

**Vision of the Salehurst and Robertsbridge Neighbourhood Development Plan 2016 – 2031**

The Vision of Salehurst and Robertsbridge in fifteen years time seeks to capture all the community’s views and aspirations for the village. It therefore forms the basis on which the objectives and proposed policies will be formulated.

**The Vision is:**

**‘Salehurst and Robertsbridge will continue to be a thriving safe and friendly village where people continue to want to live, work and play. We will maintain and enhance our village whilst supporting sustainable development that respects our present our location within an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty for the benefit of all residents and visitors alike.’**

**Objectives for the Salehurst and Robertsbridge Neighbourhood Development Plan 2016 – 2031**

The Vision is an important statement of what Salehurst and Robertsbridge will aspire to overall but more specific objectives are needed to deliver this.

The objectives cover a range of economic, social and environmental issues that form a basis for the sustainability performance of the Plan.

**The following objectives under the themes are therefore proposed for the plan:**

1. **Economy**

* To sustain a thriving village centre with mix use shopping and service provision offering a range of goods and services to the local community and visitors.
* To foster a sustainable community that promotes employment creation, across commercial, retail and industrial sites.
* To retain the local retail and service provision.

1. **Education**

* To improve and extend the local educational facilities in line with future housing developments.
* To seek adequate education provision for children of the village of all ages.
* To promote informal or social educational facilities for younger people.

1. **Environment**

* To protect and enhance local open spaces and access to the countryside.
* To plan for climate change and work in harmony with the environment to conserve natural resources.
* To encourage development which meets current energy efficiency standards and where possible higher standards to achieve low carbon and/or renewable energy generation.

1. **Housing**

* To plan and deliver a range of housing mix, sizes and types that is integrated into the community which reflects both current and future housing needs of the village.
* To protect, maintain and enhance the nationally and locally important heritage assets and historic character; by guiding development that is sympathetic with the surroundings.
* To promote principles of good design and high quality that encourages local context and rural locality.

1. **Infrastructure**

* To promote cycle networks and non vehicular connectivity for a sustainable village life.
* To reduce the harmful impact of road traffic and parking on the local community.
* To seek timely and effective maintenance of existing infrastructure.
* To maintain and improve effective flood defences.
* To seek improvements for pedestrian safety on the high street.

1. **Leisure**

* To secure the long term future of existing community leisure and cultural facilities for all ages.
* To promote the provision of new facilities to address the future needs of the village.