



Pixley and District Neighbourhood Development Plan

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

RESIDENTS' QUESTIONNAIRE MARCH 2017

How to complete and return the questionnaire

- Please complete this questionnaire if you are aged 16 or over and live in Our Area as shown on the enclosed map.
- Please answer all the questions. Most can be answered with a ✓. There is also space to add your own comments – please print clearly to ensure your comments are taken into account.
- If you need more space for your comments, please continue on an additional sheet.
- When your questionnaire is complete, please put it into the return envelope provided and seal it, ready for collection.
- If you want to be entered in the Prize Draw, make sure you are given a raffle ticket when your questionnaire is collected.
- Your questionnaire will be collected on _____.
- Alternatively, you can leave your questionnaire at The Nest during normal opening hours. Don't forget to collect a raffle ticket when doing so.
- If you have any queries or need an extra copy of the questionnaire, please contact your collector:

Name: _____

Telephone no.: _____

A draft vision for Our Area

The Steering Group has drafted a possible vision for the future of our area. Taking into account comments made at the recent Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) meetings, we think the best way to provide for the future of Our Area is by protecting and enhancing its essential qualities and features, whilst allowing limited and careful change in keeping with its special rural character.

A draft vision for Our Area:

- A thriving local community meeting the needs of all ages for housing and other services;
- A place where the next generation would want to raise their children;
- A location which supports farming providing local employment;
- A place that also supports small scale local businesses; and
- Tranquil rural parishes whose landscape, wildlife and historic heritage are protected and sustainably managed.

Q1: Do you have any comments on this draft vision for the future of Our Area? This is your chance to tell us.

Housing

New homes can help support the community and meet housing needs. Herefordshire Council’s ‘Local Plan Core Strategy’ (October 2015) identifies many villages and smaller settlements throughout the county (such as Ashperton or Putley) which are required to receive new housing. However, no such settlements are listed in Our Area, which is all categorised as “open countryside”, and is subject to a Core Strategy policy which only allows new dwellings in exceptional circumstances.

Q2: Housing can be provided only in exceptional circumstances in Our Area. Which of these would you support?

Please tick one box in each row.

	YES	NO	NO OPINION
To meet a proven need for a farm or forestry worker to live at or near their place of work			
When needed for the establishment or growth of a rural enterprise			
As a replacement of an existing dwelling			
By re-using a redundant rural building			
Where the design of the dwelling is of exceptional quality or innovative			

In addition, it is also possible for affordable homes to be provided for local people who can’t afford to buy or rent on the open market. These homes would be made available to qualifying residents or those with close links through family or their job, requirements which would also apply to successive occupiers. Because they are built where housing is not usually allowed, as an exception to normal planning policies, they are known as ‘rural exception’ homes.

Q3: Would you support the provision of affordable housing in Our Area through the development of a small site for rural exception housing, if this could be shown to be necessary to help meet local needs?

Please tick one box.

Yes, I would support a rural exception housing scheme	
No, I would not support such a proposal	
No opinion	

A small number of houses to be sold on the open market may also be included in the scheme, if this was shown to be necessary to subsidise the building of the affordable homes.

Q4: Would you support a rural exception housing scheme if it included a small number of houses for sale on the open market, in order to be viable?

Please tick one box.

Yes, I would support including a small number of houses for sale on the open market, if needed to ensure the viability of the scheme	
No, I would not support a rural exception housing scheme on this basis	
No opinion	

Q5: Do you have any other comments on housing, including housing need? This is your chance to tell us.

Traffic, Transport and Access

The NDP deals with land use and development, but can also be used to inform and influence other aspects of the environment such as roads. These are the responsibility of Herefordshire Council, West Mercia Police and the Safer Roads Partnership.

Q6: How important do you feel are improvements to the following?

Please tick one box in each row.

	Not important	Fairly unimportant	Fairly important	Very important
Road safety, for all users				
Schemes to “calm” traffic, including speed reduction				
Facilities for walkers				
Facilities for cyclists				
Facilities for horse riders				
Road maintenance				
Maintenance of hedges, ditches and drains				
Footpath and bridleway maintenance				

Q7: Do you have any other comments on traffic, transport and access? This is your chance to tell us.

Jobs and the local economy

The NDP can include policies to guide new economic development in Our Area.

Q8: What types of economic development should the NDP encourage?

Please tick those you would support.

Agriculture	
Agriculture under polytunnels	
Intensive livestock units	
Food and drink processing and production	
Forestry and related activities	
Livery and stabling	
Tourism, leisure and crafts	
Offices/small businesses	
Knowledge based creative industries	
Hotels, pubs and cafés	

Q9: How should the NDP provide for jobs and the local economy?

