



Worthing Rugby Club and the glasshouses of West End Nursery, Angmering, part of the site allocated for 600 homes

Village attempts to stem tide of housing

DEVELOPERS have been accused of rushing through large-scale housing schemes to beat a village's planning blueprint.

It will be at least another seven months before Angmering's neighbourhood plan is finalised, and already proposals have been submitted for more than 400 homes, out of the 600 Arun District Council wants to be built on land east of Roundstone Lane.

The draft plan opposes the major developments and, if approved in a village referendum in December, will bolster Angmering's defence against further housing plans.

"We knew that these developments would go in to try to beat our plan," said Pat Turner, who has been leading the steering group drafting the community plan.

"We have tried to say, in our plan, that Angmering is full, there is no more room."

By ROGER GREEN
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The draft plan has reached a crucial stage just as Arun has voted to earmark land at Roundstone Lane, in the village, for a 'garden city'-style development of 600 homes (see special feature, pages 4/5).

Today, Arun councillors were due to consider three housing applications for 370 of those 600 homes, with officers recommending they should be approved.

Mrs Turner admitted little could be done to stop the tide of housing heading for the village following Arun's vote last week, but she insisted there was still much that the community's own blueprint could do to shape the village's future.

"We know we are going to have some housing in Angmering, but we are just trying to control the volume

we end up with. Hopefully, our plan will have some effect on any further developments," she said.

A six-week consultation on the plan is now underway and Mrs Turner encouraged villagers to study the document and to make their feelings known on its content.

"The more people who do, the more weight it gives to the plan. We can only put in what the people have told us they want."

The draft opposes Arun's housing plans for land east of Roundstone Lane, arguing the sites are beyond the built-up area, are too far from the centre of the village to be 'sustainable' and, in the case of the West End Nursery, would lead to jobs being lost.

However, it supports proposals for up to 100 homes, on two sites at Mayflower Way to the south of the Bramley Green estate, and in Water Lane, soon to be vacated by car dealer handlers.

Other issues covered in the plan include provision of a new youth centre, school places, steps to protect village shops, additional allotments and policies for parking, public transport and traffic.

Villagers have until June 11 to comment on the draft before the steering group decides whether to make any amendments based on the responses. The plan then goes before an independent examiner and if it clears this hurdle a copy will be sent out to every home in the village, with a referendum in December asking residents if they support the plan, or not.

Only the village south of the A27 is covered by the plan, and not the rest, in the South Downs National Park.

The plan can be seen at www.angmeringparishcouncil.gov.uk where comments can also be made online. Paper copies are available at the village library and the parish council office in The Square.

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to mark the 70th anniversary of the D-Day landings

Final say on village plan

RESIDENTS in Angmering are once again being called to take part in the village's neighbourhood plan consultation.

The plan is being drafted to give locals a greater say in future of the village - including future housing developments - and has been available to comment on since April 30.

However, the time for people to have their say is running out, with the ultimate cut-off date being June 11.

Angmering's neighbourhood plan group is now hosting two drop-in sessions to discuss the proposals, with the first taking place tomorrow.

The meetings follow the controversial approval of 370 homes to be built in the village in land off of Roundstone Lane, by Arun councillors earlier this month.

In spite of this blow, the neighbourhood plan team are saying the battle to stem the tide of housing developments in the village is not yet lost.

Pat Turner, who has

been leading the steering group, said: "The planning applications along Roundstone Lane may have gone through but that does not mean the neighbourhood plan is too late - it will take effect for the next 15 years of changes in our parish and we all need to be sure it reflects what you, the public really want."

"Please spare the time to come along and talk to members of the group, good or bad, we really need to know your feelings."

Copies of the draft plan can be obtained by emailing admin@angmering-pc.gov.uk or as a hard copy by visiting Angmering Parish Council, in The Square, Monday to Friday, 9am-1pm. It can also be viewed at the library, village hall and the community centre, where response forms are available.

Tomorrow's drop-in centre takes place between 7-8.30pm at the village hall, in Station Road, with another, on Tuesday, from 7-8.30pm at the community centre, in Foxwood Avenue.

Police prove their fitness 04-07-2012

More time for Angmering villagers to have say on neighbourhood plan

ANGMERING villagers have been given more time to complete a vital survey seeking views on the future of their community.

Copies of the survey have been delivered to 3,500 homes in [the village](#) by the team working on the Angmering Neighbourhood Development Plan, asking for residents' opinions on housing development, issues such as recreation, education, health, roads and jobs.

Forms should have been returned by the end of June, but the deadline has now been extended to Saturday (July 7), after delays in delivering to some homes.

Villagers have been working with Angmering Parish Council to draw up the neighbourhood plan, which is part of the Government's drive to return power to local communities.

Once it has been passed, the plan will influence future developments in Angmering over the next 17 years.

Parish council clerk Rob Martin said: "This is the biggest test of public opinion there has been in Angmering.

"It's very important that everyone takes part.

"It's their chance to have a real say in the future of development in Angmering."

Only one survey form has been delivered to each household, but further [copies](#) can be collected from the parish council office at The Square.

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Funds will help Angmering lead community revolution

ANGMERING is at the forefront of a revolution in giving communities more say in issues affecting their neighbourhood.

The [parish council](#) has been awarded £20,000 of government funding to help draw up a neighbourhood plan, and is one of the first places in the country to have started the process.

A similar amount has been awarded to a group of eight more parishes in Arun district - Littlehampton, Yapton, Barnham, Bognor, Aldingbourne, Pagham, Felpham and Eastergate to prepare their plans.

Funding for the pioneering parishes was confirmed by government planning minister Greg Clarke.

Neighbourhood planning is designed to allow local people and local businesses a greater say in the future of their community, from deciding the locations of shops, offices and schools to setting standards of design for new housing and protecting green spaces of value to the community.

Residents also have the final say on whether a neighbourhood plan comes into force.

If more than 50 per cent of people voting in a local referendum support the plan, then the local planning authority, in this case Arun District Council, must bring it into force.

Arun council leader Gillian Brown said: "I welcome the announcement that nine of our towns and [parishes](#) will pioneer these new powers.

"Arun is an extremely diverse place, and communities have different needs, aspirations and expectations."

Littlehampton Gazette 4th July 2012,

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The form can also be filled in online on www.surveymonkey.com/s/956NY3B.