



Minutes

Open Forum meeting 19th November 2024 held at St Mary Magdalen Church 7pm.

1	<p>Registrations - see Register</p> <p>Apologies Anant Suchak (Treasurer),, Jack Moxley (Committee), and Councillor Mitchie Alexander.</p> <p>Present 12 attendees in person including Councillor Tobias Sheard and Committee members: Debbie Annells (Minutes); Patrick Lowe (Chair), Manish Suchak and Jean Thomas.</p>	
2	<p>Minutes of the last Open Forum Meeting held on 16th April 2024. These minutes were agreed unchanged.</p>	
3.	<p>Introductions Chairman Patrick Lowe welcomed our Councillor to the meeting, and all Forum members and guests. This Open meeting was called to go through the main comments raised by Southern Water, one of the Statutory Consultees responding to the recent Regulation 14 Consultation on the draft Coldean Neighbourhood Plan.</p>	
4.	<p>Latest Update from Regulation 14 Consultation. Next steps. Chairman Patrick Lowe advised that around 100 responses had been received and analysed and the draft Plan updated accordingly. There were many high quality and detailed comments, including 35 pages received from BHCC, and an updated draft Plan will be available shortly; subject to the outcome of the Consultation on a new Water Objective (see below). Once ready all papers will be handed over to a mock Independent Examiner for review for internal consistency of the draft Plan with the Consultation Statement accompanying the Plan, which shows what evidence Policies were based on. Once the mock</p>	

	<p>Independent examiner is satisfied, all the documents can be passed to the Council for the full Independent Examination, which the Council pays for, known at the Regulation 15 review. Once that is complete, the Plan can be published by the Council for the 6-week Regulation 16 Consultation. That will be the last consultation before the Referendum/public vote (by post or at the Polling station) on whether Coldeaners accept or reject the Plan, as binding on all Planning Applications in Coldean.</p> <p>The Forum Committee had established good contacts with the new lead Planning Officers at BHCC, South Down National Park and at Southern Water, all taking taking up their posts mid 2024. Some Forum Committee members had a useful Zoom meeting with the Planning Leads at Southern Water re their suggestion for the Coldean Neighbourhood Plan, to be raised with the Forum below.</p>	
5	<p>Feedback from Southern Water from Reg 14 Consultation and discussion on their suggestion for a new Water Objective in the Coldean Neighbourhood Plan as follows:- <i>h.) To promote sustainable development that helps Coldean to respond to the impacts of water scarcity, flooding and climate change into the future</i></p> <p>A discussion about water and flooding issues in Coldean ensued. It was clear the audience wished to pursue suitable water and flooding Policies, wordings to be voted on at the next Open Forum Meeting; together with taking a decision as to whether to explicitly include the draft Water Objective above suggested by Southern Water as a new main Plan Objective.</p> <p>Southern Water’s detailed comments were read out to the meeting by Secretary Debbie Annells, sometimes referring to their (water usage) Policy Statement on Sustainable development. See attachment 1</p> <p>Incidents noted in Coldean:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Torrential rain causes flooding in Rushlake Rd, Wolseley Rd, by the Ruby/ground opposite, and water gushes down Coldean Lane and steeper hills like Middleton Rise. Drains cannot cope with the volume of water. Drains have not been cleaned in some years. Leaves blocked drains at this time of year. • Water left standing means people cannot see where the pavements end, so sudden flooding is a risk to pedestrians • Sewers for Denman Place appeared to be an afterthought and were only tacked onto the existing sewerage system; hence some spills of foul water occurred earlier in 2024 onto Coldean Lane by the 	<p>Attachment 1</p>

	<p>Varley Park entrance road. Water pressure in housing opposite has also been affected by Denman Place</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Underpass for Lewes Road had in the past been completely flooded. The New Rainscape at the bottom of Wild Park may help to alleviate this, however that park of Wild Park is not in the Coldean Neighbourhood Area. • Half of the meeting collected rainwater/grey water. It could be used for toilet flushing and watering gardens, washing cars etc. • Protection of water sources from pollution from chalk downlands was raised; the Plan can help to protect from such fouling, and also to protect existing natural water flows. <p>It was agreed these points would be considered and new wordings proposed for the next Open Forum Meeting. Our discussions with Locality and our advisers suggested some Councils are sensitive to inclusion of Water Objectives in Neighbourhood Plans ie Horsham DC. If Coldean included such a progressive Objective we would be the first in the BHCC area.</p>	
6.	<p>Update on s106 money</p> <p>Sian Berry's office are still pursuing detailed feedback from the Council on use of s106 monies. Councillor Tobias advised that Councillors now have an intranet page describing which monies have been spent in which locations; apparently none was spent on, or is allocated to Coldean. This s106 money webpage/information is not publicly available. We shall advise Sian Berry MP of this development.</p>	
8.	<p>AOB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Council's new Strategy on Housing Review document, does not show a target for new housing. The Committee does not believe it would affect our Plan, although it is referred to there. • A new crossing higher up Coldean Lane by Denman Heights is proposed and a Danger Survey at that crossing is being arranged by the Council. It was felt that CCTV in that junction area would be worthwhile. Vehicles have been seen turning right into Denman Place. Patrick Lowe had spoken with Councillor Trevor Muten, Chair of The Transport committee about the proposed crossing. • Additional cars from Denman Place are parking in Beatty Avenue and Hawkhurst Rd and parking on, and blocking, pavements. • Some tenants at The Charltons who had been the source of several Complaints had been moved by the Council. 	Attachment 2.

	Email contact@cnpf.co.uk Website www.cnpf.org.uk FB group Coldean Neighbourhood Planning Forum	
	Meeting closed 7.50pm, followed by refreshments	