

NEIGHBOURHOOD NEWS

Number 5 1st April 2016

from Flimwell Stonegate Ticehurst Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

The Plan so far:

The Steering Group wants to keep neighbours in touch with developments as they errrrrr develop(?)

Building

The biggest concern of many in the Parish is new housing - too much and too quickly. Rackmann Homes have indicated that they would like to collaborate with the community to ensure that their standard Gerry-build prefabricated boxes are built of ticky-tacky on every available hill side. Each will have its garage door painted in a bespoke colour so they don't all look just the same. They intend to phase the work over at least 3 months so that Parish infrastructure has no chance to accommodate the influx of new residents. They were unable to comment on reports that these new residents would be mainly refugees from the civil war in central office.

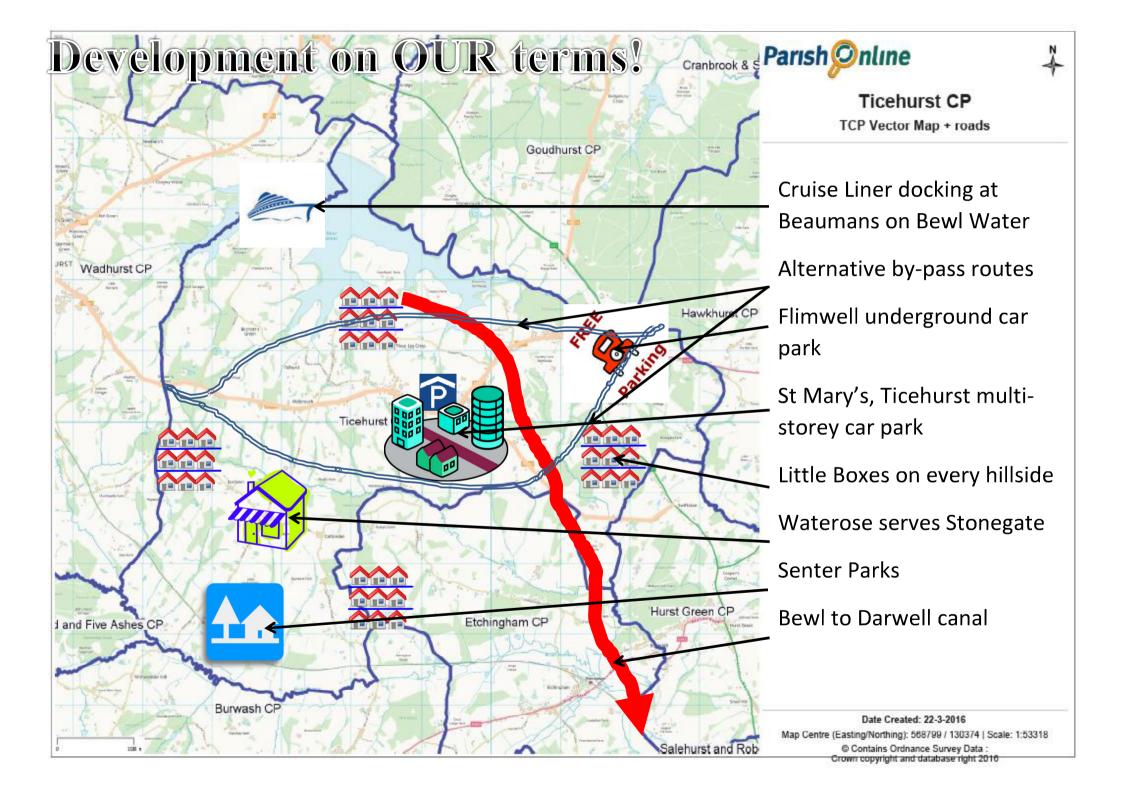
Car Parking

Strong pressure for more car parking close to Ticehurst village centre means that we have set aside St Mary's Church Yard as the site of a 3-storey car park. Earlier proposals to demolish the church to create a larger single storey parking area have been modified as a result of discussion with neighbours.

Different constraints in Flimwell mean that they need an underground car park, which may double as a through route from the A21 into the WoodNet Centre. This will help establish it as the tourist information centre for the High Weald AONB.

Traffic Calming

As East Sussex Highways guidance does not permit 'sleeping policemen' or chicanes we have funding for the creation of a by-pass. The favoured route runs west east from Wards Lane to Berners Hill to the north of Ticehurst. The alternative is a southerly path from Wallcrouch through East Lymden and onto Pashley Road. While this would have the advantage of a dual carriageway, the risk of flooding as global warming hits the River Lymden may be insurmountable. Public consultation on these proposals should start very soon.



A Village Shop for Stonegate

We are really pleased to report that Waterose have been looking at ways of servicing villages between Heathfield and Hawkhurst and have decided that Stonegate is the place for their new store. It will stock a basic range of goods and will use drones to carry other products from the Hawkhrst store. It will be built on the site of the village hall which they will replace by using the first floor above the store. There will then be a floor of serviced business units and above that seven floors of serviced flats to take advantage of the magnificent views to the south. The roof top garden will incorporate a swimming pool. 45% of the flats will be 'affordable' (to people in the 45% income tax bracket). This is a once in a lifetime opportunity for people to apply for one of the proposed homes, to reserve one of the business units and to be involved with the planning and the running of the new village hall. Please apply to Lirpa Loof, Housing and Business Manager, Local Council Offices, Flimgate, Sussex.

All applications must be received <u>before 11.59 on Friday 1st April, 2016</u>.

Eco-Tourism

To help bring visitors to the Parish Oled Fredson Lines has agreed to include Beaumans as an overnight stop on its cruise tours of Bewl Water. This is really good news for Beaumans which needs the shelter of a large vessels to shield it from the Northern Lights. Discussions are in an advanced state over the construction of a canal linking Bewl and Darwell Reservoirs. This will extend the cruise opportunity as well as supporting Southern Water's need to move water between the Thames Estuary and the English Channel.

We are expecting better use of Stonegate Station when Senter Parks is established there. The Senter Parks centre may only consist of 27 holiday chalets but that means it will be the biggest site east of New Jersey and we expect it to provide employment for one man and his dog, old mother Riley and a cow, a bottle of Scotch and a sausage roll. At least.

The map inside shows the opportunities described above.

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or email frankienowne@btconnect.com and

keep in touch at http://ticehurstnp.org and at the Parish Assembly.