Please tick those you would support.

Extension of existing businesses	
Conversion of rural buildings for this purpose	
Home-working	
Live/work premises	
Improvements to broadband	
Improvements to mobile phone reception	
Protecting existing employment sites from changes of use	

Q10: Would you like to see improved or additional provision of facilities for local leisure and tourism?

Please tick one box in each row.

	YES	NO	NO OPINION
Facilities for walkers			
Facilities for cyclists			
Facilities for horse riders			
Camping / caravan sites			
Log cabins			
Use of property for short-term holiday letting			
Promotion of local events			

Q11: A feature of Our Area in recent years has been the larger-scale use of polytunnels. In considering whether further such proposals should be granted planning permission, how important to you are the following planning issues? These are taken from Herefordshire Council’s planning guidance on polytunnels.

Please tick one box in each row.

	Not important	Fairly unimportant	Fairly important	Very important
Economic need and impacts				
Landscape and visual impacts				
Residential amenity effects				
Transport and use of HGVs				
Water use, flood risk and run-off				
Biodiversity				
Public rights of way				
Archaeology and heritage				

Q12: Do you have any other comments on jobs and the local economy? This is your chance to tell us.

Protecting our environment

Protection of the distinctive local environment is a particular concern. Policies can be included to make sure new development respects the local environment, to protect valued landscapes and wildlife habitats and promote their enhancement, and to support renewable energy projects.

Q13: Which of the following ways of ensuring that new development respects the environment are important to you?

Please tick one box in each row.

	Not important	Fairly unimportant	Fairly important	Very important
New development to be in keeping with its surroundings				
New development to make use of local materials				
New development to make use of materials from sustainable sources				
New development to exceed government energy efficiency standards				
New development to include provisions for wildlife				
New development to avoid creating noise and light pollution				
New development to avoid significant impact on landscape and views				
Traffic from new development to be compatible with the local roads				

Q14: Which of the following ways of protecting and enhancing the local environment are important to you?

Please tick one box in each row.

	Not important	Fairly unimportant	Fairly important	Very important
Protecting important views				
Protecting the character of the landscape including hedgerows				
Identifying landscape features for protection, such as trees, woodland, copses and orchards				
Identifying wildlife habitats for protection, such as ponds and traditional orchards				
Controlling the extent of polytunnels				
Minimising noise and light pollution				

Q15: If there are any particular local features, views or habitat areas that you think should be protected, please describe them below.

**Q16: Which of the following ways of producing renewable energy should the NDP encourage? These could be undertaken on a commercial basis, by private individuals, or operated as community projects.
Please tick one box in each row.**

	YES	NO	NO OPINION
Individual wind turbines			
Wind farms			
Solar panels			
Solar farms			
Ground source heat pumps			
Air source heat pumps			
Biomass units			
Anaerobic digesters (using waste gas)			

Q17: Do you have any other comments on the local environment? This is your opportunity to tell us your views on conserving and improving the local environment.

Community Services

Q18: How important do you think the following existing facilities and services are in meeting the current and future needs of the local community?

Please tick one box in each row.

	Not important	Fairly unimportant	Fairly important	Very important
Munsley WI Hall				
Hotel, pubs and cafés				
The Nest shop				
Parish Churches				
Local bus services				
Broadband				
Mobile phone reception				

Q19: Do you think that any of the above need to be improved? Are there any other community services you would like to see provided, if possible? Please tell us how this could be achieved.

Information about you

Your answers to the following questions will help us to see how representative the results are of the community as a whole.

Q20: Are you:

Male	
Female	

Q21: How old are you?

16 - 24	25 - 29	30 - 44	45 - 59	60 - 74	75 and over

Q22: How long have you lived in Our Area?

Under 2 years	
2 - 5 years	
6 - 10 years	
11 - 25 years	
Longer than 25 years	

Q23: Which parish do you live in?

Aylton	
Little Marcle	
Munsley	
Pixley	

Q24: Employment status: please tick all the boxes that best describe you.

Employed full-time		Retired	
Employed part-time		Looking after home/family	
Self-employed		Long-term sick/disabled	
Working from home		Other (please specify)	
Unemployed and available for work			
In full-time education			

In this questionnaire we have tried to cover what we think are the main issues affecting the future of Our Area. If we have missed anything you think should be included, please tell us below. Remember, the NDP will be in place up to 2031, so it is important we make sure that everything is covered.

Thank you for taking the time to complete this questionnaire.

Please see the front of the questionnaire for return instructions.