

TAKING ACTION TO IMPLEMENT THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

The Town Council have submitted the Neighbourhood Plan to Shropshire Council who must now;

- Check that the plan has followed the proper legal process as set out in the regulations,
- Publicise the Plan for a period of 6-weeks
- Arrange for an independent examination of the Plan and then,
- Arrange for a Referendum of all registered electors in the Shifnal Parish

This is going to take some months and we will report their progress with this in the next article. In the meantime, the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group members are not sitting back and waiting. Having a Plan in place is important for the town, but this is just part of the story. It is just as important to see those ambitions materialise as real changes in the Town.

There is progress on the two top priorities identified by residents during the consultation process. Firstly, in December, Shropshire Council put on an exhibition in the Village Hall on the Transport Strategy for Shifnal and the proposals for the enhancement of the town centre. The exhibition panels can be viewed on our website. Secondly, the Medical Practice submitted a bid for funding to the Shropshire Clinical Commissioning Group, for a new medical centre to be built on the site allocated in the Neighbourhood Plan at the corner of Haughton Road/Newport Road.

Taking steps now to implement the many actions identified in the Neighbourhood Plan is important. The Town Council will have a check-list of planning policies to refer to every time it considers planning applications.

Items that are not covered by a specific planning policy but still need to be actioned were included in the Non-Policy Actions section of the Plan. These items include a range of projects that were identified during the consultation on the Plan eg management of the car parks, improvements to train and bus services, developing the walkway routes into and around the town, establishing the town park and bringing empty and derelict buildings back into use in consultation with their owners.

Shifnal Town Council, along with Shropshire Council in some cases, will take a leading role in implementing these projects and we are working with them to draw up an implementation action plan. Continuing community involvement is

important. If you are interested in knowing more about these projects or any of the items in this article then please contact us using the contact form on the website www.shifnalplan.co.uk .

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