we did

2.118 As the pressure felt by residents due to Road and Parking was a dominant issue throughout the consultation process, Ben Hamilton- Baillie, a leading expert with specialist knowledge and experience of innovative solutions for traffic problems, was invited by the LNDP and LPC to Lavant. He has unique expertise in the development of street design which can improve safety, congestion and access. He has worked with rural communities to address traffic issues in villages as well as SDNPA. In fact he was recommended by SDNPA. All households received a leaflet and an article was written for the Lavant News and Chichester Observer (Appendix 15a & 15b). Representatives from West Sussex Highways, Chichester District Council and the police were also invited so they could hear about the problems and Lavant's views.



- 2.119 The event was divided to two sections. During the morning Ben Hamilton- Ballie went on a fact-finding walk around the key areas of the Village. He was joined by a small invited group. The participants were asked by letter and phone call on the basis of the place where they lived (Appendix 15c). One resident had the dual role of being the local coordinator of the charity Living Streets. They were joined by 2 members of the SG and Amy Tyler-Jones from SDNPA.
- 2.120 The evening event, a presentation by Ben Hamilton Ballie of his findings. took place at St Nic's church The presentation drew on many precedents from both the UK and mainland Europe, all focused on influencing driver expectations, speeds and behaviour. These included examples such as West Meon and Buriton in Hampshire, and Rogate in West Sussex. He also made some suggestions

about possible solutions. There was an opportunity for questions and a feedback form was provided (Appendix 15d).

- 2.121 The meeting was very well attended with 94 people signing in. Due to the considerable interest shown, an e mail was sent to all the contacts on the data base, an article was written for the Lavant News. The Parish Council and the SG asked to hear from anyone who came along on the day, anyone who was affected and anyone who had experience in this area.



- 2.122 The SG offered to organise a mini presentation with details and images of Ben's findings if there was enough interest (Appendix 15e).

#### What we learnt

- 2.123 The first thing was that for events as well attended as this one, a sound system was needed! It is a matter of regret that the acoustics of the church and the enthusiasm and detail of Hamilton Ballie's presentation meant that several villagers were unable to fully participate.
- 2.124 Ben Hamilton- Ballie noted several significant things:-
- the unusually fragmented shape of the village, and the difficulties this presented.
  - that Lavant is unusual in not having any single clear centre,
  - the number of important and significant places and the importance of reinforcing the distinctive qualities of such places
  - the need for clear gateways to differentiate the adjoining highways from the village context.
- 2.125 The speed and impact of the traffic on the A286 was the main focus for attention, exploring ways to reduce the linearity and sweeping curves, and the need to strengthen and enhance the places where pedestrians tend to cross. The geometry and marking of the junction with Sheepwash Lane, and the need to highlight the important footpaths were discussed. Hamilton-Ballie also focused on the approach from the north, and the need to visually narrow the long, straight approach through West Lavant, especially when proposals come forward for the industrial estate. He concluded by identifying around a dozen locations where interventions would be most effective.
- 2.126 From the Q and A session and Feedback forms (Appendix 15f & 15g) it seems that there was broad agreement on the principles of increasing the visibility and distinctiveness of Lavant, and the need to work up more detailed potential interventions for any future road changes or maintenance programmes.
- 2.127 Costs were of concern, although the timescales for such changes involve long-term commitments to



gradual improvements. Further feedback from those in attendance was welcomed (Appendix 15h).

#### What we did next

- 2.128 A meeting was held in September with West Sussex Highways, Local Councillor and Community Officers, from SDNPA Link manager and places manager CDC, the LPC, the LNDRP SG and other interested villagers (Appendix 15i & 15j).
- 2.129 Although Ben Hamilton-Baillie's suggestions could not form a distinct Policy in the NDP the approach would be reflected in the Site Specific policies, policies in the Transport and Infrastructure Section (i.e. LNDRP20 and LNDRP21) and other policies which related to the theme of village character and distinctive places. Specific suggestions for traffic mitigation would be recorded in the Community Matters section. In this way it is hoped that this key area of concern and issue raised at the very beginning of the process could be reflected in the final plan.

