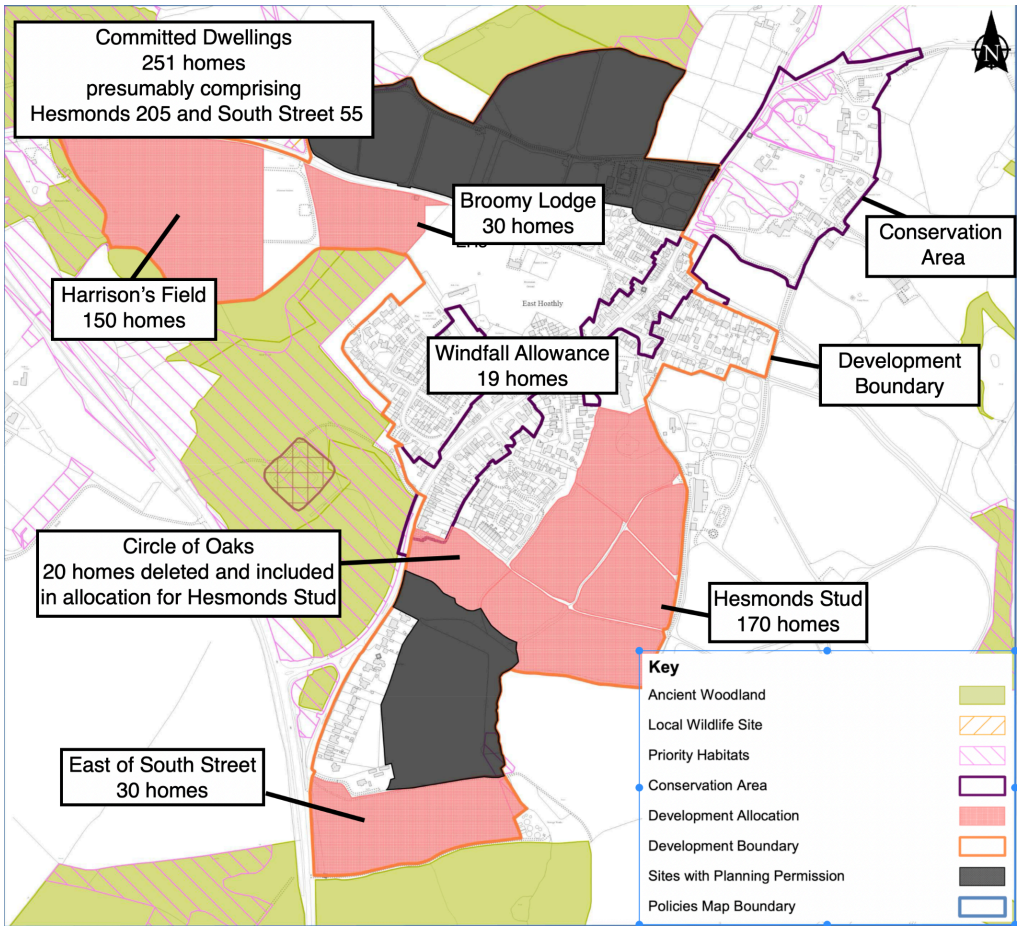
New “Focused” Draft Local Plan

Wealden District Council (WDC) have published a new “Focused” Draft Local Plan (LP) for a second Regulation 18 Consultation. This adds new details to the draft they published in January 2024.



