

# About This Exhibition



The purpose of this exhibition is to bring you up to date with the progress of the Parish's Neighbourhood Plan following our last exhibition back in early October.

[www.horsmondennp.co.uk](http://www.horsmondennp.co.uk)

# What is a Neighbourhood Plan?

It is a plan that will guide the growth of the village over the next 10 years or more in how it is developed.

Once a neighbourhood plan passes a local referendum, it is made. This makes the plan a legally recognised planning document.

Once made, the neighbourhood plan must be referred to by Horsmonden Parish Council, Tunbridge Wells Borough Council, developers, and landowners and will be used to determine all future planning applications in the Parish.

A neighbourhood plan cannot be used to block strategic housing allocations

A neighbourhood plan can...

- Influence density, style, location, and infrastructure provision
- Consider community needs for the healthcare and education
- Help communities to manage the growth and evolution of villages.



# Who Leads the Process?

Horsmonden Parish Council is the only legally qualified body who can produce a neighbourhood plan for this parish area.

The Steering Group has authority delegated to it by Horsmonden Parish Council to lead the activity and is answerable to Horsmonden Parish Council and ultimately to you, the parishioners.

The Steering Group perform the day to day tasks of organising consultation events, gathering information and ensuring as many people as possible provide/have input on the future of the parish.

## The Steering Group Membership

Diana Morton (Chair)  
Gary Bignell  
Denise Cole  
Stephen Crane  
Linda Jenkinson (Parish Councillor)  
Matt Richards (Parish Councillor)  
Linda Roberson  
Jeremy Waters  
Darren White (Parish Councillor)  
Roger Marsh

We are all volunteers





# What's Happened Since October?

- New Consultant appointment
- Residents Questionnaire results collated, analysed and available to now view.
- Postcard comments and feedback from exhibition have been read and collated.
- Working Groups have now been created in 6 areas to produce more focused detail for the plan with supporting evidence.
- TWBC have been assessing the sites put forward in Horsmonden. Their views will not be public until they publish their draft local plan for the borough, now expected late May.

# Appointment of New Consultant

Having completed the first phase of the plan we decided to amicably part company with our initial consultants Feria.

In January we were delighted to appoint a new consultant Jim Boot.

Jim brings a wealth of experience in planning to help us further with things as we start to look for more policy detail to build our plan.

Jim is assisted by Lindsay Frost.

Jim and Lindsay's CV's are available to view tonight.



# Residents Questionnaire



We commissioned a residents questionnaire to find out more information about the issues that were important to our Parish. This was available to complete online or in paper form.

We received responses from 255 parishioners.

This represents a response rate of something like 1 in 4 households in the Parish.

The results of this are available to view tonight and are now published on our website.

