

TARRINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 11th November 2015 at 7.30pm

Present

Councillors R Hodges (chairman), A Bush, M Daron, P Grey, J Tallis, M Tector, J Ward & C Winter

In attendance

Janet Chester – Parish Clerk

Public: 9

ITEM	MINUTE	ACTION																
	The chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.																	
1.0	Apologies for absence - Backbury Ward Cllr John Hardwick (other commitment)																	
2.0	Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensations -																	
	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Cllr Name</th> <th>Agenda Item</th> <th>Interest Declared</th> <th>Nature of Interest</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Cllr R Hodges</td> <td>10a</td> <td>NDPI</td> <td>Member of PCC</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cllr J Ward</td> <td>10a</td> <td>NDPI</td> <td>Member of PCC</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cllr J Tallis</td> <td>10d - 696</td> <td>NDPI</td> <td>Member of LECH</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Cllr Name	Agenda Item	Interest Declared	Nature of Interest	Cllr R Hodges	10a	NDPI	Member of PCC	Cllr J Ward	10a	NDPI	Member of PCC	Cllr J Tallis	10d - 696	NDPI	Member of LECH	
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Cllr J Tallis	10d - 696	NDPI	Member of LECH															
3.0	Public Participation Session for Local Residents to raise matters relevant to the Parish Council																	
	No matters raised.																	
4.0	To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 21st September 2015 (previously circulated)																	
	Cllr Bush queried minute 9b but other cllrs agreed the minute was a true record. The minutes were agreed as a true and accurate record and were duly signed by the chairman.																	
5.0	To receive brief report from Ward Councillor John Hardwick																	
	Ward Cllr Hardwick had sent his apologies for not being able to attend the meeting. He had forwarded a report to the clerk “ My report to PC would have been as follows: The Core Strategy was adopted on 16 th October following a delayed start to the meeting due to a procedural challenge by IOC. The main concern being that not all relevant papers were published and available for members in advance of the meeting. Clare Ward, the legal officer was content that procedurally the meeting was sound and therefore could continue. It was a shame considering the time that the whole process had taken to date that the administration considered it necessary to rush this important meeting. I believe it would have been far more prudent and professional to have taken greater care in the preparation and delayed the meeting for a week. That said, the vote was 29 for/0 against/16 abstentions. The vote reflected that all agreed it was better to have a plan rather than no plan at all; however the abstainers were not confident that the plan was financially viable and wholly deliverable. Time will tell. “																	

<p>6.0</p>	<p>Correspondence/Discussion/Communication/Consultations</p> <p>a) To discuss Tarrington “Litter Pick”</p> <p>The parish litter pick was held on Sunday 25th October but was poorly supported, with only Cllr Hodges and his wife and Cllr Daron attending. The clerk was thanked for collecting the equipment from Balfour Beatty’s depot.</p> <p>b) To discuss the Good Neighbour Scheme</p> <p>Cllrs Winter and Ward have investigated this scheme further and after receiving positive comments from many local residents will write an article for The Tatler asking for volunteers to come forward. RESOLVED</p> <p>c) To discuss Herefordshire Public Green Spaces Community Grant Scheme</p> <p>Cllr Tallis reported that he thought 2 or 3 benches made from recycled plastic which would require minimal maintenance could be applied for at a cost of £750. The Woodland Trust have also invited applications for trees or hedging materials. 30 plant for hedging were thought needed. It was AGREED that Cllr Tallis make the applications in LECH name and would report the outcome at the January meeting. RESOLVED</p> <p>d) To discuss Herefordshire Council’s withdrawal of subsidy on Bus Service 476 Ledbury – Hereford</p> <p>Deferred to January meeting pending receiving further information.</p>	<p></p> <p>CW/JW</p> <p>JT</p> <p>Clerk</p>
<p>7.0</p>	<p>Planning</p> <p>a) Planning Applications to be considered:</p> <p>153015 – Swan House, Eastwood, Tarrington, HR1 4EU Proposed internal works, new window, reinstatement of two windows within existing opening, replace French Doors and replace porch door and frame PC Comment: The parish council note that some work has already been done and ask Herefordshire Council if building regs, the conservation officer and English Heritage have been consulted as it is a listed building. The Parish Council are disappointed that it is a retrospective application.</p> <p>b) To note planning record (attached) and decisions of Herefordshire Council on planning applications: as per the planning record and Herefordshire Council website - noted</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
<p>8.0</p>	<p>Update on Tarrington Neighbourhood Plan</p> <p>a) To formally adopt Terms of Reference for NDP Steering Group</p> <p>Terms of Reference were discussed. A new draft will be circulated. Adoption deferred to January meeting RESOLVED</p>	<p>MD/JT</p>
<p>9.0</p>	<p>Highways and Footpaths:</p> <p>a) To receive any new highway issues and updates</p> <p>Cllrs Tallis and Grey have toured the parish and advised the clerk of required works.</p> <p>b) To receive update from Footpaths Officer - Cllr Ward</p> <p>Footpath TR3 - the hedge has been cut back but the verge needs clearing. Footpath TR9 – the hedge is overgrowing the footpath. Fortis Housing have advised they are not responsible. The clerk will check with land registry. Footpath TR15 – one footbridge needs replacing Footpath TR17 – one plank on a footbridge needs replacing</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>JW</p>

