

E [REDACTED] Harvey (Secretary West Saltdean Neighbourhood Forum)



The West Saltdean Neighbourhood Forum make the following application.

Application for designation as a Neighbourhood Forum under the provisions of the Localism Act 2012: West Saltdean Neighbourhood Forum

1.0 Neighbourhood Area

1.1 We attach a map showing the proposed area for our neighbourhood plan – West Saltdean Neighbourhood Area. We confirm that we have developed the proposed boundary with information and input from adjacent neighbourhood plan areas and Brighton and Hove City Council.

1.2 The proposed neighbourhood area boundary has been developed with the help of residents and forum members as being the neighbourhood most strongly identified with and the most inclusive for future planning purposes.

1.3 Also submitted with this letter is a copy of the West Saltdean Neighbourhood Forum constitution. This was formally adopted at the Inaugural Meeting on March 10th 2022.

1.4 The West Saltdean Neighbourhood Forum has been developed with the express purpose of promoting and improving the social, economic and environmental well-being of the area. The Forum intends to work closely with organisations and communities in the neighbourhood and adjacent areas in developing the Neighbourhood Plan and co-operate over areas and issues of mutual interest.

1.5. Membership of the Forum is open to all individuals who live or work in the area and to elected members representing the area. There are no membership fees and the group continues to recruit members from across the geographical area and from different sections of the community to make the Forum as representative of the area as possible. To date the Neighbourhood Plan and Forum have been mentioned within ward councillor newsletters, and through discussions with the Saltdean Residents Association, and other local groups in the community.

1.6 As of March 2022 the group has 21 individual members. Many of the members are active within local groups and work within the local area. Therefore, it is anticipated that the work of the Forum will cascade quite quickly and easily through the community.

1.7. New members can join the Forum in a variety of ways. Residents will be asked to complete a simple questionnaire either online or on paper via a website and or leaflet. Those with an email address can be kept informed electronically and those without via regular updated newsletters, articles in local press and social media coverage. All will be offered the opportunity to participate in walkabouts and workshop events and to attend Forum meetings which will be held through a mixture of online meetings and face to face meetings at local community spaces. It is intended that venues for meetings will alternate between different spaces in neighbourhood area to allow the widest audience to be involved.

1.8. The Forum has developed a written Constitution (attached) which also demonstrates that the geographical spread of the Forum membership is across our whole West Saltdean area. To date four members of the Forum also work and have businesses within the neighbourhood area.

1.9 At a meeting on 10th March 2022, it was agreed that a Neighbourhood Forum should be formed to enable a Neighbourhood Plan for the area to be developed to ensure that future planning and development in the area is inclusive and sensitive to the needs of the local community. The Forum has the following vision and aspirations for the local area in developing a neighbourhood plan:

- To promote more sustainable development, environmental improvements, and conservation of the local area's heritage.
- Encourage business growth and local investment in the area.
- Encourage the development of all inclusive leisure and recreation activities that are of benefit to the well being of the local community.
- To sustain and encourage new local infrastructure within the area.
- Seek to enable future developments to be of the best design and innovative standards.
- To encourage wider access and use of the South Downs National Park.

- To encourage more inclusive decision-making and better understanding of the planning issues of the local area.

2.0 The group believe that by establishing a Neighbourhood Forum and a development of a neighbourhood plan the local community will be more involved in the growth and development of their local area and will encourage residents and workers to promote and enhance their existing assets, by attracting new innovation and investment into the area and creating a more co-operative and transparent decision-making process.

Should any further information be required then please do not hesitate to contact me at westsalteam@gmail.com

Or Cllr. Bridget Fishleigh (Chair West Saltdean Neighbourhood Forum)



Kind regards,

E [REDACTED] Harvey