



# SALEHURST & ROBERTSBRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

Volume 9

Issue 3

January 2016

## *Dates for your diary 2016*

Parish Council Meeting Robertsbridge Hall	18th Jan
Mill Site re-development Public Consultation Robertsbridge Hall	26th Jan
Planning Committee Youth Centre	4th Feb
Planning Committee Youth Centre	3rd Mar
Parish Council Meeting Robertsbridge Hall	21st Mar
Planning Committee Youth Centre	7th Apr
Annual Parish Meeting (Assembly) Robertsbridge Hall	18th Apr

**Full Parish Council Meetings take place on the 3rd Monday of alternate months. Planning Committee meetings are held monthly, generally on the first Thursday, if applications have been received.**

*All meetings start at 7.30 pm and a period of up to 15 minutes is allowed at the start of the meeting for public comment or questions if required.*

*Agendas for meetings are posted on the parish notice boards and website at least 3 days before the meeting - planning applications are on the Rother District Council web site - [www.rother.gov.uk](http://www.rother.gov.uk) and comments on planning applications can be submitted on-line.*

## HODSON'S MILL SITE Public Consultation on proposed re-development

**Tuesday 26th January 4pm-8pm**

**Robertsbridge Hall**

twitter: @Hodsonsmill

## NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN SURVEY:

There was a fantastic response to the Neighbourhood Plan questionnaire that was delivered to homes across the Parish in September, with 67% (804 households) completing at least one form and 963 forms being returned in total. A big thank you to those who completed these and to the Street Champions for knocking on doors to help us get one of the best return rates seen. This really does give us a good cross section of responses that will shape the way forward for the village.

The results have been analysed by an independent firm and their full presentation is available on the Salehurst and Robertsbridge Neighbourhood Plan website. We have summarised some of the main findings in this newsletter.

The results will be considered by the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group over the next couple of months and further consultations will take place.

Please remember that the result of the questionnaire does not mean that everything will happen, but it does give an excellent steer of what you want in your Parish.

[www.robertsbridgeneighbourhoodplan.org.uk](http://www.robertsbridgeneighbourhoodplan.org.uk)

