



## **Pixley and District Neighbourhood Development Plan**

**The parishes of Aylton, Little Marcle, Munsley  
and Pixley ('Our Area')**

### **RESIDENTS' QUESTIONNAIRE MARCH 2017**

Dear Neighbour,

Our Area is drawing up a Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) for the district shown on the enclosed map. The NDP will help guide development in Our Area up to 2031, dealing with housing, the economy, community services and the environment. As a statutory planning document, it will give all of us who live in Our Area a greater say in key decisions about development.

To make sure the NDP sets out what we want, it is really important that as many people as possible tell us what they think about the future of Our Area. Please help us by completing the accompanying questionnaire.

The open meetings held in 2016 about the NDP were well attended. The many comments made at the meetings have helped us put relevant questions into the questionnaire. Even if you have already "said your bit" at one of the open meetings, please tell us again.

We won't be able to identify you from your answers. The information you provide is for the sole use of drawing up the NDP.

To help make sure we have as many completed questionnaires back as possible, we are holding a Prize Draw (cash prize £50). If you want to be entered, make sure you are given a raffle ticket when your completed questionnaire is collected. To ensure anonymity, the details we need for the Draw will be kept separate from your completed questionnaire.

On the back of this letter, you will find some 'Frequently Asked Questions' about the NDP. If you have any queries, or need an extra copy of the questionnaire, you will find a contact number on the front of your questionnaire.

Thank you very much for your time and help in forming Our Area's future.

The Pixley and District Neighbourhood Development Plan Steering Group

## Frequently asked questions

### What is the NDP?

- A locally-prepared statutory planning document to guide decisions on land use and development within Our Area, giving us a greater say.
- It will provide landowners and developers with a clear understanding of what is (and is not) acceptable in terms of future development. They will have to take the NDP into account if they want planning permission for their projects.
- Because the NDP is a statutory document, it will carry greater weight than the Parish Plan of 2005 in influencing decisions affecting Our Area.

### Who is involved in its preparation?

- The NDP is being put together by a Steering Group made up of Parish Councillors and local residents, with representation from across Our Area.
- The Group meets regularly, usually at The Nest, on dates shown on [www.pixleyanddistrict.org.uk](http://www.pixleyanddistrict.org.uk) – meetings are open to the public, so do come along.

### Why are we preparing the NDP?

- To influence, inform and provide clear guidance over the scale, nature and location of new development in Our Area.

### What topics will the NDP look at?

- The NDP will tackle key land use planning topics – such as housing, the local economy, community services, the design and materials of new buildings, protecting the landscape, woodland, open spaces and biodiversity.
- The NDP will complement Herefordshire Council's existing planning policies in the 2015 Local Plan Core Strategy, as well as the existing statutory protection for such features as the Aylton Conservation Area and the many listed buildings. These will remain unchanged alongside the NDP, which will be able to identify further local features for protection such as areas of ancient and semi-natural woodland.

### What is the process for developing the NDP?

- **Consultation** - through the meetings last year, this questionnaire and other public meetings and events.
- **Drafting the NDP** - developing policies to deliver what you tell us you want to see. This will be done over the coming months.
- **Further consultation** - when the NDP has been drafted, there will be a further opportunity for discussion, with a six week consultation period.
- **Submission to Herefordshire Council** – this will lead to an **independent examination** and a **referendum**. Everyone on the electoral register within the area at the time is entitled to vote. Provided a majority of those who vote agree, the NDP will be **adopted**. It will then be part of the statutory development plan.