

Neighbourhood Development Plan Meeting

21st May 2014

Present

Linda Oliver (NSP)

John Oliver (NSP)

Brenda Graham (NSP)

Peter Travis (Rode PC)

Pat Banwell (Rode PC)

Anna Blackburn (MDC)

Natasha Durham (MDC)

Purpose of the meeting

To discuss the full implications of undertaking a full Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) and the alternative options available for achieving similar objectives.

Key points to emerge

MDC advised that an NDP

- is specifically for Parishes to articulate their aspirations for land use; employment, education, housing, social & recreation;
- does not include land use related to transport infrastructure or highways; and
- does not include any social or population based objectives.
- can identify areas that a Parish wishes to retain as 'green space'
- once accepted carries material planning weight when new applications for development are being assessed.

Rode and MDC advised:

- Production of a NDP requires significant skill, expertise and time commitments as all aspects have to be widely consulted upon in a prescribed manner. It also requires a large amount of cash, currently estimated to be in the region of £20k. Rode PC stated they embarked on the process 2 years ago, have spent £4k already (on the housing needs survey) but not yet close to the finished product.
- MDC advised they cannot provide hands on assistance or cash to Parishes wishing to develop a NDP.
- An accepted NDP is subject to external scrutiny by a Planning Inspector who tests that due process has been followed. It also will be subject to a local referendum.
- The NDP must conform to the Local Plan in terms of housing numbers. You cannot say no to all development but you can influence where it should take place.

MDC indicated that an alternative route for Parishes to record and have weight given to their land use aspirations was through the Local Plan Part II process. Part II of the Local Plan provided the detail of particular areas/sites within Parishes against which planning applications would be considered. The Part II process is led by MDC planners in consultation with local people. Evidence is needed to justify the protection of green spaces (usually environmental). MDC expect to complete Part II of the Local Plan within the next 24 months.

MDC advised that an Area Action Plan was not an alternative route for articulating Parishes objectives in the absence of a large planned multi-faceted development extension; including linked housing, education, recreation proposals.

Brenda Graham

27th May 2014