

At the NDP Working Party meeting held on 14 October the make-up of action groups for the next stages of the NDP work was discussed.

1. Baseline Study Interest Group The first set of groups will gather and analyse existing evidence for the Landscape Capacity and Sensitivity Assessment as set out by Carly Tinkler, Landscape Consultant. The purpose of this phase of work will be to understand what the situation is at the moment. Work will be overseen by Carly Tinkler (once formally appointed) but Working Groups should make a start in the meantime to get things moving.

The seven interest groups are listed below. Members of the steering group who were present at the last meeting have volunteered to make a start. Possible groups for some of those not present at the meeting were suggested and we ask you to consider the table below. Nicola and Ann have met for an initial discussion covering work on 1, 2 and 6 below. We suggest that the other groups (3, 4 and 5) meet as soon as possible to assess what needs doing.

Baseline Study Working Group	Possible Volunteer Experts	Working Party Members
1. Landscape Character		Ann Lumb, Nicola Forde
2. Heritage/Landscape History/Cultural Associations	Celia Kellett,	Ann Lumb, Phillip Howells, Paul Neep?, Nick Morris?
3. Ecology/Biodiversity	Ledbury Naturalists	Paul Kinnaird, Beverley Kinnaird
4. Significant Vegetation	Anne Crane (Tree Warden), The Lengthsman,	Nicola Forde
5. Recreation/Access/Amenity	Ledbury Sports Federation	Nick Fish, Phillip Howells
6. Green Infrastructure	Sustainable Ledbury, Ledbury Allotments Association, P3 and Lengthsman	Ann Lumb, Nicola Forde
7. Views & Visual Amenity – including key views for potential policy protection		John Bannister , Nicola Forde, Paul Neep?

2. Landuse Focus Groups. The second groups will focus on the future, what is needed and what is wanted to then help formulate a robust settlement boundary and formulate/edit NDP policies. The following topics were identified (with reference to Carly Tinkler’s suggestions) for groups to form around. The list of names includes members of the NDPWP who have already identified topics they are happy to work on at a earlier meeting.

Given the large number of areas (up to 16) suggested by Carly, the task group decided to suggest reducing these to fewer related areas – another 7 in total - and to incorporate a couple of other related activity groups that had significant functions, since we would be unlikely to find volunteers for all the different groups that had been suggested.

	Landuse focus group	Sub-topics	Initial volunteers
1.	Design Guide:		<i>Paul Neep, Patrick Goode. Nick Morris</i>
2.	Economic activity including:	<i>Agriculture and horticulture Employment Industrial Business development Institutions Commercial Live work units Tourism and visitor attractions Technology</i>	<i>Paul Kinnaird Ian James</i>
3.	Housing/residential needs	<i>Including residential care</i>	<i>Paul and Beverley Kinnaird</i>
4.	Sport, recreation and access		<i>Nick Fish, Phillip Howells</i>
5.	Green infrastructure including:	<i>Footpaths Allotments Water courses Wildlife Habitats, biodiversity and ecosystem services Natural capital Floodplain/flood zones Parks/green spaces/cemeteries etc</i>	<i>Nicola Forde, Ian Fountaine, Phillip Howells</i>
6.	Other essential infrastructure including:	<i>Education Medical/health Energy Transport including the railway station and parking Utilities including energy (inc renewables) and related services Community spaces and facilities</i>	<i>Nick Fish, Julie Knight, AnnLumb</i>
7.	Consultation and engagement including:	<i>Organising consultation events, the market house layout of work material, publicity, communications strategy, fundraising, budget management, reporting, updating website information</i>	<i>Whole Working Party</i>