



ARDINGLY PARISH COUNCIL

Press release

17th November 2014

Ardingly Neighbourhood Plan passes examination.

Ardingly Parish Council is pleased to announce that, subject to some minor modifications, its Neighbourhood Plan has successfully passed its examination and can now proceed to referendum. This takes the local community a step closer to having a great say over the future of the area in which they live.

Will Meldrum, Chairman of Ardingly Parish Council and the Neighbourhood Plan Committee said "On behalf of our village and all who worked on this document, I am extremely pleased that our plan has passed examination – this is a real community effort. Mid Sussex District Council have been a great partner at all stages of developing this plan and we are very thankful for their help. This is an important step in the Neighbourhood Plan process as the document now carries additional weight in the plan process."

Nigel McGurk, the examiner stated that "Public consultation played a fundamental role in the production of this Neighbourhood Plan. Consultation was extensive, comprehensive and transparent." He continued: "The consultation undertaken is reflective of the significant efforts made by all involved to go well beyond any statutory requirements. Plan-makers were positive and pro-active in encouraging people to engage with the neighbourhood planning process."

"I'm delighted that the Ardingly Neighbourhood plan has reached this important stage", said Councillor Norman Webster, Mid Sussex District Council Cabinet Member for Planning. "The Parish Council has done a tremendous job of getting involved with the planning process and talking with local people about the future of their area."

"This examination result is just reward for all the hard work that everyone has put in. I hope it provides inspiration and encouragement for all the other Town and Parish Councils that are busy working on their own Neighbourhood Plans."

The full examiner's report can be viewed at www.ardingly.org.

The plan modifications suggested by the examiner are to be accepted by the Mid Sussex District Council Cabinet Meeting on the December 1st and, if approved, will go to Referendum in early 2015 where Ardingly residents will be asked to vote on the plan.

Ends