

# Revised copy – ref. Neighbourhood Plan 2019

Last year questionnaires were delivered to every household in Batheaston and the responses were received back in March. We asked every household in Batheaston to express their views on what is important to them with regards to planning issues, preservation of the character of the village and retention of the Green Belt. We also had a landscape character assessment carried out to capture the unique ecology and character of the Batheaston area and will be used to inform the emerging plan for the village.

We heard back from 357 households, and your responses were analysed by an independent research organisation to help provide the BPC with a guide on the wishes of residents (May 2018). In October 2018, we held an open meeting to share the feedback from the questionnaire, where there was an opportunity to ask questions and share views on the feedback.

## **WHAT IS A NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN?**

Neighbourhood planning is a way for communities to decide the future of development in the places where they live and work. The government has introduced the community right to do neighbourhood planning through the Localism Act (2011). It gives communities direct power to develop a shared vision for their neighbourhood and **shape the development and growth** of their local area.

Local communities can choose to;

- set planning policies through a **Neighbourhood Plan** that is used in determining **planning applications**,
- or grant planning permission through **Neighbourhood Development Orders** and **Community Right to Build Orders** for specific development which complies with the order. (Ministry of Housing 2014).

## **WHAT ARE THE NEXT STEPS?**

Using the analysis of the returned questionnaires, the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group will develop the plan and orders. When complete, it will be sent to B&NES who will conduct a **referendum** on our behalf in the village. On completion, the plan is then submitted to government inspectors for ratification. We are aiming to have the Neighbourhood Plan ready for referendum by May 2019.

Thank you very much for your time and contribution to this important process for our village!

If you want to ask questions or give further comment, please contact the parish clerk, Sarah Orme or the working group co-ordinator, Cllr. Emily Wright.

Files attached/downloadable:

- Questionnaire report
- Landscape character assessment

# Current Copy – Ref Neighbourhood plan 2018

## Neighbourhood Plan

The questionnaires have been delivered to every Household and returns are being independently analysed

### WHAT IS A NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN?

**Neighbourhood planning** is a new way for communities to decide the future of the places where they live and work. The government has introduced the community right to do **neighbourhood planning** through the Localism Act (2011). It gives communities direct power to develop a shared vision for their neighbourhood and shape the development and growth of their local area.

Local communities can choose to:

set planning policies through a **Neighbourhood Plan** that is used in determining **planning applications**;

or grant planning permission through **Neighbourhood Development Orders** and **Community Right to Build Orders** for specific development which complies with the order. (Ministry of Housing 2014).

### WHY DO WE NEED A QUESTIONNAIRE ?

In October 2017 the Batheaston Parish Council held a public meeting to inform the residents of our village of our intention to develop a Neighbourhood Plan.

In addition we have engaged professional services to provide us with reports on the landscape character, ecology and biodiversity of our village which we require for the development of the plan.

We are now asking **every household in Batheaston** to express their views on what is **important to them** with regards to planning issues, preservation of the character of the village and retention of the Green Belt.

The responses will then be analysed and a report devised by the Worcester Research Group who are an independent company engaged by the Parish Council for this purpose. Each of the reports will then be used to write the Neighbourhood Plan and the Neighbourhood Development Orders.

### WHAT ARE THE NEXT STEPS?

Following the analysis of the returned questionnaires, the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Committee will develop the plan and orders. When complete, it is sent to B&NES who will conduct a **referendum** on our behalf in the village. On completion, the plan is then submitted to government inspectors for ratification.

*Thank you very much for your time and contribution to this important process for our village!*  
Batheaston Parish Council