#### **Business Consultation (August 2015)**

- 2.130 Lavant benefits from approximately 60 businesses, located across all areas of the Parish. Businesses range from sole traders to medium sized businesses, several of which operate from the Eastmead Industrial site. Business activities include commercial storage, web design, personal fitness, car serving and repair, light engineering works, riding stables, farms, pubs, petrol sales & convenience shop, veterinary surgery, bed & Breakfast etc.

#### What we did

- 2.131 The SG made contact with businesses in August 2015 by letter. Letters were either posted or sent via email (Appendix 16 a & 16b).
- 2.132 The letter advised business owners that a business policy was now being prepared for inclusion in the LNDRP and that the policy could impact businesses in Lavant for a period of 15 years. It also informed recipients that policies in the LNDRP could: have an impact on where and what type of development could occur; promote more development (e.g. more business premises) than is set out in the Local Plans issued by CDC & SDNPA and specify design standards, that will take precedence over the Local Plans for our area – provided our LNDRP policies do not conflict with the strategic policies in the Local Plans
- 2.133 The letter provided a copy of the draft business policy and invited recipients to offer their ideas, suggestions or comments on the draft policy, before 7<sup>th</sup> September, and offered recipients the opportunity meet representatives of the SG in order to discuss the draft policy and or other matters relating to the Neighbourhood Plan.

#### What we learnt

- 2.134 There were very few respondents to the letter and none objecting or requesting changes to the draft policy.
- 2.135 Responses included the following: a request to be kept informed of progress a request for a small business centre to be considered; the stressing of the importance of securing reliable and fast

internet access and highlighted the benefits of re-developing the industrial estate for small start-up businesses.

- 2.136 One respondent, whose B&B business was being adversely affected by traffic, strongly urged the SG to support the relief road option and a further respondent confirmed the importance of keeping businesses going in Lavant and expressed concern about increased traffic that might arise from new housing or business developments within the village.

What we did next

- 2.137 Respondents were acknowledged and their responses captured and added to the LNDP evidence base.
- 2.138 With no objections or amendments being offered by local businesses the draft business policy was developed using the draft as a basis for the final policy.
- 2.139 Those more general comments, not specific to the business policy, as offered by local businesses in response to the letter dated Aug 2015, were addressed within the wider scope of the Plan.

## 3.0 Pre-Submission Consultation

- 3.01 Carrying out a pre-submission consultation is a statutory requirement when preparing a development plan. The legal requirements are set out in Regulation 14 of The Neighbourhood Development Planning (General) Regulations 2012.
- 3.02 A 6 week consultation exercise was held between 10<sup>th</sup> March 2016 and 28<sup>th</sup> April 2016.
- 3.03 This section seeks to fulfil these legal requirements set by regulation and will set out:
- (a) The people, businesses and organisations that were consulted on our draft plan.
  - (b) How they were consulted.
  - (c) A summary of the main issues and concerns raised by those consulted and a description of how these issues and concerns have been considered and, where relevant, addressed in the final proposed LNDP.