10.0	<p>Footpath TR8 – the stile on Alders End Road is in a poor state</p> <p>All of these have been reported to Balfour Beatty and the Locality Steward RESOLVED</p> <p>c) To discuss Procurement and installation of some new street name signs</p> <p>The broken sign at Garbrook needs replacing. The locality steward has advised that due to budget constraints it will not be a priority of Herefordshire Council to replace it. The parish council have been asked to consider to have a replacement sign erected sooner. The clerk will get some examples and quotes and check legalities. RESOLVED</p> <p>It was agreed that no new road names were required and suggested that a map showing road names be put onto the notice boards and website RESOLVED</p> <p>d) Works for the Annual Plan Lengthsman /P3 footpath scheme</p> <p>The clerk read out the works currently on the plan. Further works necessary are:-</p> <p>School Road:</p> <p>Clear around sign near junction Church Lane / School Road Check and clear ditch on Tarrington Court side near New Barn Check connection under road to brook Between New Barn and the Vine, strim and clear verge on north side. Opposite village hall, strim and clear vegetation from ditch – ensure free-flowing Towards A438 clear hedge etc from around 30 MPH limit signs Check drains and ditches from The Leys to A438 as water pooling and causing a danger</p> <p>Village Road:</p> <p>Between Barrs Court and Church steps – strim up to wall to remove vegetation build-up Between Barrs Court and Barrs Orchard – strim off and remove vegetation from ditch area, ensure free-flow. Trim hedge alongside ditch.</p> <p>Little Tarrington:</p> <p>Potholes in road - By Millbrook</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Along edge before entrance to campsite Under Railway bridge By the Firs Around corner by the Gables Along lane to Woodend (approx. halfway) <p>A438 Turning to Woodend</p> <p>Direction signs are damaged</p> <p>A438</p> <p>Pavement between The Myrtles and The Old Police House is badly overgrown (grass, weeds etc), reducing width to a foot or so. Please can this be cut back to restore full width.</p> <p>Station Road</p> <p>We were promised some re-surfacing near Sparchell Cottage, but it doesn't seem to have been done. Ref e-mail 8th June 2015.</p> <p>The clerk will contact the lengthsman and locality steward asking for the work to be carried out within the grant funds available of £1716 for both lengthsman and P3 footpaths.</p> <p>The clerk has received from Balfour Beatty the contracts for the Annual Plan which will be signed and returned.</p> <p>Finance:</p> <p>a) To consider request from Tarrington PCC to increase the grant given for churchyard maintenance</p> <p>It was agreed that the Parish Council do not increase the grant this year and that further information and cost breakdowns are requested for next year. RESOLVED</p> <p>b) To decide precept requirement for 2016/17</p>	<p>RH / Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
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	<p>This was further discussed at length and the parish council are minded to request a parish precept requirement of £14k. However confirmation is still awaited on the HALC subscription for 2016/17, lengthsman and P3 grants, NDP costs and Election costs. It was AGREED a further meeting was required once these costs had hopefully been clarified to make a final decision. The Meeting will be held on Wednesday 9th December at 6.30pm RESOLVED</p> <p>c) To note finance report and bank balances (previously circulated) –</p> <p>Bank balances – current account as at 4th November 2015 £17489.21 and reserve account as at 2nd October £9959.72 NOTED The Clerk has finally received confirmation from Lloyds Bank that the mandate has been updated.</p> <p>d) Payments approved: RESOLVED</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Direct debit – PWLB – loan repayment - £1439.49 692: Carly Tinkler NDP Landscape Report - £500.00 693: DJN Planning, NDP Support - £1050.00 694: EZ Hosts – Website Domain Name Annual Fee - £15.00 695: J Chester, clerk - Salary & Expenses Oct 2015 – £231.94 696: LECH – hall hire (NDP 24 Sept) (PC Aug & Sept) - £45.00</p>	ALL
11.0	<p>Training / Meetings:</p> <p>a) To note dates of upcoming meetings and make note of any required places</p> <p>The HALC conference and AGM has been postponed and will now be held on Sat 21st Nov at The Royal National College for the Blind, Hereford between 9.30am and 3pm. – Cllr Tallis and the clerk hope to attend The next HALC Eastern Area meeting is on Thurs 12th Nov at Bosbury Parish Hall 7.30pm – Cllrs Tallis and Daron tendered their apologies The latest HALC “Wise Owl” training programme has been circulated. Cllrs were asked to inform the clerk of any course they wished to attend.</p>	JT/ Clerk
12.0	<p>b) To receive report from meetings attended</p> <p>Cllrs Bush, Winter & Ward attended an event at Pomona Solar Co-op Stoke Edith. Cllr Bush attended a meeting on the new Transparency Laws for Parish Councils, Herefordshire Councils Core Strategy meeting, and a CPRE meeting – reports attached below. RESOLVED</p>	
13.0	<p>To Note Information & Outstanding Actions Sheet (attached) – reviewed and action sheet amended accordingly</p>	
14.0	<p>To raise items for next scheduled Parish Council Meeting (no discussion)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good Neighbour Scheme • Garbrook Sign • 2016/17 Precept • Village Map 	
	<p>To confirm the date of the next meeting</p> <p>Extra-ordinary meeting – Wed 9th Dec at 6.30pm</p> <p>Next full parish council meeting Monday 11th January 2016 at 7.30pm</p> <p>The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 21.17pm</p>	

