

HBO Neighbourhood Plan Steering Committee

Report to the HBO Parish Council

A Working Group meeting took place on Thursday 5th December and was attended by 5 members of the Group.

The setting up of a website, independent of the Parish Council, was discussed and Mick Howarth had previously submitted a budget cost for this work. It was agreed that a website would considerably enhance our Community Engagement requirements and would be particularly important in the consultation phase of the Plan commencing early in the new year. It was agreed that we would seek another quotation, and Mick was tasked with arranging this.

Kerry Stedman forwarded a list of clubs and societies in and around the village and we will be in contact with them shortly to see how a Neighbourhood Plan can benefit them.

We are continuing in identifying as many employers as possible in the parish and expect to put a survey out early in the new year. The survey will concentrate on current employment and future growth expectations.

The main item on the agenda was the discussion about the Call for Sites responses we had received. A schedule of 14 sites were tabled giving pros and cons for each site. 7 sites were forwarded under the Call for Sites initiative, 1 site already has approval from the UDC Planning Committee and 6 sites were forwarded as possible alternatives, either for market price housing or as Rural Exception Sites.

The Group were extremely mindful of the results given in the Community Survey whereby the top 2 answers on development size were 0 to 10 or 10 to 25 units.

It is hoped that any suggestions we may make reflecting the results of the Survey, together with the Landscape and Design Code surveys will be passed on to a specialist Planning Consultant early in the new year to work with us in allocating the housing quota we are tasked with providing.

Alan Fisher
09.12.24