

**Much Wenlock Neighbourhood Plan  
Annual Report April 2015 – April 2016  
Author: Neighbourhood Plan Monitoring Group  
For: Much Wenlock Annual Town Meeting 2016.**



Following a period of community consultation from 2011 to 2013 the Much Wenlock Town Council adopted the Much Wenlock Neighbourhood Plan in April 2013. In July 2014 Shropshire Council also adopted the MWNP as a statutory planning document. This means that SC planning officers and committee must refer to the NP as part of their deliberations on planning applications for the parish of Much Wenlock.

The Plan covers the period April 2013 – 2026. Shropshire Council expect the Plan to be reviewed in 2017. It must be monitored annually and formal indicators of its performance should be developed in order to assess the success or otherwise of its policies and so inform the review.

In order to do this the Town Council set up a Neighbourhood Monitoring Panel consisting of two members of the Town Council and two local residents. The council member for Shropshire Council and the Policy and Environment Manager for Shropshire Council also attend the meetings, giving us a direct source of information and advice. The Panel relies on Shropshire Council's long-established formal development monitoring systems which records the scale and location of new development.

Shropshire Council has recently reported to us that the MWNP is now set up on their electronic system which will ensure that any planning officer will be alerted to its existence and be required to refer to it when making decisions.

Formal indicators have been developed by the Monitoring Panel to record the use of the NP Policies by the Much Wenlock Planning and Environment Committee. These indicators will also inform the review.

The panel has met three times during the past year and has reported to the Town Council once at the October meeting of the Town Council

### **Housing**

Following the Examination of the Plan the independent assessor modified the Plan to say that it must deliver 130 dwellings within the town boundary by 2026. The assessor specifically picked out housing as a topic for regular monitoring and for the first review of the Plan.

The Monitoring Panel can report that up until the present time there has been 27 completed new dwellings in the town with another 9 proposed. The net result is that the town is on target to deliver the required number of dwellings by the first review date. In addition there has been 17 apartments constructed at the Lady Foresters Nursing Homes.

*Lesley Durbin*

*On behalf of the Neighbourhood Plan Monitoring Panel*

*3 March 2016*

Over and above these open market dwellings there is also a proposal for 12 affordable social rented dwellings to be delivered by the community led project. Policy H5 of the Plan sets out the context for this kind of proposal.

**Community Well Being**, Policy 5, a formal indicator has been set up to record how the town is gaining or loosing facilities for well- being during the Plan period.

**Employment Land:** The Panel are informed that no new employment proposals have been approved by Shropshire Council but its' economic development team have been asked to consider how the allocated employment land site at Stretton Road can be brought forward

**Other Policies:** The October 2015, meeting of the Town Council Item 14 h) states; That the Neighbourhood Plan Monitoring Panel be asked to review progress across all Neighbourhood Plan objectives as well as housing delivery/numbers. The Monitoring Panel welcomes a commitment to greater reference to the Plan in the Town Council's discussions on other topics such as flooding, employment and green spaces to be minuted for the public record. The Panel is aware that the monitoring process will need to evolve and develop as its work progresses so as to inform the review of the Plan in the future.