	Signed..... Chairman	Dated.....	
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TARRINGTON PARISH COUNCIL BUDGET

TARRINGTON PARISH COUNCIL										
	Actual	Actual	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	To Date	Year End	Budget	
	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2014/15	2015/16	2015/16	2015/16	2016/17	
Income										Anticipated
Precept	10000	10000	10000	11500	11500	11500	11500	11500	13000	
NDP Grant					4982		6346	6346		
Bank Interest	18	16	16		16	16	43	43		
VAT Recovered	0	1000	806		208		591	591		
SID Hire			750		600	600	450	600	600	
reimbursement of election costs		813								
Donations	500	500	500		200	500		500		
Parish Lengthsman Scheme	864	610	1061		1000	936		936		
Parish Footpaths Scheme		270	270		150	380		380		
	11382	13209	13403	11500	18656	13932	18930	20896	13600	
Expenditure										
Insurance	473	476	307	400	310	310	316	316	350	
Loan	2879	2879	2879	2879	2879	2879	2879	2879	2879	
Internal Audit	120	120	156	150	130	160	130	130	150	
External Audit	162	162	120	100	120	130	100	100	150	
ICO (Data Protection)	35	35	35	35		35	35	35	35	
HALC Subscription	174	468	318	280		320	291	291	350	
HALC Training Courses	80	76	102	200	50	200	72	200	200	
LECH Hire & Insurance	1379	1344	1379	1409	1340	1500	1334	1500	1500	
SLCC Membership		36	50	50		50				
Cluster Group Contribution		35	35	35		0				
Clerks Salary	1620	1272	955	1606	1542	2500	1582	2500	2700	
HMRC - PAYE	318	318	636			250				
Stationery	254	230	183	250	118	300	151	300	300	
Clerks Expenses						300	175	300	300	
Web Site Fees	254	84	271	300	151	400	85	100	100	
Election Fees	814					500				
safe custody charges						50				
SID batteries		1246			123	200			200	
Jubilee Green - grass cutting	1204	1063	1318	1100	1139	1100	400	700	1200	
Jubilee Green - hedge cutting	48	48	54	41	100	100		100	100	
Notice Boards/ litter bins/sand	23	217			14	100	9	100	100	
rat bait			60							
Planning Costs / tree survey		85	232		36		8	8		
parish plan/ Neighbourhood Plan			4	1000	5043		1944	6346		
Donation PCC Churchyard	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	
Donation Tatler	450	475	655	655	700	750		750	750	
War memorial grant		480			500					
Donations/Grants				250		250	5578	5578	500	
Publications					23	30		30	50	
Contingencies						250		250	250	
Vat on Payments					573		1453	2000		
lengthsman	891	1480	350		600	1000		1136	1000	
P3 footpaths		1536	185		100	500		380	500	
	11678	14665	10784	11240	16091	14664	17042	26529	14164	
Surplus/Overspend (+/-)	-296	-1456	2619	260	2565	-732	1888	-5633	-564	