**If you'd like to discuss anything to do with the Neighbourhood Plan, please get in touch with either:**

**Stephen Hardy**

Chair of the Steering Group

881309

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**Sheila Brazier**

Secretary of the Steering Group

880740

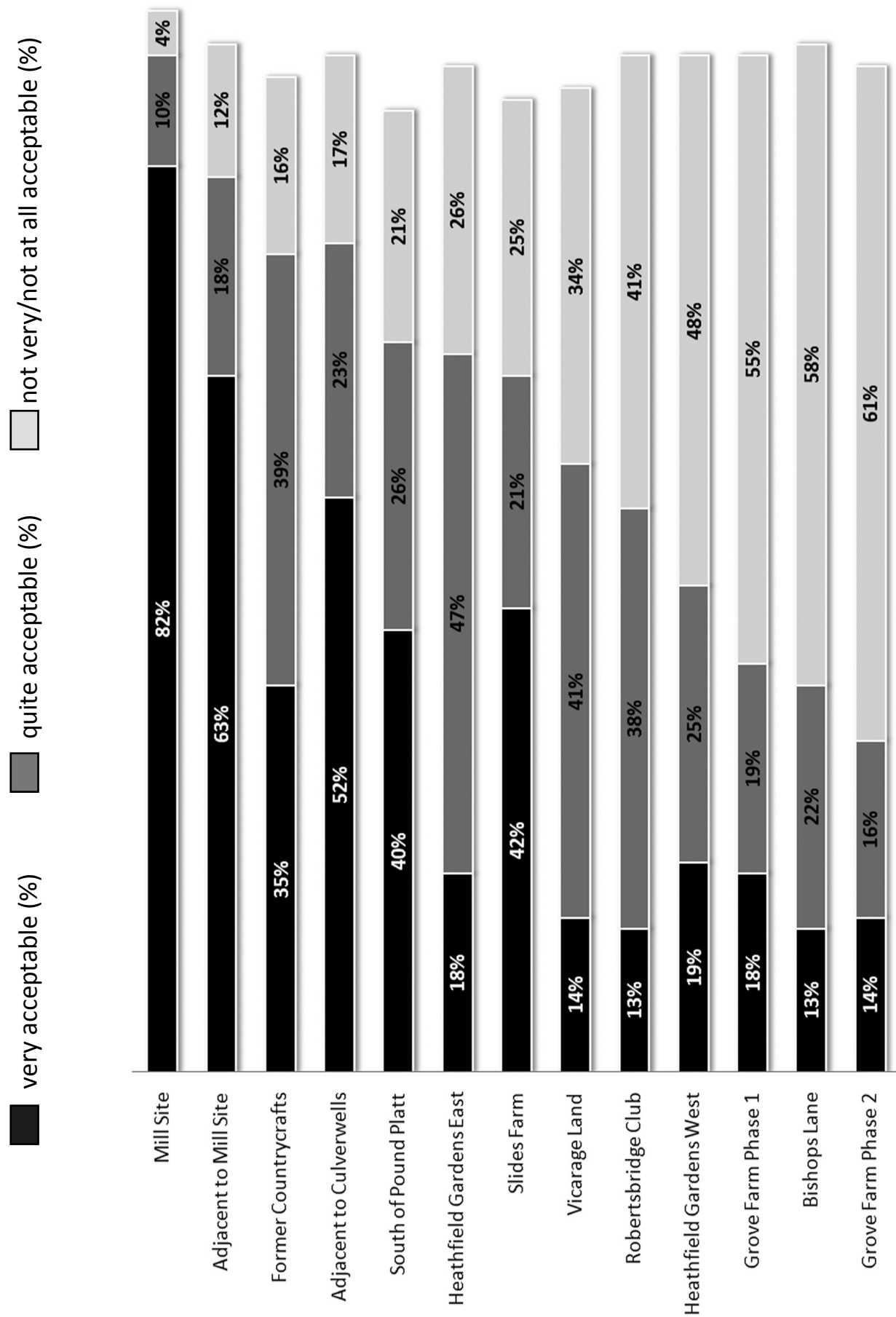
[brianandsheilab@googlemail.com](mailto:brianandsheilab@googlemail.com)



**Neighbourhood  
Development Plan**

— Salehurst & Robertsbridge —

Acceptability of potential sites for housing development purposes - from questionnaire responses



## SUMMARY OF QUESTIONNAIRE FINDINGS:

Salehurst & Robertsbridge (S&R) keeps its residents... 18 year average

8% of respondents will want to move within Salehurst & Robertsbridge in the next 10 years +  
12% think other family members will be keen to move here

Lack of property and property prices are key barriers to moving to Salehurst & Robertsbridge -  
more affordable housing a must

Residents feel Salehurst & Robertsbridge particularly needs:

- 2-3 bedroom properties
- energy efficient homes
- retirement provision
- affordable alternatives to buying

The prime objective of any new development is integration – aesthetically, geographically and  
socially

Four sites emerge as clearly preferred to all others to meet housing needs:

- Site 3 – Mill Site (100 homes)
- Site 3a – Adjacent to Mill Site (? homes)
- Site 8 – Former Countrycrafts (7 homes)
- Site 12 – Adjacent to Culverwells (17 homes + work provision)

*(Though comments suggest desirability of spreading development)*

Mill Site was by far the most popular relocation site for medical facilities

The main leisure priority is improvements to footpaths, with multi-use court in 2<sup>nd</sup> place

Employing a Village Steward much more welcome as a *funded* initiative than a parking review

Clear preferences for safety improvements – High Street pavement repair, yellow lines, 20 mph  
speed limit and new pavements in Station Road

All aspects of infrastructure important for new developments and energy efficiency almost taken  
for granted

Improved signposting of footpaths and increase in green space desirable

Residents rate well established energy efficiency measures higher than new approaches – but all  
reasons deemed important

60% of respondents work, but only 33% work within S&R. Amongst those working away, average  
distance travelled is 20 miles

S&R working population mainly travel on foot. Half of those who travel beyond East Sussex use  
the train. Car is the only means of transport for most working elsewhere in East Sussex

6% envisage moving business premises in next 10 years (mainly to larger) and 5% planning a  
start-up in that period – equating in total to 1 in 10 of the working population of S&R.

