

# Tarrington Neighbourhood Development Plan

Tarrington Parish Council are responsible for finalising a Neighbourhood Development Plan (N.D.P.) for the Parish of Tarrington which will help to shape the future of our community for the next 14 years.

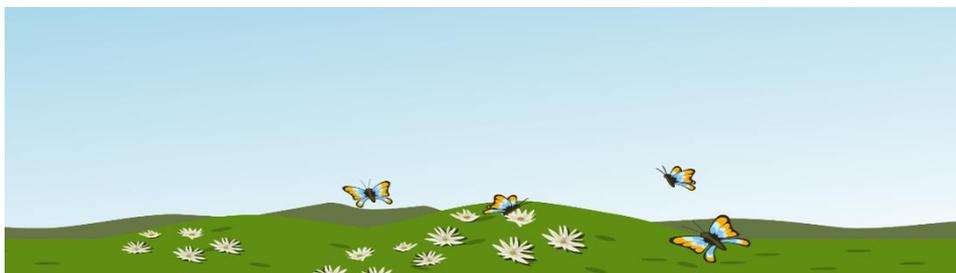
## What is a Neighbourhood Development Plan?

The fundamental idea of “neighbourhood planning” stems from the Localism Act, passed by central government in 2011. This reform sought to elevate the influence that local communities could have in the planning process, giving new freedoms and flexibilities for local governments (which, for Tarrington, is Herefordshire Council) and new rights and powers to local communities (which, for Tarrington, is represented by Tarrington Parish Council). This is not a charter to prevent change but rather to encourage and focus new development and all parishes have to recommend sites for a minimum number of properties to fulfil requirements set by central government and by Herefordshire Council. Plans must conform to national and county planning policies. Central to Herefordshire Council’s Local Plan is the Core Strategy. Herefordshire’s Core Strategy was adopted in October 2015 and is a document which provides the planning strategic framework for the county’s future development needs up to 2031. A range of policies set out how these needs can be met while, at the same time, achieving social and environmental objectives.

## Why is it Important for Tarrington to have a Neighbourhood Development Plan?

The views expressed in a Neighbourhood Development Plan will carry the same weight as Herefordshire Council’s Local Plan, representing a considerable opportunity for local people to shape the future for their own communities. It is important to remember that, in addition to addressing housing needs, related issues such as building design; rural employment; the fostering of community spirit; respecting the environment and landscape character and consideration for the importance of Tarrington’s heritage are all contained within the plan. Advantages of a Neighbourhood Development Plan include:

- Stating where and what development should happen
- Establishing settlement boundaries for both Tarrington and Little Tarrington
- Controlling further development in the countryside beyond these boundaries
- Protecting local green spaces
- Protecting Tarrington’s heritage and historic assets



## **What Activities have Taken Place within the Parish?**

Three and a half years ago Tarrington Parish Council decided to support a Neighbourhood Development Plan and the formation of a Steering Group, which included four members of the Parish Council. The inaugural meeting took place on 15<sup>th</sup> January 2014; everyone who attended Steering Group meetings were invited to take part in a Steering Group; a Steering Group of 12 members was established in June 2014 and that was extended to 14 members, following a meeting which took place in January 2016. Inclusion in the Steering Group was open to every adult resident in the Parish of Tarrington and all meetings were open to the public. In total 21 open Steering Group meetings took place. Professional advisers were employed and a great deal of voluntary work was carried out by members of the Steering Group in support of the community. Residents have been consulted through two questionnaires and two consultation days and been kept informed about the progress of the Neighbourhood Development Plan through the publication of minutes and related documents on the Tarrington website and articles in the Parish magazine, the Tarrington Tatler. The Steering Group has now been dissolved and it is the responsibility of the Parish Council to finalise the content of the final version of the Draft Plan.

## **What will Happen Next?**

A meeting of the Parish Council will take place in June 2017 with consultant Dr. David Nicholson to finalise the Draft Plan and then it will be sent to Herefordshire Council for their assessment. A six week public consultation period will take place which will give an opportunity for everyone to make comments before a final parish wide referendum occurs when everyone will have the opportunity to vote for or against the Tarrington Neighbourhood Development Plan.

**May 2017**

The meeting planned for June did not take place. The reason for this is that two applications for planning permission had been received by Herefordshire Council for two of the short listed sites identified by the Steering Group. Dr. Nicholson has advised the Parish Council to wait for the outcome of both of these planning applications before meeting to finalise a Draft Plan for the N.D.P.

**July 2017**

