

Minutes of 2nd Meeting to discuss Neighbourhood Plan

5.30pm Monday 20th February 2023, Hoath Village Hall

“A rural oasis between the sea and the City of Canterbury”

Present: Imogen Morizet, chair of Hoath Parish Council

Caroline, Clerk Hoath Parish Council

Councillor Karen Johncock, Hoath Parish Council

Councillor Sandy Sinclair, Hoath Parish Council

Plus 16 members of the public

Councillor Morizet outlined the next steps for creating a neighbourhood plan. She asked the audience: “What are the things you want to see? How would you like the place to be in 20 years time?”

The following ideas were put forward by members of the public and recorded by Councillor Morizet on a flip chart:

- Little change
- Protect environment
- Public transport
- Small pockets of development (not large scale development)
- No infilling
- Zero carbon community
- Improved biodiversity
- Eco measures required in new developments eg solar panels, Passive House/Passivhaus in Denmark
- Get rid of overhead cables
- Fibre optic internet
- Darker skies
- Wide far reaching views
- Hear insects buzzing
- Biodiverse hedge network surrounding all of the fields
- Protection of the landscape/feeling of being in the countryside
- Pothole free roads
- Say over development
- EIA assessment obligatory
- Community hub available to the village all the time
- Social housing (should work out what percentage of housing in parish is social housing)
- Example of situation where the parish had a say over who rented particular housing
- Appropriate amount of amenities to development
- Safeguarding our local heritage
- Safeguarding our conversation areas

- Safeguarding our woodland
- Work with landowners to reopen footpaths
- Work with landowners to reopen bridleways
- Wetland. CCC's draft nutrient strategy says they need 97 hectares of new wetland

Councillor Imogen Morizet urged everyone to read CCC's Woodland strategy which would see part of the parish absorbed by an expanded Blean.

Councillor Morizet also mentioned a possible redrawing of parish boundaries in the future.

She urged members of the public to look at Neighbourhood Plans drawn up by other districts.

She asked members of the public to define Hoath

- Scattered rural community
- Rural village surrounded by satellite hamlets separated by a distinctive rural landscape
- A mix of architectural styles, rural and listed buildings
- Farming, agricultural
- A rural oasis between the sea and the city of Canterbury
- Ancient woodland and marshland
- Edge of the Forest of Blean

A member of the public told the meeting about the history of the Forest of Blean and coppicing.

Councillor Morizet suggested that people formed groups and picked topic of interest to them to investigate. She added that there was nothing to stop the community pushing forward with ideas now. Ideas suggested for inclusion in the Neighbourhood Plan did not have to wait for the NP to happen first.

Topics suggested:

Energy

Housing: design, housing need survey

Transport: roads, bicycles, school bus (suggested by local resident)

Biodiversity and environment

Infrastructure

Water

Question: when is the deadline?

Answer from Councillor Morizet: If the Neighbourhood Plan can be passed by the community before the Local Plan is adopted then the NP will form part of the next local plan. 18 months?

Next steps: residents to research topics of interest and read existing Neighbourhood Plans for ideas

Next meeting: 20th March 2023. Time to be decided