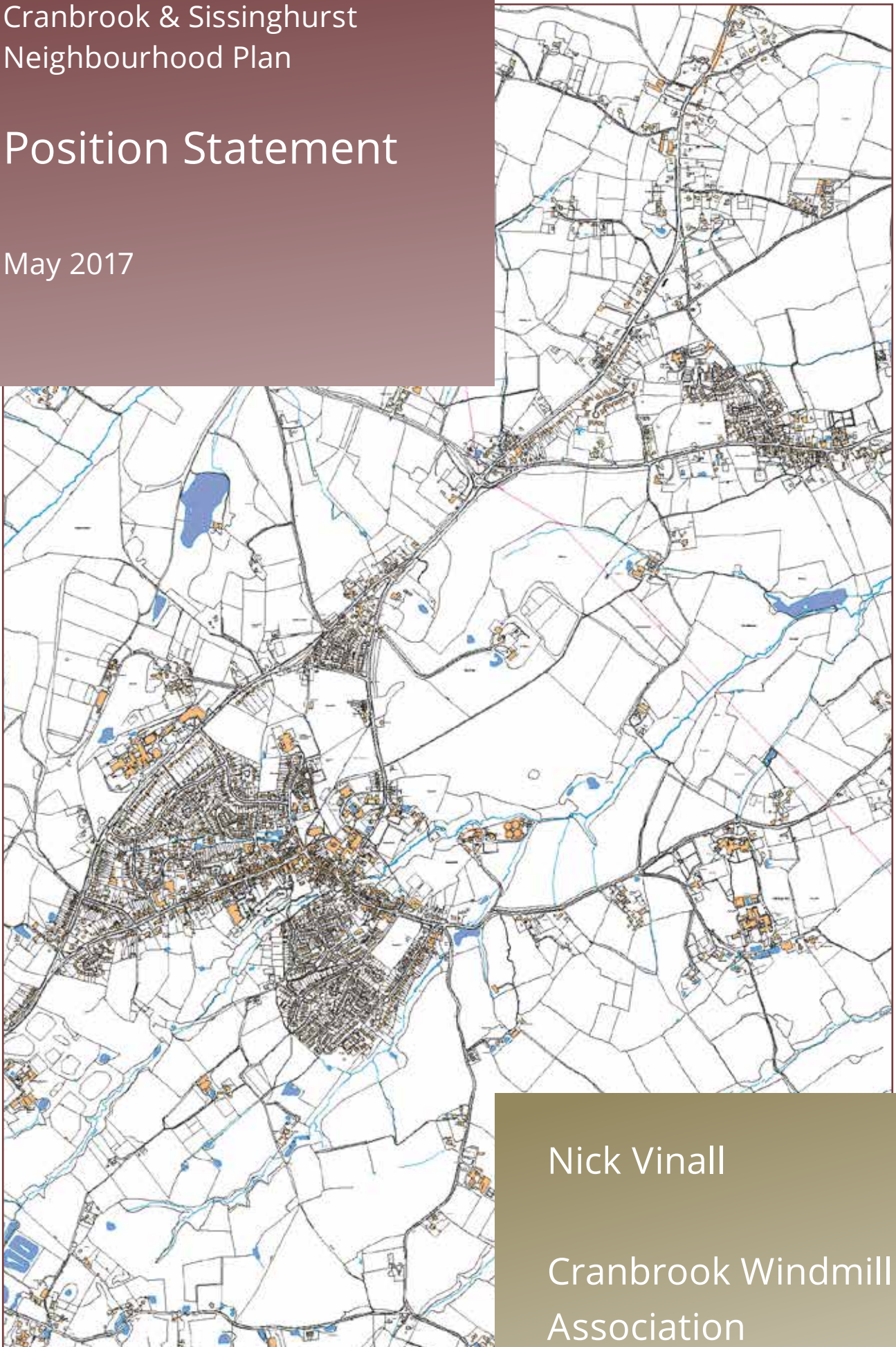


Cranbrook & Sissinghurst  
Neighbourhood Plan

# Position Statement

May 2017



Nick Vinall

Cranbrook Windmill  
Association



# **CRANBROOK WINDMILL ASSOCIATION**

The background of the slide is a photograph of a village scene at sunset. In the center, a large, traditional wooden windmill with four sails is visible. The sky is a mix of orange, pink, and purple. In the foreground, there are several houses with dark roofs and chimneys. The overall tone is warm and historical.

**SUBMISSION FOR THE CRANBROOK & SISSINGHURST  
PARISH NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN**

**9<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2017**

# BACKGROUND



- **Union Windmill** is owned by Kent County Council
- **Grade 1 Listed**, of National Importance, it is one of very few working windmills in UK
- The Mill is an **iconic feature** of the local landscape
- **Cranbrook Windmill Association (CWA)** is a registered charity, all are volunteers from the local community
- CWA assists with **preservation and restoration** of the Mill and provides public access on a regular basis

# OUR CONCERNS



- **Developments** in Cranbrook are inevitable and can bring considerable benefits
- But **developments must be sympathetic** to our historic core, a key reason for living in and visiting Cranbrook
- CWA believes that the windmill and other historic buildings in the **Cranbrook Conservation Area** must be protected from unsympathetic developments

# **PROTECTION is needed for**

- **Important historic buildings** in Cranbrook including the four Grade 1 Listed sites
- **Views of the windmill** from various key points. Its setting near the centre of the town is unusual and is a very significant feature of the landscape
- **The windmill's access to wind.** It is one of very few mills that can grind by wind power and people love to see it in action

# COMMUNITY ASSET



# ACCESS issues

- Access to the Mill is restricted to **pedestrians only** and we rely on convenient parking facilities
- The majority of visitors need to **cross The Hill** to enter the Mill site. Poor sight lines make it a potentially dangerous spot
- CWA would welcome **improvements** to local parking and the road crossing point



# CWA's VISION for the Parish

- Protection of this major Historic Asset **for future generations**
- Strengthen links with the community and increase residents' **sense of ownership**
- Improve Mill facilities and **encourage more visitors** to the town
- Increase Educational and Community use of the Mill

