

Report from David Munday 2.4.24

1. I will circulate to Councillors preliminary notes about the HDPC response to the Wealden draft local plan.
2. I took part in the latest Wealden Central West Parish Cluster meeting on 27.3.24:
 - Mostly a presentation by officers of the draft plan. They pointed out that the proposed plan included 4000 fewer new dwellings than the existing government requirement, and that it proposed 35% should be affordable housing. The officers said that they were keen that the actual number should be higher than 35%. There was considerable discussion of what was meant by “affordable”.
 - They strongly encouraged attending one of the display presentations, anywhere in Wealden.
 - The officers were keen to receive supportive comments as well as objections, as the latter, they said, could often drown out the former.
 - Between now and the formal acceptance of the plan would be a transitional period, with more weight being put on the draft policies as the different stages were completed. Once the inspector’s report had been published the draft would be essentially in force.
3. I have spoken to East Sussex Highways about the condition of the south side of Hastingford Lane where the edge has fallen away into the ditch under surface water damage, leaving a drop of perhaps 1m. This had

been reported to them 2-3 weeks ago when the two orange barriers had been put in place. A temporary repair was scheduled by April 5th, with a larger major repair to follow (date unspecified).