PARISH CLERK UPDATE

- Road defects reported to Locality Steward
- Monthly PAYE RTI completed
- Control of Parish Council Website page updating undertaken
- Bank mandate changed confirmed by bank
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GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

- HALC – Information Corner and Wise Owl training diary *
- HALC _ Eastern Area meeting 12th Nov *
- Balfour Beatty – Weekly Locality briefings *
- Balfour Beatty – Resurfacing Programme of works*
- Balfour Beatty – Parish Newsletter October 2015 *
- Balfour Beatty – Invitation to Parish Briefings 27/29 Oct *
- Herefordshire Council – Neighbourhood Planning Submission & Examination Training 18 Nov *
- Herefordshire Council – Adoption of Core Strategy *
- Herefordshire Council – Hfds Tree Warden Network *
- A Bush, Herefordshire Council – Helping Hfds businesses prepare for any disaster *
- A Bush, Herefordshire Council – Public Transport & Bus Routes Information *
- West Mercia – SNT Newsletter *

* Circulated to Cllrs.

Outstanding Actions - These are the consolidated actions outstanding after the last meeting held on 21st Sept 2015:

Meeting	Minute	Action	Status	Comments
July 2015		NDP Team	Ongoing	Details of NDP progress to be put onto website
July 2015	10a	Clerk	Complete	Report road surface at Sparchell Cottage, footpath overgrown between The Myrtles & Garbrook, School road verge needs cutting, potholes by Bramble Cottage
July 2015	10c	Cllr Ward	Complete	Put up dog fouling signs and put article in Tatler
July 2015	10c	Clerk	Requested	Request new litter bin by Waggoners Cottage Little Tarrington
July 2015	10g	Cllr Hodges & Grey	Complete	Tour parish and advise clerk of any work required
July 2015	10h	Clerk	Complete	Arrange meeting with locality steward to view footpath TR3
Sept 2015	3	Clerk	Reported	Broken sign at Garbrook needs replacing
Sept 2015	6a	ALL	Complete	Parish "Litter pick" to take place on Sun 25 th October at 10am. Clerk to obtain packs from Balfour Beatty
Sept 2015	6c	CW/JW		Investigate Good Neighbour Scheme further
Sept 2015	6d	JT		Look into feasibility of cricket nets/fruit trees and benches for Public Green Spaces Community Grant Scheme
Sept 2015	6e	Clerk	complete	Respond to HALC & Hfd Council re Community Governance review
Sept 2015	8	MD		Circulate NDP Terms Of Reference for formal adoption at Nov meeting
Sept 2015	9b	JW		Speak to landowner re hedge adj to footpath TR3
Sept 2015	10b	All cllrs / clerk		Consider required road signs
Sept 2015	11b	AB/CW/JW		Forward reports from meetings attended to the clerk