### **(a) Who was consulted**

- 3.04 The following statutory and non-statutory consultees were consulted on the pre-submission neighbourhood plan:
- Natural England
  - Environment Agency
  - Historic England
  - CDC
  - CDC - NP Policy advice
  - CDC - Housing
  - CDC - Community engagement
  - CDC - Economy/Business
  - CDC - Biodiversity and Environ
  - CDC - Built Heritage/design
  - WSCC - Transport/Highways
  - WSCC - Ecology
  - WSCC – Landscape
  - Southern Water
  - Portsmouth Water
  - Sussex police
  - Local Clinical Commissioning Group
  - Southern Electric
  - Highways Agency
  - Homes and Communities Agency
  - Chichester Harbour Conservancy
  - John Lister, Natural England
  - Hannah Hyland, Environment Agency
  - Planning, Environment Agency
  - Historic England
  - Martin Small
  - Robert Lloyd Sweet
  - Andrew Tyrie MP
  - CDC Planning Policy
  - Holly Nicol, CDC - Housing
  - Dave Hyland/Shona Turner, CDC - Community Engagement
  - Stephen Oates, CDC - Economy/Business
  - Tom Day, CDC - Biodiversity And Environ
  - Stephanie Evans, CDC - Biodiversity And Environ
  - Lone Le Vay, CDC - Built Heritage/Design
  - Valerie Dobson, CDC

- Mike Hall, Lavant District Councillor
- Lucy Seymour Bowdery, WSCC - Transport/Highways
- Graham Roberts, WSCC - Ecology
- Tim Dyer, WSCC - Landscape
- Ced Rural, WSCC - Rural
- Jeremy Hunt, WSCC
- Highways, WSCC
- Amy Tyler Jones, SDNPA Planning Policy
- Nat Beldersen, SDNPA Planning Policy
- Chris Paterson, SDNPA Planning Policy
- Claire Potts, SDNPA Minerals & Waste
- Margaret Paren, SDNPA Member
- Norman Dingemans, SDNPA Member
- Alun Alesbury, SDNPA Member
- Sebastien Anstruther, SDNPA Member
- Ken Bodfish, SDNPA Member
- David Coldwell, SDNPA Member
- Josephine Carr, SDNPA Member
- Vaughan Clarke, SDNPA Member
- Mark Dunn, SDNPA Member
- Philip Ede, SDNPA Member
- Neville Harrison, SDNPA Member
- Barbara Holyome, SDNPA Member
- Daniel Humphreys, SDNPA Member
- Doug Jones, SDNPA Member
- Tom Jones, SDNPA Member
- Diana Kershaw, SDNPA Member
- Barry Lipscomb, SDNPA Member
- Gary Marsh, SDNPA Member
- Robert Moccata, SDNPA Member
- Ian Phillips, SDNPA Member
- Karen Roberts, SDNPA Member
- Sue Saville, SDNPA Member
- Deborah Urquhart, SDNPA Member
- Jim Sheppard, SDNPA Member
- Peter West, SDNPA Member
- Lewis Doyle, SDNPA Member
- Carole Nichol森, SDNPA Member
- Graham Ault, SDNPA Member
- Kirsten Williamson, Southern Water
- Paul Sansby, Portsmouth Water
- Sussex Police
- Local Clinical Commissioning Gp
- Duncan Macdonald, Southern Electric
- David Bowie, Highways Agency
- Nicolas Wagstaff, Homes And Communities Agency
- Steve Lawrence, Chichester Harbour Conservancy
- Greg Burt, West Dean Pc
- Jane Landstrom, Singleton Pc
- David Few , Chichester City Council
- Geoff Keech, Funtingdon Pc
- Greg Burt, Westhampnett
- Clerk, Stoughton Pc
- Jonathan Sharrock, Local Economic Partnership
- Network Rail
- National Grid
- SSE
- Southern Gas
- BT
- Vodaphone
- Stagecoach
- Jess Price, Local Wildlife Trust
- Peter Winter, Lavant Memorial Hall
- John Slipper, Lavant Valley Allotment Ass
- Lavant Primary School
- Lavant House School
- Sandra Hunt, Hyde Martlett
- Robin Burford, Lavant Cricket Club
- David Kent, Lavant Footie Club

