

Developing the Shifnal Neighbourhood Plan

MOVING ON TO THE FORMAL STAGES

Following our very well supported exhibition/consultation event to consider the Plan's draft policy proposals in June 183 feedback forms were completed at the event by individuals, couples and families. A further 42 forms were submitted online via the website. These feedback forms have now been reviewed and analysed by the Steering Group and taken into account in writing the latest version of the Plan. In the Consultation part of the website you can read a report that deals with the feedback results in detail.

Many topics of concern were raised, but the three key ones were

- How the increasing volume of traffic will be managed. Shropshire Council are currently drawing up a 'Transport Strategy' for the town, and a public exhibition/consultation event on this is expected to be held later in the year.
- The need for and location of a new Medical Centre.
- The Green Belt. Maintaining the Green Belt boundary around the town is seen by Shifnal residents to be a vital issue.

In September we then move in to a more formal stage of six weeks of consultation on the final version of the Plan. This is called the Pre-Submission Consultation and gives the opportunity for statutory consultees, community organisations and individuals to make representations as to its content. This version will be available in late September/ early October on the website and also in the library and town council offices. You will be able to comment through the website or by letter.

The Steering Group will then look at the comments and representations before submitting the final Plan to Shropshire Council. The Council will appoint an Independent Examiner who will decide whether the Plan meets the basic conditions for neighbourhood plans. The Examiner will probably suggest amendments to the Plan.

The final Neighbourhood Plan is then subject to a referendum (probably in the spring/summer of 2016) in which all Shifnal voters will decide whether the

Plan should be adopted and become part of the legal process against which future planning applications are determined.

All of this makes it clear that getting the Neighbourhood Plan through all the remaining stages required is of real importance for the town of Shifnal.

We can be contacted via the website www.shifnalplan.co.uk or by email shifnalplan@hotmail.com or write to us via Shifnal Town Council at 43 Broadway, Shifnal, TF11 8BB.

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