

# Countryside

Being surrounded by countryside with views to the South Downs:

- contributes to the distinct rural character and history of Hassocks
- enhances the quality of life for residents



# Landscape

- The rolling hills and chalkland in the SDNP form the backdrop to the Parish
- The Low Weald Area of the Parish includes several areas of woodland, ponds and streams
- The habitat supports a wide diversity of flora and fauna which add to the character and setting of the built up areas



# Local Gaps

- The pattern of this area of Sussex is defined by small towns and villages, separated by countryside mostly under agricultural management
- These Local Gaps provide areas rich in diversity
- Local Gaps between settlements prevent coalescence and the loss of separate identity and amenity of nearby settlements

Local Gaps have been identified:

- between Hassocks and Hurstpierpoint
- between Hassocks and Burgess Hill
- between Hassocks and Ditchling



# Questions

- What do you value about the setting of Hassocks?
- Should Local Gaps be maintained to prevent coalescence with neighbouring towns and villages?
- If it were necessary to lose part of the Local Gaps, which area should be given up first?
- If the Local Gaps are to be used, what type of development should they be used for? (eg residential, commercial, leisure, open space)