- James Pickford, LPCC
- Cynthia Blades/Barbara Treverton, St Mary And St Nicholas Wardens
- Summersdale Residents Association
- Lavant Horticultural Society
- Women's Institute
- Lavant Players
- A1 Autocare
- Alpha Pet Veterinary Clinic
- B&G Motors
- Barkers Grooming
- Chivertons
- Compass Supply Solution
- Complete Bathroom Installation
- Country Stylke Wedding Cars
- Crossfit Chichester
- Daisy's Day Car For Dogs
- Driftwood Flowers
- Grandwood Furniture
- James Todd And Co
- Kaotic Noise Ltd
- Krum Brothers
- Lavant Garage
- Lavant House Stables
- Leki Aviation
- Natural Therapies
- Newton Mercedes Benz
- No 25 Repair Centre
- Oldwich Saddlery And Country Clothing
- Oldwick Livery
- Oldwick Therapy Centre
- Parkers Barn Stables
- Remco Products
- Rew Auto Services Ltd
- Ski Chalet
- Squires Plumbing
- St Wilfred's Hospice Donations
- Summersdale Service Station
- Woodburner Fitters
- Woodies
- Earl Of March
- Flint Cottage
- Rooks Hill
- Royal Oak
- Goodwood Hotel
- Wellies Restaurant
- Hunters Lodge
- The Old Granary B&B
- Amanda Sutton, Seaward
- David Mortimer
- Paul Pickvance
- Mrs Cheung
- Grant Murphy
- Ray Brown
- Patrick Barry
- Julie Hopes/Luke Vallins, Goodwood
- Mark Hoult
- David Lock
- Ian Lock
- Ellie White, McLaren Group
- Anthony Wickins
- The Venerable Douglas H Mckittrick
- Mike Kingsford

### **(b) How the consultees were consulted**

- 3.05 Each household received a leaflet (Appendix 17a) from the Lavant Parish Council. This outlined the dates and places where all the Draft LNDP documents could be viewed. In addition, posters were put up around the Parish (Appendix 17b)



- 3.06 Consultees, listed at para 3.04, were contacted by email (Appendix 17c). In addition all the people on the LNDP data bank were sent an e mail and a notice was placed in the Chichester Observer.
- 3.07 The Pre-Submission Neighbourhood Plan and it's supporting documents were made available:
- via the Lavant Parish Council Website
  - at St Nicholas' Church on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> March 4:30 – 7:30 , Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> March 10:00 to 3:00 and Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> March
- 3.08 At the open morning, hard copies of the plan and documents were put out across several tables.. We also displayed A3 sized copies of all the pages from the Draft LNDP which related to the site specific policies. Member of the Steering Group were on hand to discuss the plan and assist attendees in understanding the draft plan where necessary.
- 3.09 Handouts explained how to access the information and how to respond. Response forms were available on the day and to downline online (blank form can be found at Appendix 17e).
- 3.10 Details of the consultation event can be found in the following appendices:
- Appendix 17f – Event Board (Introduction)  
Appendix 17g - Event Board (Where do I find)  
Appendix 17h – Event Handout
- 3.11 Near to the end of the consultation period a reminder email was sent to all parties on our database reminding them that the consultation was nearing an end and asking that they submit any comments they may have. Examples can be found at Appendix 17i.

### **(c) Main issues and concerns and how these have been addressed**

- 3.12 Over 150 people came along to the 3 sessions held at St Nicholas Church. In total 63 responses were received, from a mixture of residents and statutory bodies.
- 3.13 Each of these responses have been considered by the Steering Group. Verbatim responses and, if applicable, comments (including whether they have been addressed in the final proposed LNDP) from the Steering Group are set out at Appendix 18.
- 3.14 In the interests of clarity, a full schedule of verbatim consultation responses and how the Steering Group has sought to address the matters raised is included in Appendix XX to this document.
- 3.15 Below is a summary of the main issues and concerns raised by those consulted and a description of how these have been considered and, where relevant, addressed in the Plan.
- 3.16 As with earlier consultations, the last consultation events in March 2016 of the Pre-Submission document were well attended: 100 residents came along. The written response rate was also encouraging with a total of 63 responses received. Other verbal responses received seemed to reflect anecdotal evidence from discussions with residents: that there was a good deal of support for the plan. Residents did not feel the need to respond positively if they were content with the plan.
- 3.17 12 responses were from statutory consultees/other councils, 7 from developers/their agents and 43 from village residents. It should be noted that many of the resident responses were submitted as

household responses; this proportion of the total responses demonstrates the level of (and success of) village engagement.

