

Lydiard Millicent Neighbourhood Steering Group Meeting - 16th April 2025

Present: Pat Cole (Chairman), Hollie Sturgess (MLP), Aaron Smith (MLP), Mel Allsop (LMPC), Colin Mills, Julie Mills, Julian Wright, Tom Rasmussen, Paul Kohn, Sarah Hill-Wheeler (LMPC), Ian Hill, Giles Francke, Hayley Graham (LMPC), Lynn Bamsey (LMPC), Sally Westwood (LMPC)

Apologies: Amelia Claydon-Smith, Mark Claydon Smith, Vernon Montgomery, Sherilyn Aitken

Hollie and Aaron attended to update the Steering Group and LMPC Councillors on the results from the recent survey of the Parish regarding the Neighbourhood Plan. In total there were 191 replies from just under 700 households, an exceptionally good return.

The NDP Review and Monitoring Report and Results of the Community Questionnaire documents had been sent to everyone prior to the meeting.

Hollie explained the current problems with planning in that following the approximately 80% increase in land supply for housing requirements given to Wiltshire Council, they can currently only identify 2.03 years of supply. The lack of supply means that planners sometimes need to give permission to speculative applications in places where permission would not normally have been granted due to paragraph 14 in the NPPF. Neighbourhood Plans less than 5 years old like the LMPC plan carry some weight towards stopping this. Neighbourhood Plans with housing allocations are even more important in stopping development where it is not wanted.

Hollie walked through the Review and Monitoring report and explained the three different type of amendment that could be made to the plan. It was agreed that the likely outcome for LMPC plan would be “material modifications which would change the nature of the plan” in which case a full consultation and referendum would be needed with a likely timescale of 12-18 months.

Current policies in the plan were discussed with MLP’s suggestions for improvement. Most of these are contained in the NDP Monitoring and Review Report. During the meeting it was agreed that a separate policy should be included to specifically cover flooding in the parish.

Next steps are:

- MLP to add relevant parts of the survey results to the NDP Review and Monitoring Report and reissue.
- MLP to produce project plan for next steps and their costs
- LMPC publish updated report and results of survey on LMPC website
- Steering Group meeting to discuss project plan and content of NDP. Next steps for Steering Group.
- LMPC Clerk to apply for grant to cover MLP work
- Steering Group to present the work completed so far to parishioners at a meeting in the Parish Hall on Sunday June 15th (currently booked 1pm-6pm).
- LMPC to distribute housing needs survey to all households in the parish.