

Record of Much Birch Neighbourhood Development Plan Steering group meeting 11 January 2018.

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

1. Apologies Shirley Coates

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

3. Approval of Minutes of meeting 28 September 2017.

These were agreed and approved as a true record. **Note.** The meeting proposed for 26 October was cancelled due to members of the group needing to spend time on delivery and collection of NDP questionnaires. The meeting of 30 November was postponed as results from analysis of questionnaires not yet available.

4. Matters arising.

Covered in items 5, 6, and 7.

5. Review of Questionnaire reports.

Electronic access to the initial results and analysis of questionnaires for three areas, **Community, Housing and Business** had been circulated to members of the group prior to the meeting. **Area 4 'Call for land'** analysis has not yet been completed and at this stage remains in the confidential data bank of Consultancy **Data Orchard** .It is anticipated that this area will be considered at a future meeting which will be attended by the Data Orchard specialist consultant for this area of NDP development.

With reference to two written requests for consideration of specific areas of land available' (previously registered with the Parish Council) for consideration when the NDP reached this stage of development. It was agreed that **RB** (PC) should pass these to Data Orchard to add to the data held on 'Calls for land' for future consideration/action.

Introduction.

Chris G (DO) introduced the session stating that returns were relatively high and the overall results from the community consultation on trend with those of other similar rural communities.

5.1 Community. Vision and Objectives. Key Findings

Feedback on this section was very positive with 80-90% of returns supportive of the Vision and Objectives set out. "The aspects with greatest importance were, 'the rural nature of the Parish,' 'Living in an area with a thriving natural habitat' and 'Sensitive management of farming practices'. A further opportunity to enhance and refine Vision and Objectives will be available at a later consultations.

5.2. Housing. Key Findings

84 households returned a 'Housing Needs Questionnaire' of which 73 indicated no additional housing need now or over the next 5 years. The remaining 11 described a need for additional homes either now, over the next five years or both. "7 Additional homes are currently needed".

IN response to what type of residential development should take place over the next 13 years? “The only types of development that weren’t on balance supported i.e. more disagreed than agreed were ‘executive homes’ (4 or more bedrooms) and flats or apartments. The proportion of people having no opinion was fairly high and exceeded the number disagreeing in a number of cases” Note. Further detail and analysis please refer to full report.

5.3. Business. Key Findings Total number of respondents 55

“Of the types of employments listed there was the **greatest support for Tourism, leisure and crafts (78%)** and **Community services 73 %** and the **highest opposition for Transport, storage and distribution (55%)** followed by **Industrial and manufacturing (47%)**. Further detail and analysis please refer to report

5.4. Call for land.

Please see introduction to 5. To be discussed at future date

6. Next Step.

Chris G (DO) advised that the next step in the NDP process will be to review the proposed Vision and objectives alongside the detailed results of the consultation. From the analysis there is a need to identify the key recommendations to be further developed to inform policies for an evidence based Much Birch NDP. (Note some of the detail of the feedback may not be appropriate to planning policy).

Chris G (DO) proposed that the next public consultation should focus on the feedback from surveys and what the group propose to do with the data i.e.....”This is what the community have said”
“This is what we might do....Policy Options A/B/C/D”

The process of translating/refining ‘identified issues/statements’ into ‘policy options’ (for further consideration by the community) can be a challenging task and in order to assist with this Chris G undertook to forward some examples of ‘NDP policy development’ statements. It was also suggested that reference might be made to the completed /published NDPs of Eardisley and Weston under Penyard.

Action agreed. It was agreed that on receipt of the additional information/ reference materials members of the group would prepare draft policy options for each area of the Much Birch NDP (based on evidence available to date). The Meeting of 1 February will be attended by Data Orchard Consultant Bill Bloxame who has specialist knowledge in this area and will be able to advise how we can progress (avoiding pitfalls) from “what the community have said ”to a full set of planning criteria “

7 AOB

Chris G (Finance/budget) circulated a budget report (April 2017-December2017) which has been discussed with the funding section of NDP/Herefordshire Council. Chris will apply for a further grant to 31 March 2018.

The Chairman advised that the Community Questionnaire prize draw was completed at the Parish Council Meeting (7 December 2017) and the winner was Bob Barnett.

Date of Next meeting 1 February 2018