

Approved 14th May 2024

Rusper Parish Council (RPC) and Save West of Ifield Committee (SWOI) have a shared objective in opposing Homes England's plans to build up to 10,000 houses with some supporting infrastructure on land to the west of Crawley.

This opposition is shared by Crawley Borough Council and supported by RPC's Neighbourhood plan.

As such in RPC meetings on 25.1.22 and 15.2.22, it was agreed that a working collaboration between the 2 groups should be formed, with the aim of furthering their shared objective. Terms Of Reference for the operation of that working collaboration are set out below.

1. A member of RPC may sit on the SWOI Committee and take part in their decision-making processes.
2. All RPC meetings are open to the public and any SWOI representatives are encouraged to attend as audience members at RPC meetings.
3. Where expertise or activity is identified which would benefit both groups, RPC may consider paying for this. Any decision on spending by RPC shall be made at RPC Council meetings. and follow its normal decision-making processes.
4. A joint working group shall be formed to agree priorities for expenditure, jointly prepare and present bids at RPC meetings, oversee the procurement of experts and delivery of the work.
5. The findings of any experts procured in this way will be available to RPC and SWOI. Reports, information and advice received from any of these experts will be owned by whoever pays for them.
6. RPC will continue its normal activity outside of the collaboration with SWOI.
7. SWOI will continue its normal activity in terms of achieving its strategic aims including fundraising, outside of its collaboration with RPC. SWOI may use funds it raises via donation and grants (except for those grants/donations received from RPC) for the purposes of achieving its stated objectives in line with the decision-making processes in its constitution.
8. Notwithstanding points 6 & 7 above, mutually beneficial information will be shared between the 2 groups, where this does not breach privacy or data protection policies.
9. Where written material regarding either group is to be shared by the other, both groups shall sign the content off before publication.
10. Neither group shall behave in such a way as to bring the other into disrepute.
11. Members of RPC do not have any delegated authority to make decisions on behalf of RPC; all decisions can only be made by full Council or be delegated to the Clerk to make on the Council's behalf.
12. All correspondence and communication between SWOI and RPC will be copied to/shared with the Clerk.