

Broadwas and Cotheridge Parish Council

4.9.24

Report for item 24/54 Broadwas and Cotheridge Neighbourhood Development Plan Review.

- Further to the Parish Council decision to review the NDP a working group has been convened and met for the first time on the 27.8. 24. All Parish Councillors have opted to join and we have coopted ex Cllr Pearce. We welcome any interest in the review and will be organising further information and briefings.
- Planning matters are necessarily complex, and more recently at a national level are the subject of major review. This means it can be difficult to keep up with what this means and how things work.
- It is understood that some funding is available and we are seeking to confirm asap how this is accessed and how it might be used. From experience of forming the first and current plan being able to draw on expert advice and additional resources is critical.
- MHDC have a key role in planning and in supporting our review, and some promising initial contacts were made. We are now pressing for some answers to some key questions which will allow us to finalise our action plan and move forwards.
- It is understood that the review can take between 6 and 9 months, as it is likely to involve a Housing Needs Survey (when we ask all parishioners about their needs and the future), consultations and meetings and possibly a referendum.
- As we probably all recognise, discussion about the future and the planning arrangements can result in quickly formed polarised positions. It is therefore important for the Parish Council and the working group to do their best to adopt a fair and objective approach that is based on evidence, so that going forward it is clear in respect of new developments what is important to local people and why.
- It is hoped that some of the working group will be able to take advantage of some forthcoming training and at the next meeting

we will be in a position to finalise our action plan and set out for parishioners the review process and how they can contribute.

Richard Burrows

Chair

2.9.24