PLANNING RECORD

DATE	APPLICATION NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	PC COMMENT	HFD COUNCIL DECISION
17.11.14	142874	Hazel Court, Tarrington, HR1 4JQ Proposed installation of Aga and open fireplace with associated flues	PC have no objections	GRANTED 20.1.15
21.4.15	151067	Chestnut Cottage, Tarrington HR1 4JA - Proposed two storey extension	PC support this application	GRANTED 3.6.15
12.6.15	151518	Waggoners Cottage, Little Tarrington, HR1 4JA - Proposed replacement of all existing windows and external doors	PC support this application	

14.9.15	152437/152438	The Cider House, Eastwood, HR1 4JF Proposed garden room (amendment to approved permissions 130485 & 130486)	PC support this application but ask that materials used are sympathetic to the existing	GRANTED 19.10.15
29.9.15	152785	Church Hill, Church Lane, Tarrington, HR1 4EU Proposed renovation of existing house, demolition of existing flat roof extension and replacement with pitched roof two storey extension	PC support this application	WITHDRAWN 7.11.15
30.9.15	152675	The Millpond, Little Tarrington, HR1 4JA Variation of Condition 9 of Planning Permission DMCE/093044/F – to allow up to 25 touring caravans to be stored on the site	PC support this application and agree with the planning officers suggestion of planting to provide screening	
22.10.15	153015	Swan House, Eastwood, Tarrington, HR1 4EU Proposed internal works, new window, reinstatement of two windows within existing opening, replace French Doors and replace porch door and frame	The parish council note that some work has already been done and ask Herefordshire Council if building regs, the conservation officer and English Heritage have been consulted as it is a listed building. The Parish Council are disappointed that it is a retrospective application.	

REPORTS FROM MEETINGS ATTENDED

Pomona Solar Co-operative – 18th September 2015

Most Councillors will remember the presentation given at the Parish Council over 12 months ago by Pomona. Cllrs Ann Bush, Celia Winter and Maggie Darron attended Pomona Solar Cooperative 'Power On' event on 18th September. The purpose of the event was for Pomona to inform local people shareholders and other interested people how the project is progressing. Situated behind the local industries at Stoke Edith this solar power project has now started to power the local units and generate enough energy to feed back to the power grid so that it can be used locally. Visitors were treated to locally sourced food and drink and shown a video illustrating how energy is gathered and distributed both here and in similar projects. Visitors were shown the sites of the panels and informed about how things worked. MP Bill Wiggin was invited, the press were there and there was a photo shoot. Pomona Solar Project workers demonstrated their enthusiasm and commitment to green energy. Bill Wiggin justified the cuts to green energy subsidies by saying that the UK has exceeded its targets ahead of schedule and money was needed elsewhere. We were given a detailed handout which will be available at the November Parish Council meeting for those interested.

Cllr Winter

Pomona Solar was set up just over a year ago especially to build and run a small solar farm at Stoke Edith. It is claimed that it is 'community owned' and currently consists of 90 members, most of whom are local Herefordshire people. The farm generates solar electricity which is used by three small local businesses on the site, and hopes to be able to benefit the local area by endowing a community fund of around £1000 a year. The first electricity was generated in June and Pomona is commissioning the final set of solar panels for installation in the Autumn. 1000 panels have been installed which will produce 250 kWh of electricity. They are waiting for a transformer at the moment. The inverter shed currently converts electricity for the three local businesses to use under an agreement to be supplied from the panels at a beneficial rate, and any excess produced is diverted to the Grid under a power purchase agreement. Feed in tariffs are paid at a pre-registered guaranteed rate which was fixed last December. Emissions are produced in the manufacturing process but not in the running of the panels. The panels are made in China and are guaranteed for 25 years currently but only the metal and wire parts can be recycled. It is hoped in the future that things will move on sufficiently so that more of the waste materials can be reused. Currently, degraded panels would mainly end up in landfill. The panels degrade as they age. Pomona is hoping that regular washing will help to slow this process down. Pomona has a twenty year lease on the land. Pomona has sown a grass seed mix under the panels and hope to plant hedging. To manage this they thought they might graze a small flock of sheep and may need to use a mower/topper to manage the grassland. The hedging would also clearly need management. Bill Wiggin, the local MP for North Herefordshire, was in attendance and delivered a suitable supportive and congratulatory speech. **Cllr Bush**

HALC Website Wonder - 28th September 2015

From April 2015, all Parish Councils are now expected to have their own websites.