Just over 1 in 3 business movers/starters likely to consider premises in S&R

## SALEHURST & ROBERTSBRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

**Clerk to the Council:** Mrs Karen Ripley  
**Assistant Clerk:** Mrs Angie Goodwin

The Parish Office:  
Robertsbridge Youth Centre  
The Grove, George Hill  
Robertsbridge TN32 5AP

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Web address:  
[www.salehurst-pc.org.uk](http://www.salehurst-pc.org.uk) or  
[www.robertsbridge-pc.org.uk](http://www.robertsbridge-pc.org.uk)

The Parish Office is open to the public at the following times:

Tuesday	2pm to 4pm
Thursday	2pm to 4pm

### Rother District Council

Web address: [www.rother.gov.uk](http://www.rother.gov.uk)

### Parish Councillors Tel:

Cllr Nick Greenfield (Chair)	880998
<a href="mailto:nick.greenfield@salehurst-pc.org.uk">nick.greenfield@salehurst-pc.org.uk</a>	

Cllr Sean O'Hara (Vice Chair)	881234
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Cllr Ruth Hardy	860149
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Cllr Ross McNay	880025
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Cllr Gillian Smith	880810
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Cllr Anne Wells	880832
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### East Sussex County Councillor

Cllr Angharad Davies	831969
<a href="mailto:cllr.angharad.davies@eastsussex.gov.uk">cllr.angharad.davies@eastsussex.gov.uk</a>	

### Rother District Councillors

Cllr Graham Browne	860118
<a href="mailto:cllr.Graham.browne@rother.gov.uk">cllr.Graham.browne@rother.gov.uk</a>	

Cllr Susan Prochak	881309
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**FLOOD INFORMATION:** Following recent events, you may find the following information interesting / helpful.

**Environment Agency Flood Warning Scheme** - there are three levels of warning issued by the Environment Agency:



**Flood Alert** - Flooding is possible.  
Be prepared.



**Flood Warning** - Flooding is expected.  
Immediate action required.



**Severe Flood Warning** - Severe flooding.  
Danger to life.

People in areas at risk of flooding can sign up to receive automatic notifications: Ring FLOODLINE on **0845 988 11 88** or visit: [www.environment-agency.gov.uk/flood](http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/flood)

**Robertsbridge Flood Defences** – (Flood Alleviation Scheme) – is made up of a combination of earth bunds (banks), flood walls, gates, demountable boards (stop-logs) several automatic static pumps etc. Much of the scheme is 'built-in' and keeps many of our properties dry every year; the rest, including the demountable boards (often referred to as the flood gates) across the road at Station Road and each end of The Clappers, are only deployed when river levels are really high.

*The scheme* is maintained and operated by the Environment Agency; our team is based in Rye.

*The river level* is measured by an automatic system situated near the old mill, and is monitored remotely. The measurements are given in meters above sea level. Average is somewhere between 7 and 8 meters. The road demountables would be considered at around 10.5 to 10.8 meters (Flood Warning level).

*Staff from the EA* will always be on site if the weather and/or river level monitoring suggests that the automatic pumps may be activated. They remain on site (based near the A21 behind Rutley Close), and carry out regular checks of all areas and will activate full deployment if necessary.

**MOBILE LIBRARY:** The mobile library will be near the George Inn between 09:45 and 10:15 every 3 weeks on a Thursday: next one on 21st Jan

## NEW VICAR FOR ST.MARY'S:

This newsletter should contain an insert about the appointment of a new vicar soon.