

TDRA AGM 2023

Planning Secretary's Report

During the last year, we have been actively monitoring planning applications over this period and have formally issued our comments to Ashford Borough Council for a number of key applications including:

- Planning Application PA/2022/2434 Pickhill, Smallhythe Road, Tenterden, TN30 7LZ – Objection
- Homewood School Consultation Response - Objection

Tenterden Neighbourhood Plan Update

Limes Land (LL)

It was acknowledged that the original timeline for the Neighbourhood Plan (NP) has unfortunately suffered significant delay as a direct consequence of the LL planning application and decision, as well as the ongoing application by Homewood School to release their playing fields to facilitate access to the LL approved planning application site. The Steering Committee (SC) agreed that Tenterden Town Council (TTC) should use a Freedom of Information request to DfE regarding the Homewood School application to sell playing fields and a timescale for decision. Further to the information supplied by the DfE the SC sought legal advice (pre-authorized by TTC) on how to proceed with the Plan considering the current status of Homewood School's application. Taking into account the legal advice given, the SC agreed to proceed as previously agreed and noted in the TNP minutes dated 26 October 2022, item 3.0, TEN NP2.

The SC have completed final working drafts required for the REG 15 submission and these have now been updated to a final presentation format by kind donation from Gravity a local graphic design/ branding company. The documents include the following:

- Updated Evidence Documents
- Reg 15 Neighbourhood Plan
- Basic Conditions Statement
- Community Engagement Statement (which will include SC response schedules)

It is intended that the final presentation set of the documents will be issued to TTC by mid-May. Approval would then be sought at the TTC 13th June Special Meeting (allowing approximately 4 weeks for councillors to review the documents).

Following TTC approval, the following documents will be submitted to Ashford Borough Council (ABC):

- Updated Evidence Documents
- Reg 15 Neighbourhood Plan
- Basic Conditions Statement
- Community Engagement Statement (which will include SC response schedules)

Once the documents are submitted to ABC, the next phase, REG 16, will be carried out by ABC. They will organise a 6-week process. It would be expected that the TTC actively promote this Stage to make the local residents aware of proceedings, via social media, websites, printed banners, posters etc.

For more information on the above applications and others please go to our website www.TDRA.org.uk.

Siggi Nepp, TDRA Planning Secretary