

Record of Much Birch Neighbourhood Development Plan Steering group meeting 1 February 2018.

Present. Dave Goldsmith (Chairman), Tricia Egerton, Shirley Coates, Lesley Gare, Chris Gooding (Data Orchard) Chris Grover, , Geoff Nichol, Rosemary Rigby, Steve Turner (PC), Roisin Burge (PC),

1. Apologies Maz Jooma

2. Declarations of Interest. There were no declarations of interest.

3. Approval of Minutes of meeting 11 January 2018.

These were agreed and approved as a true record.

4. Matters arising.

Covered in items 5, 6, and 7.

5. Review of Draft documents and policies.

A review of the Much Birch Community response to the first draft statements of the **NDP Vision and Objectives** (ref. Community Survey September/ October 2017 results analysed by Data Orchard CIC) **evidenced strong support for Vision and Objectives** as follows.

Agreement with Vision	90%
Objective 1 Housing	87%
Objective 2 the local Economy/Business Development	91%
Objective 3 Protection of the environment and landscape of the parish	91%
Objective 4 Traffic and promotion of sustainable transport	95%
Objective 5 Community Services and facilities	94%

Summary. Almost all aspects of living in the parish were felt to be important by the majority of residents. Of greatest importance were 'Rural nature of the Parish', 'Living in an area with a thriving natural habitat' and 'sensitive management of farming practices' with 97,94 and 93% of respondents rating them as 'very' or 'fairly important' respectively. (Source Data Orchard CIC)

The next stage. Drafting a Development Strategy.

Chris Gooding (Data Orchard) advised that the 'next step' set of actions needed (in preparation for full Community Consultation) were to consider in detail the responses to questions associated with each objective. Based on the outcome of this exercise members of the group should then be in a position to prepare a draft a set of **options for policies** to be considered for incorporation into the next stage of drafting the Much Birch NDP.

Note, attention must be given not only to largely supported statements but also minority needs. There is also a need to identify issues many support and may be needed but are difficult to do resolve within the NDP process

Each option should set out advantages /disadvantages and in the final instance "The policy recommended is

The group were reminded that Neighbourhood Plan is mainly about New Development.

Actions agreed. Chris G (DO) to circulate document with information about how to turn objectives into policies.

Settlement Boundaries.

Results from the Much Birch NDP Community Survey evidence the majority 64% were in favour of defining settlement boundaries in the parish, 19 % were against the idea.

It was agreed that at the next meeting (March 2018) Mr Bill Bloxhame (Consultant Data Orchard) would provide guidance and best practice options for taking this objective forward. Group members had previously been referred to **Herefordshire Council Neighbourhood Planning Guidance Note 20**

“Guide to Settlement Boundaries”

Note. The Chairman agreed to seek copies of the previous set of settlement boundaries for the Parish and Geoff volunteered to check these for updating.

Action plan in preparation for next meeting March 2018

Group members agreed to start drafting policies relating to objectives as follows.

Housing	Dave Goldsmith (Chairman) and Steve Turner (PC) Note. As the Chairman was called away RB to work with Steve
Employment	Geoff Nichol and Maz Jooma.
Environment and Heritage	Chris Grover and Lesley Gare
Roads and traffic	Dave Goldsmith (Chairman) and Trish Egerton
Community Services and facilities	Geoff Nichol and Maz Jooma.

6. Meeting dates for the full year were confirmed as follows:

1 March, 29 March, 26 April, 31 May,

28 June,30 August,27 September, 1 November,29November

AOB. No AOB

Date of next meeting 1 March 2018