

LEDBURY TOWN COUNCIL

Report of the Neighbourhood Plan Working Party
Held on Tuesday, 6 January, 2015 at 7pm in the Market House

Present: Councillors R Barnes – Chairman

R Hadley	Mr K Francis
L Harvey	Mr G Holiday
R Yeoman	Mr I James
	Mrs N Shields – VC

Also Present: Mrs M Bradman – Deputy Clerk
Mrs S Tagg – Foxley Tagg Planning

1. **Apologies** were received from Councillors C Ridler, T Widdows and Mr A Harrison.
2. **Declarations of Interest**
None declared at this point in the meeting.
3. **Minutes** of the meeting held on 2nd December, 2014 were accepted. Foxley Tagg is required to circulate, electronically, the Housing and Transport document which was discussed and referred to in the report.
4. **Objectives and Policies Update**
Sally Tagg informed members that progress on the policies and objective work packages is being made, with almost all work packages having been received. Once all documents have been received and assessed by Foxley Tagg, who will highlight any issues and gaps, they will be circulated to all groups for comment and should be returned to FT by 15 January.

Two meeting dates have been set for ~~Wednesday~~ corrected to Thursday, 15 January at 7pm in the Town Council Offices and Tuesday, 20 January in the Market House at 7pm for discussion and agreement of policies and objectives and preferred sites. All members who have been working on the objectives and policies work packages were encouraged to attend to ensure consistency.

Members considered the Site Allocation weighting document, copies having been circulated by FT, and discussed it at length.
Councillor Harvey suggested using a traffic light system for each of the categories.

Action: Councillor Harvey to action this point. FT to provide Cllr Harvey with the original excel document for alteration.

Councillor Hadley suggested that the wording for the weighting consultation document should be altered using 'plain' English.

Action: Councillor Hadley to alter the document into 'plain' English format.

The following points were also agreed:

- The original weighting document should be kept for internal use only.
- A glossary of technical terms should be added to all the consultation documents.
- Justification narrative to be included with site allocation decisions.
- The football ground site and viaduct sites should also be included in the site allocation document.
- All the land south of the bypass should be excluded from the document, for the following reasons:
 - i) at previous consultations, local people had expressed a preference for small growth.
 - ii) the land is outside the settlement boundary.
- Small expansion is preferred, Ledbury is a special town with an ambiance that should be maintained.
- If certain sites are highlighted through the consultation period then these should be considered.
- Discussion took place regarding the potential of introducing the opportunity for a *call for sites*; whereby any anyone with land that they wished to bring forward for small development scheme were encouraged to do so if they were within the existing settlement boundary of Ledbury and could accommodate between 2-20 units. The mechanism for this would need to be thought through but may best be addressed through the submission of a specific form and provision of a plan showing the extent of the land. This should be provided at the consultations for members of the public to identify any parcels of land they feel should be included in the site allocation document, but done in this way will help deter speculative interest.

Foxley Tagg also circulated a delivery schedule update document, draft objectives and a 'To Do' list for the consultation period; copies of the documents will be held in the office for reference.

Due to time constraints the meeting was **closed at 9.10pm** with the following items left unaddressed:

- Item 4 - To discuss arrangements for consultation events during Feb/March
- Item 6 - To receive a report from the Energy Group
- Item 7 - Any other matters relating to the working party
- Item 8 - To agree the date for the next meeting and identify items for the agenda