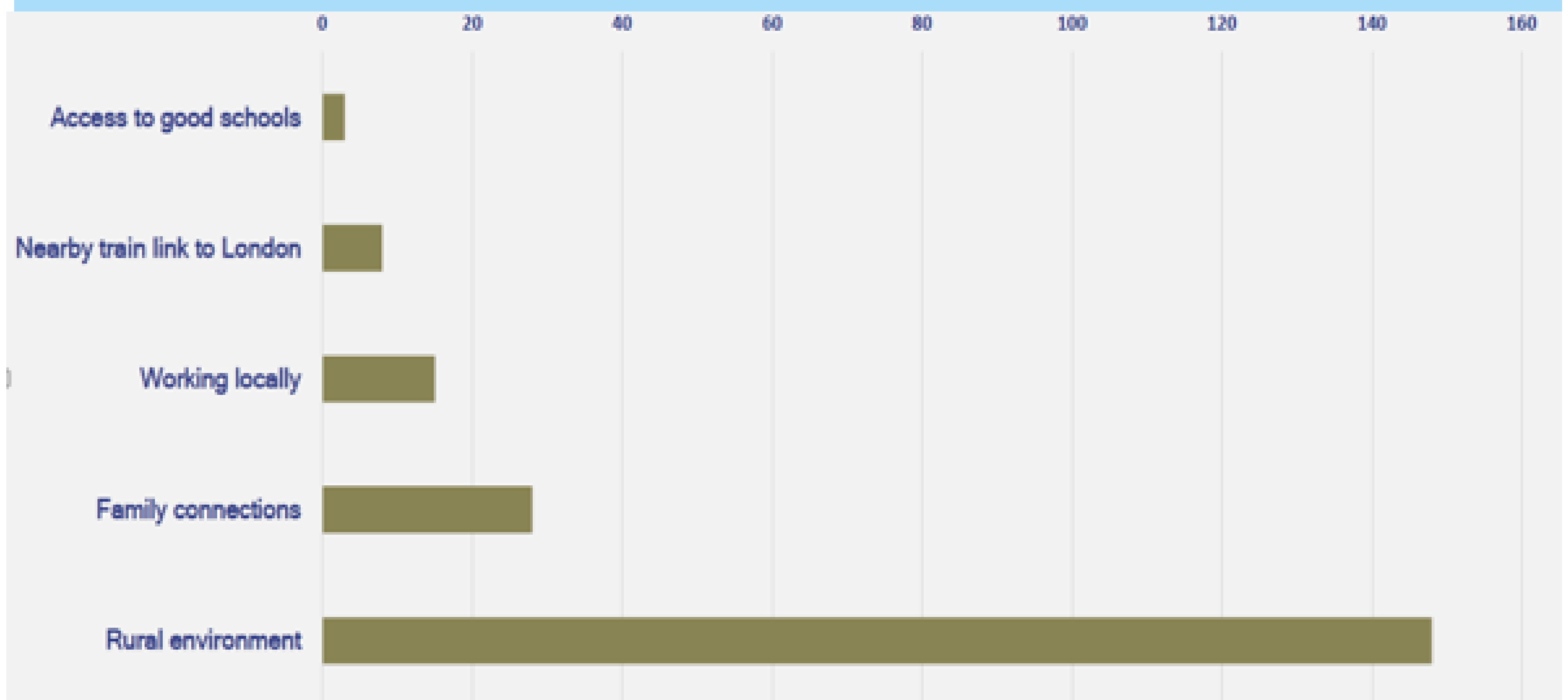


# Residents Questionnaire



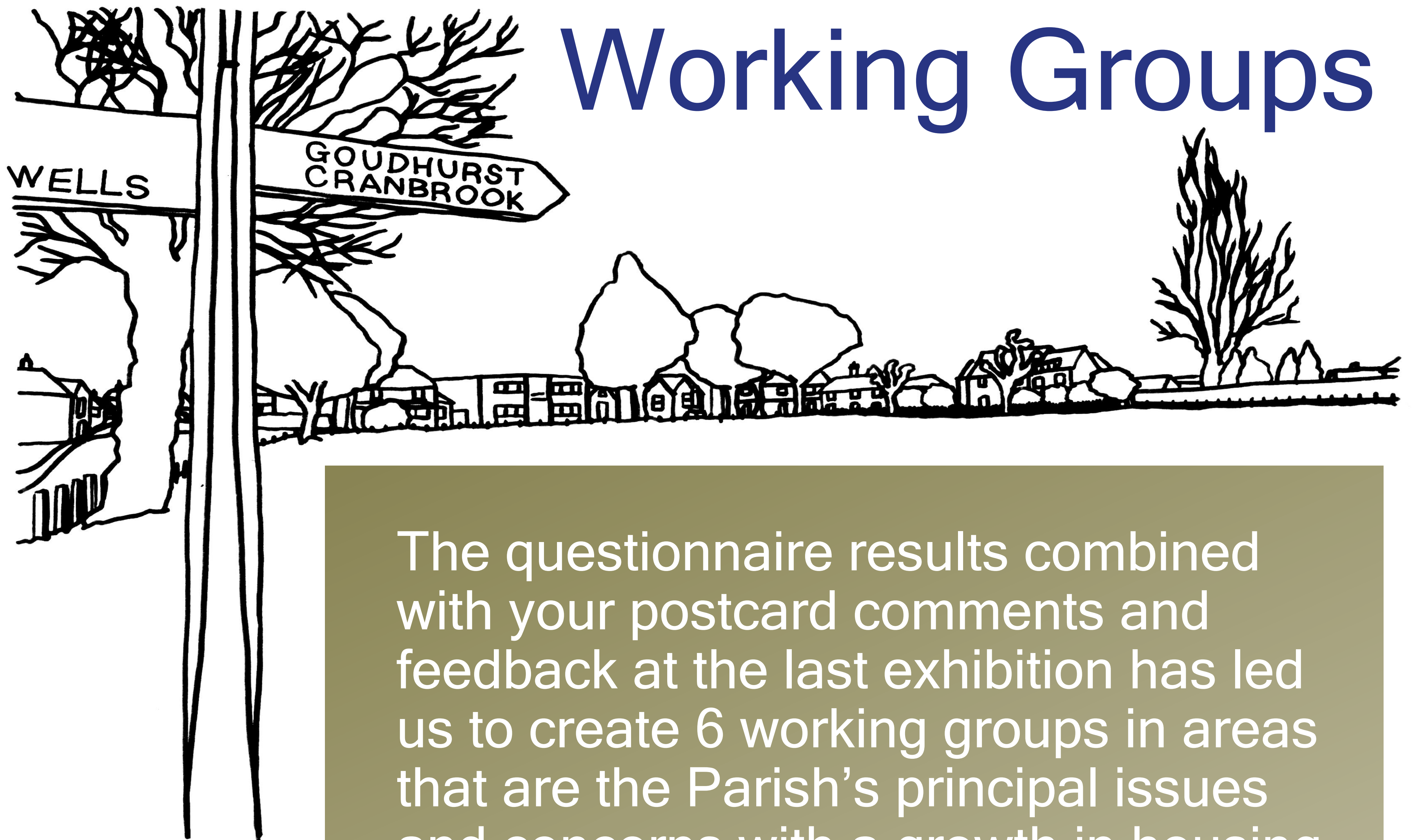
An example of the results of one of the questions

What do you most value about living in the Parish?



