**TOPIC NOTE 5 – PLANNING**

Being involved in planning is an important activity for local councils. The Planning Authority, Horsham District Council, will ask for the Parish Council's views as part of their procedure before deciding to grant or refuse planning permission. The Town and Country Planning Act 1990 provides the main legal basis of the English planning system as amended by the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. Further changes have been introduced by the Localism Act 2011.

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) sets out the Government's economic environmental and social planning policies for England and contains the framework within which Local Plans are developed. The purpose of the NPPF is to help achieve 'sustainable development' that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 placed on obligation on local planning authorities to produce a Local Plan (or Core Strategy) shaping how land use and places will change and develop over the next 15-20 years. That for Horsham District Council can be found at :

[Read the current Local Plan | Horsham District Council](#)

The local plan also sets out a spatial planning strategy – what the general location of development will be. Planning decisions need to be made in line with the development unless there are good reasons for not doing so.

The Localism Act 2011 gives local communities more say in planning by encouraging them to prepare Neighbourhood Plans to establish general planning policies for the development and use of land in their neighbourhood. Broadbridge Heath have previously voted against development of a Neighbourhood Plan.

In responding to planning matters either in council meetings or through planning committees, members should be familiar with Material and non-Material Planning Considerations.

A useful guide has been added to the Sharepoint and can be viewed using the below link:

[How_To_Respond_To_Planning_Applications.pdf](#)