

Lydiard Millicent Neighbourhood Steering Group Meeting 7th August 2025

Present: Paul Kohn (Vice-Chairman), Mel Allsop (LMPC), Sarah Hill-Wheeler (LMPC), Ian Hill, Sherilyn Aitken, Colin Mills, Julie Mills, Mark Claydon-Smith

Apologies: Pat Cole (Chairman/LMPC), Julian Wright, Tom Rasmussen, Giles Francke, Hollie Sturgess (MLP), Aaron Smith (MLP)

Please note:

There is a dedicated email address for us to use: neighbourhoodplan@lydiardmillicent-pc.gov.uk. Please copy all steering group emails to this address

The Housing Needs Assessment document produced and presented by Hollie Sturgess and Aaron Smith at the July meeting was discussed. The meaning of Affordable Housing and which types would help younger families to be able to live in the village were discussed at length prior to discussion around the recommendations in the document.

Recommendation

- 1 Agree
- 2 Agree
- 3 Agree
- 4 Agree but numbers would likely be very low. The Housing Needs Survey (WC) should define what is needed and until then percentages should not be pre-determined.
- 5 Agree
- 6 Agree
- 7 Agree but don't like the term underoccupied. Assume this is government definition but many people want larger houses and it could be seen as confrontational if households are being "accused" of being underoccupied
- 8 Agree but don't like percentage allocation so remove
- 9 Agree
- 10 Agree
- 11 Agree but concern over whether including a desire within the plan to improve accessibility to West Swindon would encourage developers to include things like pavements in their proposals which would make the area more sustainable and therefore more difficult to resist unwanted planning applications.

Is there an alternative to waiting for WC to produce the Housing Needs Survey?

The results of the Call for Sites request with the NP Survey were discussed. It was agreed that until it is known which types and how many new properties are needed the location and size of the sites offered should not be made public beyond the group.

The workgroups were discussed. August is very busy for everyone so it is unlikely that much more will be done prior to the meeting on 28th. Mel to discuss with Hollie whether enough has been done so far for the public meeting. The meeting on 14th September will need to be postponed, suggested 12th or 19th October depending on MLP availability. Parish Hall not available, alternative Sun Inn, church or JCH?

Workgroup Leaders:

Non-designated Heritage Assets – Ian Hill, Julian Wright, Sherilyn Aitken

Local Green Spaces – Tom Rasmussen, Giles Francke

Key Views – Sarah Hill-Wheeler, Mark Claydon-Smith

Next Meeting Date:

Thursday 28th August – to agree content and who does what for public meeting