**High Halstow Parish Council response to Examiner’s Note 2**

1. The Parish Council received the Examiner’s Note 2 on Thursday 5th October 2023 and we are asked to respond by Tuesday 10th October. It is not clear why there is such urgency.
2. The Parish Council does not consider that either of the alternatives outlined in Examiner’s Note 2 are acceptable. They both lead to a long delay of at least six months and possibly indefinitely.
3. In any case, the PC wish to proceed to amend the draft NP in the light of the collapse of the HIF proposals and to address the Examiner’s concern that the NP may not meet the “basic conditions”; in particular whether the NP is in general conformity with the strategic policies of the adopted Local Plan.
4. The Parish Council therefore asks the Examiner and Medway Council to take no further steps in respect of the High Halstow Neighbourhood Plan 2020-2037 Submission Version August 2022 at least until the Parish Council has had an opportunity to obtain and consider independent professional and legal advice and to make relevant amendments to the draft NP to ensure that it reflects the current position in respect of infrastructure provision and complies with the “basic conditions”.