

# Colwall Parish Council Neighbourhood Plan Response

140115-5

## 1. The Neighbourhood Plan

- We consider it crucial for the future of Colwall that the village has its own Neighbourhood Plan.
- We agree with the proposed new settlement boundary that was based on the landscape impact assessment and presented at the January 2014 public meeting.

## 2. Involving the whole community in the Neighbourhood Plan

- From informal discussions with several people in the village we think it is probable that parts of the community haven't yet engaged with the consultation even though they may have strong views about the future development of the village. Would it be possible for the Parish Council to reach out to the wider community, perhaps by:
  - Using venues such as the shop, greengrocer's, Crown pub, hairdresser's and churches – as well as the library, village hall, school and post office – as 'community information points' where information can be displayed.
  - Occasional, informal 'information stalls' held at these community information points where well briefed volunteers hand out leaflets and answer questions about the Neighbourhood Plan concept
  - Posters that set out very clearly what the Neighbourhood Plan means to residents in the village – e.g. a way for residents to take control of future developments so that Colwall doesn't become subject to the speculative planning applications from developers, as is currently happening in and around Malvern.
  - Identify individuals from different groups within the community who will act as 'champions' to communicate information about the Neighbourhood Plan to their friends/neighbours/colleagues.

## 3. How we would like Colwall to develop

- We agree with the comments made by the Colwall Orchard Group about the importance of a broad demographic mix within the village and that there will soon be sufficient properties designated for people of retirement age (e.g. the flats by the Colwall Park hotel, and the homes for people aged 55+ on the bottling plant site, plus the nursing home). We would therefore like future new developments to:
  - Be small developments of 1, 2 and 3 bedroom homes designed to be attractive and marketable to a younger demographic

- Have an emphasis on low cost (that is affordable to those on average earnings), open market housing (as well as social housing), rather than large 'executive' houses
- Encourage developers and architects who have proven records of producing attractive, affordable, energy saving homes using environmentally sustainable techniques and high quality materials