

Future housing in Beckley – the next step

Background

Following the publication of the Consultation version of the Development and Site Allocations Local Plan (DASA) in December 2016 which listed the preferred sites for new houses in the district, Rother District Council has now published the proposed Submission version.

This version is now open to representation by the public for a period ending on 7th December 2018, after which it will be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate for ratification.

You will find this document on the Rother website at www.rother.gov.uk/dasa . Click on “Proposed Submission Development and Site Allocations Local Plan” in the Downloads section.

We will also be placing copies of the relevant pages for Beckley at the Village Hall for inspection during opening hours.

The plans for Beckley are substantially the same as in the earlier Consultation version; however there are some changes, as follows:

- The site at Buddens Green has now been earmarked for 6 dwellings (reduced from 8) and the site area confined to the land (owned by Beckley PC) behind the current Buddens Green development. There is a requirement that 40% of the housing should be “affordable”. The field to the west of the Buddens Green development which had been earmarked as an amenity area no longer forms part of the proposed site.
- The site at the former Manroy works has been expanded slightly to provide for 14 dwellings (increased from 12), so that the total village allocation of 20 new dwellings is maintained. The existing requirement that 40% be “affordable” is retained.

Note that the DASA does not grant planning permission for any development at these sites. Proposals for development would need to go through the usual rigorous application process; however, the inclusion of these sites in the development area means that approval for a suitable proposal would be more likely to be given.

Making Representations

You can make representations on this document, as well as the Sustainability Appraisal (also available on the DASA page of the website) to Rother until 7th January.

Detailed guidance on making representations is available on the DASA page, as well as instructions on how to lodge them (on line is the easiest method but an email can also be used or a form printed).

The representation process is more formal than the earlier consultation process and relates to

- any issues of legal compliance regarding how the DASA was compiled and;
- any issues of soundness regarding the content of the plan.

The term “soundness” means that it is positively prepared; justified; effective; and consistent with national policy. Further guidance on these terms can be found on the DASA section of the website.

If anybody is unable to access the internet for the guidance notes on making representations, please contact one of your parish councillors.