

## PRESS RELEASE FROM THE SHIFNAL NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN STEERING GROUP

### IT'S A RESOUNDING `YES` FOR THE SHIFNAL NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

The Shifnal electorate has voted overwhelmingly in support of their Neighbourhood Plan in the Referendum held yesterday. 93 % of those who voted, were in favour of the statement ... *` Do you want Shropshire Council to use the Neighbourhood Plan for Shifnal to help it decide planning applications in the neighbourhood area `*.

At the end of the count yesterday evening, held in the Village Hall, there was cheer, when the result was announced by the Shropshire Council Elections Officer, Stacey Ijewsky, from members of the Shifnal Town Council and volunteers on the Steering Group who were attending, as observers at the count, ,

The Mayor of Shifnal, Robert Harrop, said, "he was delighted with the result and this showed that the people of Shifnal really cared about the future of their town and surrounding areas and they wanted their views to be taken into account when planning applications are being considered and those making the applications and those making the decisions must now take the Shifnal Neighbourhood Plan policies into account".

Chris Raine, a community volunteer and Chair of the Steering Group, who were responsible for developing the Plan based on what local people told them mattered for the future of the town, said, " this was an excellent turnout and she was really pleased that people had come out and supported the Plan. "..... She said, "Shifnal people have had to wait for their referendum on the Neighbourhood Plan since April this year because there was `another referendum` going on during the summer."

The Neighbourhood Plan will now have legal status as it becomes part of the formal local plan for the area and must be taken into account when considering all planning applications for the development of land within the Shifnal Parish or applications for a change of use for any buildings or land within the Parish.

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The Shropshire Council Elections Officer, Stacey Ijewsky, announced the results as follows:-

Total votes cast .....1660,  
YES votes cast .....1545  
NO votes cast .....112  
Spoilt ballot papers.....3

This was a turnout of 30.59% of the electorate.

The YES vote was 93%, so the question *" Do you want Shropshire Council to use the Neighbourhood Plan for Shifnal to help it decide planning applications in the neighbourhood area"* is carried, being more than 50% of the votes cast, in accordance with the Neighbourhood Plan regulations for the Referendum.

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This Press Release is issued by Chris Raine , Chair of the Shifnal Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group on behalf of the Shifnal Town Council.