

News Release 8th June 2021

Ledbury Town Council launches Neighbourhood Plan revision public consultation

Ledbury Town Council is seeking residents, businesses and local organisations' views on future developments in the parish as it launches a round of public consultation on policy content for a revision of its current Ledbury Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) which was adopted in January 2019.

Neighbourhood Plans remain current for 2 years from adoption so an update is due, and in particular, feedback on whether or not the town wishes to incorporate a 'settlement boundary' in the plan is now sought because the suggestions for a settlement boundary were not accepted by the examiner in the current plan. Incorporating a settlement boundary has always been seen by the Council as a priority matter for this revision.

Residents are also being asked for their views on where new employment and sports facilities should be located and how the town centre should change. The Council also wants to know what people think about the countryside around Ledbury, the green spaces within the town and whether the plan should have policies to protect and increase biodiversity and wildlife.

From mid-June an online survey will be available for feedback. This can be accessed through a link on the Town Council's NDP website at www.ledburytowncouncil.gov.uk for either internet access or via a QR code for mobile devices.

In addition, from week commencing 14th June, all residents of the wider Ledbury parish will receive a posted questionnaire and leaflet asking for their views on how the town should develop over the next few years. Residents therefore have the option of completing the survey online (much preferred if possible and to be done by all adult members of the household who are 16 or over) or on paper if not having internet access – with a Freepost return address provided for convenience. The deadline for responses by either means is midnight on Friday 16th July 2021.

The Council is also seeking residents' input on the important views and landscape they love in the neighbourhood by sending in photographs with some words about why the view or landscape matters to them. Submissions should be sent to the Town Council, preferably by email to clerk@ledburytowncouncil.gov.uk or by post to Ledbury Town Council Offices, Church Street, Ledbury, HR8 1DH and should reach the Council by Wednesday 30th June.

Once the survey has closed, the data will be analysed and the feedback used to produce a new draft version of the NDP. This draft, projected to be completed during September 2021, will then be put to another round of consultation on what will be known as the 'Reg 14' version, which by this stage already has some legal status. This consultation is expected to take place in the Autumn.

A final version will then be produced to go to a 'Reg 16' round of consultation, formal examination and if all goes to plan, a public referendum on adoption which is projected to be achieved by Spring 2022.

For more information call the Council's offices on 01531 632306 or email clerk@ledburytowncouncil.gov.uk

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For Editors: copies of the leaflet and questionnaire are attached for more detail

For more information contact:

Angela Price, Town Clerk on 01531 632306 or email clerk@ledburytowncouncil.gov.uk

or:

Cllr Phillip Howells, Chair, Ledbury Neighbourhood Development Plan Working Party on 07802 260906 or email phowells@ledburytowncouncil.gov.uk