Full copies of the results are here to view tonight or on our website





# Working Groups

The questionnaire results combined with your postcard comments and feedback at the last exhibition has led us to create 6 working groups in areas that are the Parish's principal issues and concerns with a growth in housing.

These are:

- Access and Movement
- Business and Employment
- Community Leisure and Recreation
- Design and Style
- Housing and Development
- Landscape and Environment





This has allowed us to now include a further 30 volunteers from the Parish to provide support in developing our plan.

A list of members in all groups is available for you to view tonight and on our website.

It is not too late to volunteer.

If you would like to get involved please provide your details to one of the Steering Group tonight.



# TWBC Update

We still await further details from the TWBC on:

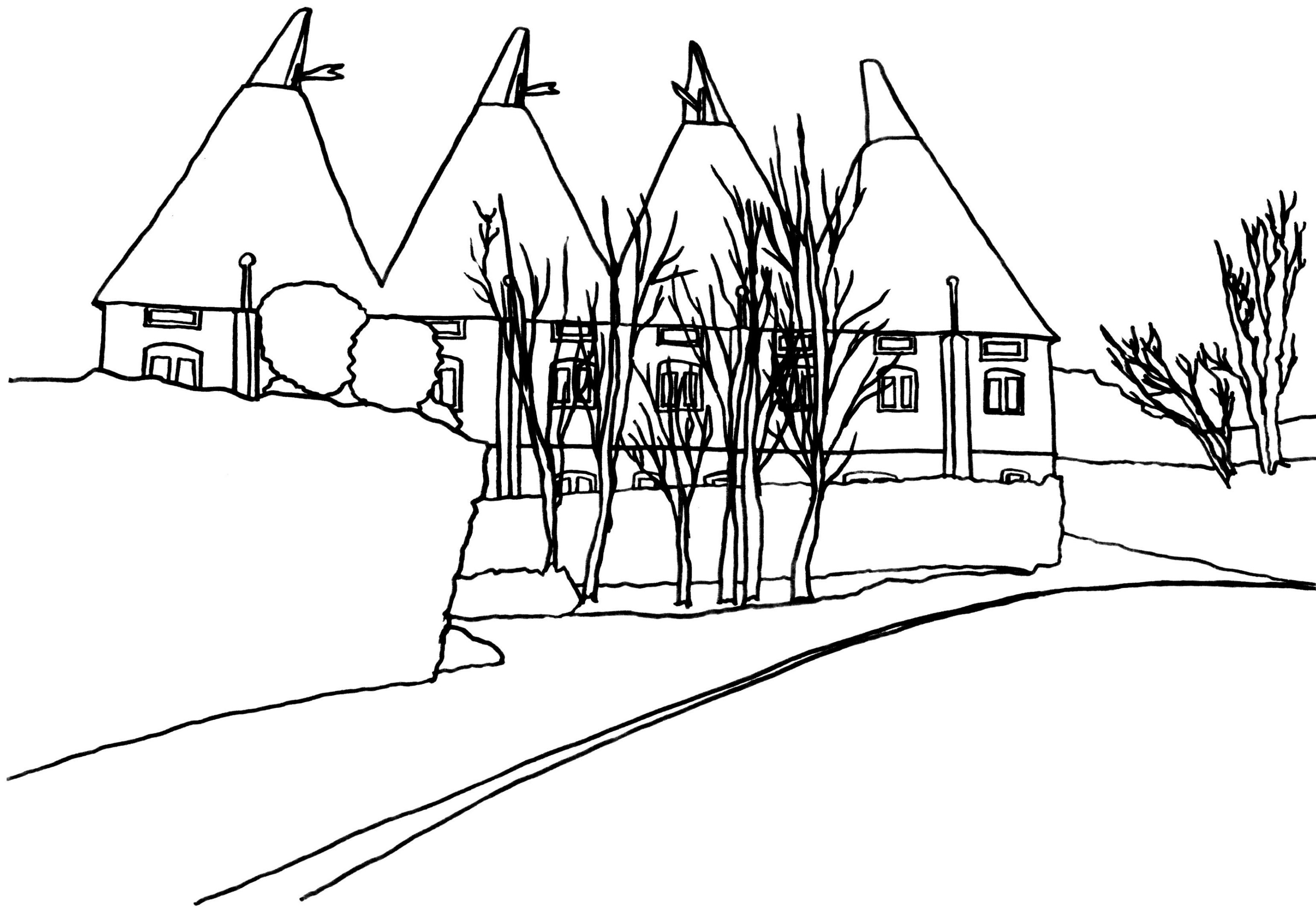
- The outcome of their consultation
- The number of houses we will need to accommodate in our Parish
- The sites that are being considered.

At present we are advised that TWBC's draft local plan (covering the whole borough) will be published at the end of May.

We continue to liaise with TWBC and press for issues specific to Horsmonden to be taken into account

Over the summer there will be a period of consultation on the draft Local Plan.





# What Happens Next?

- Working Groups report back to Steering Group.
- Key issues and outline plan and evidence collated, to prepare for a response to the draft Local Plan and to prepare a first draft neighbourhood plan for Horsmonden
- TWBC issue draft plan
- Steering Group respond as part of consultation