

# HEADCORN PARISH COUNCIL



## Vision and Values 2024

### Vision

Our vision for the next four years is to preserve the character and charm of the village whilst improving amenities and manage the growth of housing.

### Mission

Our mission is to conduct ourselves in a professional and proactive manner that responds to the challenges of the rapidly changing and developing demands of the community, employers, traders, developers, Maidstone Borough Council and central government legislation.

### Aims

Our aims are to serve our parishioners by:

1. Delivering value for money
2. Keeping all essential services, amenities and schooling in the heart of the village
3. Enabling residents and visitors to enjoy a quality village life
4. Promoting a diverse economy that supports both new and existing employers and gives residents good employment opportunities
5. Protecting the characteristics of the village, countryside and open spaces for the enjoyment of all people
6. Working in partnership with Maidstone Borough Council, infrastructure services, agencies, charities and relevant statutory bodies to improve service standards and meet the needs of the residents and government policies.

### Principles

To achieve these aims, the parish council has five guiding principles:

1. Maintain a fully functioning Parish Office
2. Council's business will be conducted from this office and it will be open to the public and media at published times
3. Communicate and consult with the community and employers
4. Use and support our local economy and traders
5. Request ad hoc support from the community for specialist skills when needed

### Core Values

We will realise our mission and aims by upholding ten core values that underlie our work, and how we interact with each other. These are consistent with the Localism Act 2011.

- Excellence:** We will promote and support these core values through leadership and example. We strive to achieve the best for our community, by driving ongoing accountability, empowerment and capability.
- Leadership:** The Headcorn Parish Council will provide clear vision and strategy for "What is good for Headcorn Village" and achieve this through capable leadership in people, work practices and community understanding.
- Objectivity:** In carrying out public business, including making public appointments, awarding contracts, or recommending individuals for rewards and benefits, we will make choices on merit.
- Openness:** We will be as open as possible about all the decisions and actions that are taken. We should give reasons for our decisions and restrict information only when the wider public interest clearly demands it.

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- Accountability:** We are accountable for our decisions and actions to the public and will submit ourselves to whatever scrutiny is appropriate to our office.
- Engagement:** We involve and engage with stakeholders in the community and external bodies to build lasting relationships (that provide mutual value).
- Honesty and Integrity:** We will act solely in terms of the public interest. We have a duty to declare any private interests relating to our public duties and to take steps to resolve any conflicts arising in a way that protects the public interest. Integrity underpins every decision and action taken by HPC to ensure we are trusted and respected by stakeholders, both internal and external.
- Innovation:** We aim to maintain a work environment conducive to change and flexibility, ensuring Headcorn is capable of meeting evolving expectations and environments.
- Teamwork:** We will foster an environment of collaboration, support and mutual respect, ensuring individuals and teams work together effectively to achieve results.

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Date: 11<sup>th</sup> September 2024  
Version: HPC V&V 2024/1