- 3.18 Overall the response was very positive, particularly where all the respondents supported the plan as a whole. The 3 issues that caused greatest concern to residents were the redevelopment of Eastmead Industrial Estate, the allocation of the land adjacent to Pook Lane for development and the inclusion of the Rectory site for development.
- 3.19 Since the publication of the Pre-Submission Document the Chichester Diocese has withdrawn sites LNDP 25 and 26. It is a particular matter of regret to the SG and will be to the wider public that LNDP 25 will no longer be able to offer Community Hub opportunities; the desire for this facility was a constant feature of consultation responses from Lavant residents.
- 3.20 The responses from the Planning Authorities (SDNPA, CDC) and formal consultees were positive with a number requesting changes regarding Policy wording.
- 3.21 The most significant of these is a change to the wording of LNDP 7 (Dwelling Size and Affordable Housing) and to LNDP 19 Parking. The SG has sought to produce Policies which comply with National Policies, acknowledge Developer desires, but above all respond to the specific needs and situation of Lavant residents as expressed through the Consultation process. LNDP7 wording has brought it into line with Local Planning Authority proportions while a compromise has been sought in LNDP19.
- 3.22 As might be expected for a rural village located next to a town which is expanding rapidly, both statutory consultees and residents made comments and suggestions relating to greenspaces i.e. LNDP 3, 10 & 11, as well as to Key Views LNDP14. These policies have been reviewed and amendments made in order to clarify descriptions and ensure the criteria is applied accurately.
- 3.23 The withdrawal of LNDP 26; constraints regarding LNDP 21 (as noted in 3.25); a Submission by Goodwood of several small sites; and repeatedly expressed desire by the community for smaller development sites, highlighted the need for an explicit reference to Brownfield Sites and Small Scale Development Sites. Both these omissions have been corrected (see LNDP 6 and LNDP 25).
- 3.24 Development Sites LNDP 21 and 23. Both of these sites have drawn response from all types of consultees: LNDP 21 in particular from local residents. In both instances formal discussions have been held with SDNPA as the primary Planning Authority about acceptable changes.
- 3.25 LNDP 21. While it is to be expected that nearby residents would wish to see this patch of land retained, as a Development Sites it offers the village many benefits. The current wording seeks to create a balance between the Housing Needs of the Community, the preservation of a Historic Monument currently on the At Risk register and the community's expressed desire for a like for like football pitch.
- 3.26 LNDP 23 The main point of discussion relates to the balance of employment and residential redevelopment. A need for employment facilities which are suitable for the 21 century is as desirable as is the need for Affordable Housing. Although many comments from the Developer referred to the need for strict policy compliance it should be noted that a 'general conformity' is the necessary test of the Basic Conditions. The LNDP SG, SDNPA and the Developer continue to work

towards a solution that is acceptable to all parties. The wording of the Policy aims to establish basic parameters whilst offering room for some response and flexibility as discussions continue.

- 3.27 Discussions with landowners have taken place on their modified LNDP24 submission. A site assessment in respect of a triangular site at the north end of Lavant concluded that this was inappropriate for development.
- 3.28 All consultation responses are set out in Volume III of this document. The table in Volume III also sets out how each comment has been taken into account and how the plan has been changed from the Pre-Submission stage to the final version submitted.
- 3.29 Numerous changes made to the Pre-Submission document cumulatively have improved the plan and allowed it to reflect many of the views of commentators. Whilst every effort has been made to accommodate views of third parties the plan has not accepted every change suggested.