Consultation Period runs from 6 Feb to 20 Mar

There will be a public exhibition in East Hoathly Village Hall -

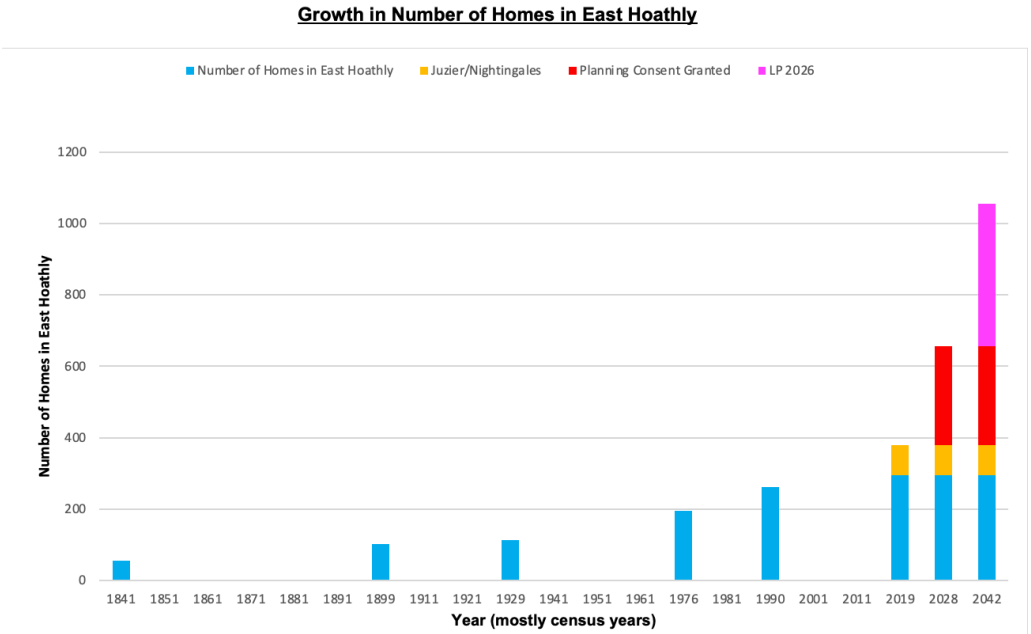
Saturday
21 February
10 am to 4 pm

Come and speak to WDC Councillors/ Planners

The number of homes allocated to this Parish has changed very slightly from 686 to 650. The period of the LP has also been extended to 2042.

An additional 650 homes up to 2042 is still a grotesque figure - a 4 fold increase since 2009 in the number of homes in East Hoathly.

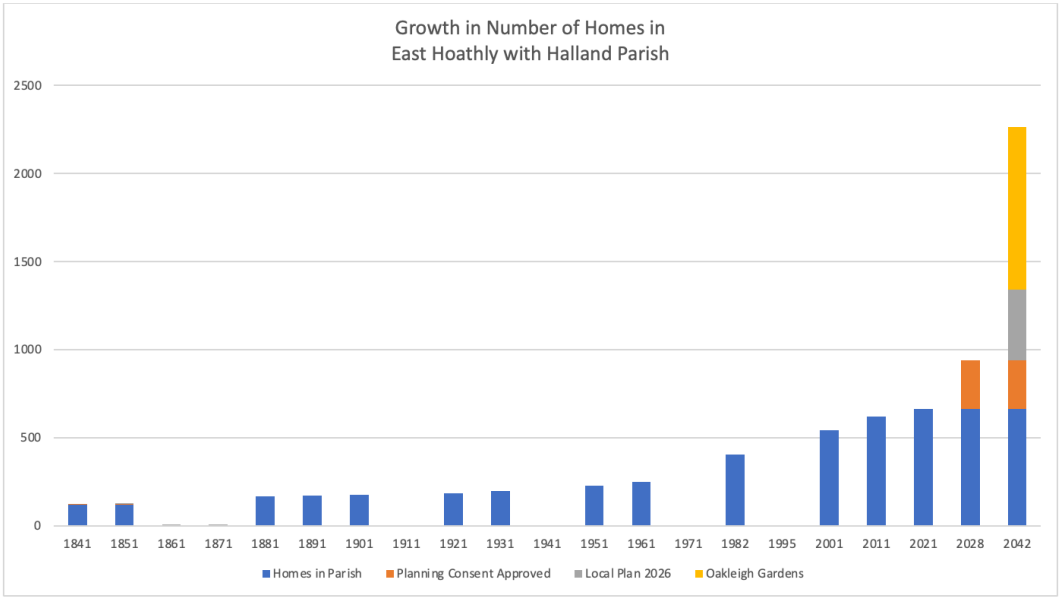
Unsustainable, no new jobs, car dependent and no strategic plan for the village.



In addition to 650 new homes, the Draft LP has 2 very significant additions:

Oakleigh Garden's site (West of Halland) included as "Possible" inclusion after further examination. This increases the devastating prospect of up to 4,441 homes. Currently limited to only 925 by 2042 but once approved for some homes, the rest will follow. The Draft LP allocates 16,609 homes in the District - still 8,160 short of the government target. The pressure to change Oakleigh from "Possible" to "Allocation" will be strong. This proposal is an abomination - a car dependent town with no significant infrastructure or facilities disgorging cars onto already congested roads. Significant harm to the landscape and environment and building on a site that regularly floods. All because a farmer no longer wants to produce food. It is a strategically poor site and should be rejected.

Hesmond's Hybrid sites have been included with disturbing detail which implies WDC have already made some significant decisions before the application has been fully considered. It is designed to suit the developer with no strategic considerations for this community. This would result in a new school, far too large for our needs on the wrong site at the end of a housing cul-de-sac.



Another 4 fold increase in the number of homes in the Parish.

We urge you to complain in the strongest terms.

The Draft LP only mentions Halland to categorise it as a Type 5 Neighbourhood unsustainable settlement. Therefore no growth, no improvements to infrastructure nor facilities. Halland is just ignored but will have to cope with the devastation of a new town being built to the West.

Please Comment - We encourage you and your family/friends to make as many representations as possible. If you want more information visit: **villageconcerns.co.uk**

You have until 20 March to make your comments. WDC have provided Guidance Notes and a video to explain how to use the consultation portal. Go to the online WLP Consultation page: **https://consult.wealden.gov.uk/kpse/event/824145D5-F232-46DB-8D17-F27618B47E87/section**