



News Release

Immediate

## **THE WEST BYFLEET NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM**

### **DROP –IN**

60 local residents took the opportunity to ‘DROP IN’ to the Library in West Byfleet on May 1<sup>st</sup> and discuss their opinions and ideas about West Byfleet – what they liked, disliked and what improvements and changes they would like to see in the village.

Their views and those of others who responded to a leaflet drop are being analysed and will be posted on the West Byfleet Neighbourhood Forum web site – [www.wbnf.org](http://www.wbnf.org).

The Joint Chairs - Penny Hoskyn and Pauline Hedges said:

*“We were delighted so many people have taken the time and trouble to tell us what they want to happen in their village. We will be formulating a Neighbourhood Plan for the next few years and we will discuss this with Woking Borough Council. The Forum will act as the go-between to ensure that our village is a safe, pleasant and prosperous community.”*

An exciting new era opens for the village, which celebrates its centenary in 2017.

Ends

For more information:

Penny Hoskyn

Pauline Hedges – 077 577 16493



### Notes to editors:

Neighbourhood planning gives communities the power to:

- make a neighbourhood development plan
- make a neighbourhood development order
- make a Community Right to Build order

Neighbourhood planning was introduced through the [Localism Act 2011](#). [Neighbourhood planning legislation](#) came into effect in April 2012.

### Neighbourhood development plans

A neighbourhood development plan establishes general planning policies for the development and use of land in a neighbourhood, like:

- where new homes and offices should be built
- what they should look like

The plan can be detailed or general, depending what local people want.

Neighbourhood plans allow local people to get the right type of development for their community, but the plans must still meet the needs of the wider area. In most cases we expect this will mean that neighbourhood plans will have to take into account the local council's assessment of housing and other development needs in the area.

More and more communities are taking up the right to produce a neighbourhood plan.