The background to this very informative and exciting meeting is the need for transparency in practice, especially following the Transparency Laws which went through Parliament at the end of last year and which became law from the 1st April 2015. To help Parish Councils manage their affairs in a more professional manner, the UK Government have set up the Transparency Fund for Smaller Authorities. This grant is aimed at Parish Councils and other authorities with an annual turnover of less than £25,000 which do not currently have their own dedicated website. It is not available for improving an already existing website. It is an opportunity for those who share their website with a village to move to a .gov.uk website. Having a separate website makes it clear that the website (and the Parish Council concerned) is an official instrument of government and is organised and acting in a professional manner.

At the meeting we went through the application form which needs to be completed and then forwarded to HALC for checking and processing. HALC need to have received the completed form by 12th October 2015 in order to submit it, and the expectation is that the money will be paid out in November 2015.

What is on offer? A dedicated computer, each Parish Council needs its own computer. Clerks could, in the future, expect to have a different computer for each Parish Council which they serve. The grant also covers creating a website, set up, training and support. We were introduced to Mr Mark Millmore. Mark runs Website Wonder which provides a service to those wishing to set up websites. Mark has particular interest in and experience of working with Parish Councils and understands their needs and responsibilities. He advises on the best computer/laptop to match the performance needed. He deals with the set-up to get things up and running and is there to train. Websites can be interactive. Mark uses the WordPress.org technology which is used to power newspapers, magazines, TV stations and educational and government as well as the websites of ordinary people. WordPress.org is very user friendly.

It is imperative that Parish Councils have a website which meets the need for transparency and which copes with the demands of the times. During the evening we were reminded of the duties of Parish Councils now to publish on the website and elsewhere: - What they are and what they do. What they spend and how they spend it. What their priorities are and how we are meeting those. How they make decisions. Their policies and procedures. Lists and Registers and The Service they offer.

The above is backed up by an information sheet 'The Transparency Code' issued by Herefordshire Association of Local Councils (HALC) August 2015 which reminded us in detail of each piece of information which needs to be published on the PC website. This is in turn a response to the 'Transparency code for smaller authorities' which is published by the Department of Communities and Local Government, December 2014. Both of these were made available to us for us to read. The Model Publication Scheme as found in the Freedom of Information Act sets out clearly the guidelines by which Parish Councils need to practise. This was included in our information pack with a short 'Legal Briefing' note covering the fact that compliance with the Transparency Code (mentioned above) is mandatory for Parish Councils and other smaller authorities with a turnover not exceeding £25,000. We were made aware that, although other submission dates are published on the Transparency Fund application form, that there is likely to be an enthusiastic uptake in the first tranche of funding (October application for November receipt). So the message was that if the need was there then Parish Councils need to take advantage of it now. **Cllr Bush**

Core Strategy Meeting, Shire Hall, Hereford – 22nd October 2015

There were two speakers:

Mr Andrew Ashcroft, Assistant Director Economic Environmental and Cultural Services: Presentation attached

Ms Samantha Banks, Neighbourhood Planning Team Leader: Presentation attached

Main points which I picked up apart from what was in the presentations are below:

- Adoption of the Local Plan merely the start, it's all about delivery. Plan delivery will be back loaded. Capacity to deliver needs to be a minimum.
- The number of 16,500 for Herefordshire including 5,300 for the RA2 land is seen as realistic by the Inspector.
- Links to Core Strategy are integral. All NDPs judged need to be in conformity with the Core Strategy, an NDP needs to conform to national policy. The Parish Council/Steering Group is the Plan Making Authority (PMA). The PMA needs to come up with local ways of dealing with local specifics.
- All NDPs are going to be different and individual. This is because they need to reflect and celebrate the Distinctiveness and Character of the settlement to which they apply. These qualities should be reflected in the Plan.
- This is not all about artificially imposed growth. Issue is about supply not the number built. This is about infinite diversity.
- There is a need for balanced rural growth and the question was asked, 'How do we capture this?'
- Plan will be tested against proportional growth unless you can demonstrate reasons why it should not be.
- Some NDPs will meet the target, some will exceed and some will not meet the target figures. Figures are not a cap.
- The preparation of an NDP puts in place policies which protect the settlement from inappropriate development. Policies need to be clear so that there is no room for misinterpretation on the part of the Inspector when she comes to look at them. They need to be clear so that she understands what the local people are intending.
- The Direct Planning Document (DPD) is managed by Herefordshire Council and ensures that areas not doing a NDP are covered. The options offered are: 1) Site Allocations 2) Settlement Boundary. This ensures the delivery of the Core Strategy over the whole area. But there are no protection policies.
- Following the Berkshire decision it is possible that a Plan will be able to be reviewed – once the dust has settled and it can be seen how the Court judge cases coming before it. Herefordshire Council housing targets will need annual review. The Local Plan has to be 'passed' each year with an annual monitoring report. The decision is subject to annual review.
- As far as affordable housing is concerned, you can promote a site for affordable housing specifically. This is about open market housing incorporating affordable housing.
- Welsh Water /Severn Trent have templates available for Steering Groups to use when looking at water quality and sewerage. **Cllr Bush**
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CPRE Meeting at Bartestree Village Hall, 4th November 2015

Mr Bob Widdowson, CPRE opened the meeting.

We heard presentations from Mrs Wendy Soilleux and a colleague from the Steering Group from Bartestree and Lugwardine and from Mr David Clark from Fownhope Steering Group.

The Bartestree Experience.

- Bartestree have had a particularly challenging time as they were inundated with property developers wanting to buy land and wanting to develop the village. Two large applications were put in, one in the summer of 2013 for 50 homes and another for 30 homes. There were also other sites put up for sale by people intending to develop. The Steering Group and community felt they had very little choice about where development should go. This was upsetting for people in the community. Due to the potential sudden increase in dwellings, there will be an impact too on services, e.g. water. Eventually there will need to be a new mains water pipe through the village.

- Bartestree are very clear that this is a community led exercise and seek to involve the community as each stage. They have recently had yet another consultation to write new settlement boundaries. Five options were put before the community.
- Village cannot sustain large scale development. Bartestree are keen to restrict unsustainable development. They are working at the moment to get the NDP completed before a very large proposed development goes to appeal. If the NDP is in place it will mean that constraints are in place which will stop development spreading in an uncontrolled way.

The Fownhope Experience.

David has a background in Planning. Fownhope is in an AONB so they have many special features to protect including SSSI's. They are now at R16 stage.

- They looked at local housing needs
- Asked themselves whether they need to grow to sustain local services, e.g. village shop, pub etc.
- Fownhope is an attractive village but they needed to give clear reasons for the attractiveness of Fownhope. Took advice from local Estate Agents about why people wanted to live there.
- Keen to protect landscapes and public views, heritage sites and several SSSIs, etc. Fownhope consulted over all these important community assets and so were able to put in constraints to protect them.
- The Fownhope SG was meticulous and minutely detailed in listing constraints. For example, to protect the public views in the village they took photographs and then consulted the community, using those photographs, so that those views could be protected from development.
- They did not want to go for large scale development.
- They found that it is very important to engage in consultation with the community on all aspects and at every stage. They had a good response to questionnaires, around 700 people. David said that this gives you real clout and you can show proof that you have engaged with your public. Puts you in a strong position with clear evidence.
- Settlement boundaries need to be drawn carefully to include only the area actually needed.
- Most people want no more than 10 houses to a site and very few wish for more than twenty.
- David discussed the issue of the percentage of affordable housing and mentioned a percentage needed of around 50%. He said that it is crucial to keep the affordable housing within the community and, especially bearing in mind all the new changes in the Law governing social housing and the Right to Buy, to keep a share and control over it and to allow it to remain available for local people to use. If it is to be allocated to local people, clear guidelines about what 'local' means need to be put in place. A way of keeping the housing available for people in the community may be to form a Community Trust. That way there is no Right to Buy and it also makes sure that the ownership is not sold on. **Cllr Bush**