

SAYERS VILLAGE MEETING

Berkeley Latimer, the scheme promoters of a significant residential-led development of in excess of 2000 properties, just to the north and west of Albourne village, are due to hold a public exhibition of their plans on Friday, 30th January, 2026 at Sayers Common Village Hall from 3pm to 7 pm.

Albourne Parish Council has consistently objected to the development that is being proposed in and around Sayers Common. We have set out our concerns, over many years, to both the proposed developers and to Mid Sussex District Council.

Although we object to the plans, we recognise that to best represent local residents, we need to engage with the scheme promoters. On this basis Albourne Parish Council, together with other adjoining Parish Councils that are affected, has attended a series of meetings with developers over the last few months.

At these meetings we have expressed our concerns and endeavoured to shape and evolve the emerging proposals so that the interests of current residents are taken into account. Of particular concern are the increased traffic flows during the construction years and thereafter together with increased risk of flooding. On these issues we are keen to ensure that the developers adopt and commit to an integrated approach to all necessary infrastructure requirements.

To help ensure that your views are heard, we encourage you to attend the exhibition to view the plans and let the developers know what you think of the scheme.

We will continue to represent the community in the months ahead.

DISTRICT PLAN UPDATE

The new District Plan (2021-2039), which was submitted to the Planning Inspectorate in 2024 for approval, and which governs how our planning Authority (Mid Sussex District Council) deals with planning applications has been paused for some time. However, a new planning Inspector has been appointed, and the examination hearings are due to begin again on the 23rd February 2026. The Inspector has set out how he intends to approach the task, and also the timetable for this process. Having regard to our previous involvement and input, it is Albourne Parish Council's intention to participate. For example, in terms of the site selections, which the Inspector will be re-looking at, we will aim to take up the concerns about the Sayers Common development that we have referred to above. More generally, the Duty to Co-operate with neighbouring Authorities has been removed, but it is likely that their unmet housing needs will still need to be considered. All the details can be found on Mid Sussex District Councils website <https://www.midsussex.gov.uk/planning-building/mid-sussex-district-plan/district-plan-review-examination/>

Albourne Parish Council (January 2026)