Notes of Education Group Meeting

Held at Robertsbridge Community College

8th May 2015

Present: Nick Greenfield, Simon Potten (Headmaster), David Evans (Business Manager)

1. NG explained the Neighbourhood Plan process and shared the Neighbourhood plan map showing potential development sites where the 155 properties could be built by 2028.
2. NG explained the difference between S106 payments and the Community Infrastructure Levy.
3. SP explained that the college was full to capacity and that any new homes would increase the need for college spaces. The college is aging and the corridors are dangerously narrow for the number of students and building more classrooms is not the answer.
4. SP explained of the difficulties in accessing the existing site, with buses having to navigate narrow and busy roads daily to access the college. Potential new access roads were discussed via the mill site, Bellhurst Road and Bugsell Lane, although all were thought to be unlikely in reality.
5. The prospect of a new college being built on the mill site was discussed and was favoured if money was available. A split site is not desirable. Second favourite was the extension of the existing site into the field east of the current site which is currently farmland.
6. NG agreed to contact ESCC to see if funding for a new school was a possibility.
7. NG explained of businesses providing employees for charity days for schools and gave an example of Lloyds Bank supporting tower Hamlets Business Partnerships in sporting Mulberry school for girls.
8. SP is keen to get students involved in community projects.
9. DE is keen to get involved in the Neighbourhood Plan process and to be part of the Education Group.