

Llangarron Parish and the Neighbourhood Development Plan **Statement 30-07-2019**

This NDP update follows the last communication posted on the website in May 2018.

It is designed to bring the community up to date and explain the next stages of the NDP process.

Briefly, in May 2018 the Parish Council appointed Kirkwells Planning and Sustainability Consultant to assist in the production of a revised draft NDP. In August 2018, Kirkwells attended a Parish Council meeting and made a commitment to rapidly moving the NDP forward. Following Kirkwells advice, the Parish Council then made a decision to call for additional potential building sites in the parish. This process was completed in January 2019. These sites were to be independently assessed for suitability by AECOM, a London-based environmental and infrastructural consultancy company.

In May 2019 there were Parish Council elections with a new Parish Council consisting entirely of elected members being established.

In July 2019, the newly elected Parish Council received training on the NDP undergoing amendment from Kirkwells. We have now also had sight of the Regulation 14 consultation responses from the original NDP which formed the basis of the plan being amended by Kirkwells. These responses will be published along with any amendments highlighted by Kirkwells

The Parish Council have also now received a draft copy of a report from AECOM, the company tasked to provide independent expert assessment of sites. There are some discrepancies in this report which have been queried and we now await their response.

It is anticipated that Kirkwells will have revisions to the NDP ready for review by the Parish Council and Parishioners during September and October 2019

It is important to note that due to the length of time since the NDP process was started, the situation with regard to achieving our 64-house minimum building target set by Herefordshire Council has changed dramatically. It now appears

that at a minimum, 73 houses have already been approved or built and therefore we have already exceeded our minimum building target. Up to date figures will be provided with the draft NDP as there are also several applications awaiting determination so the figures are likely to increase. The draft NDP will take this information into account.

The Parish Council is acutely aware of the dangers of not producing an NDP that is fit for purpose, of the highest quality and delivered in the shortest possible time. To protect the Parish and deliver appropriate, sustainable development and services to the community the Parish Council is committed to following due consultation and amendment processes as quickly as possible in order to bring forward an NDP which reflects local needs and opinions to a Referendum of parishioners.

We will continue to keep you updated on the website and at subsequent parish Council meetings.

The Parish Council cannot become involved in discussions regarding the merits of individual sites. Anyone with comments can put them forward at the regulation 14 and regulation 16 consultation stages. The results of the consultation will be considered by the Parish Council and their advisors and independently scrutinized and assessed by an independent inspector before Parishioners are asked to vote on the plan.

Chairman Paul Bailey
Llangarron Parish Council