

## **NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

### **REPORT TO TOWN MEETING APRIL 2017**

Following the Annual Town Meeting last year each of the Topic Groups considered they had sufficient information from which to draw conclusions on the questions posed through the public consultation process, specific surveys and evidence from published documents, to enable them to develop the Draft Plan and Policies.

It was recognised that any proposed policies needed to be cross-referenced to the PDNPA Management Plan. As a result meetings were held, and advice given, by officers of the PDNPA and drafting commenced in September.

The Draft Plan was submitted to the Town Council in December and is accessible through the Town Council website. The document, some 50 pages in length, puts forward 22 policies covering the development boundary, environment and heritage, housing, community facilities, the economy, and transport and communications.

The document was accepted and the statutory pre-consultation process commenced in January and closed mid-March. The responses have yet to be considered before the next stage of the process is commenced. That is the formal submission to the National Park Authority, independent examination, and if successful at that stage, goes forward for the electorate to consider via a referendum of all persons within the township registered to vote. The original timeline (though tight) had envisaged going to a referendum in May 2017. However that has slipped and it could well now be late summer/autumn 2017.

The working group would like to place on record their appreciation of the advice, support and material assistance given by officers of the PDNPA.

Finally, as Chair and taking a neutral position, I would like to record my appreciation of the commitment given by the Topic Group Leaders and all who have contributed in whatever way.

P. E. Lunn

23.4.17