

Queniborough's Quest for a Neighbourhood Plan Continues



Queniborough – A village under threat

Before updating you on where we are with the Plan you should be aware of a travesty of fairness playing out in the planning arena affecting Queniborough. You may have seen one or more of the flyers from the developers. There are currently three new potential developments for Queniborough. If all these new developments go ahead, added to the two existing developments on Barkby Road (171 houses) and Millstone Lane (101 houses) it will add nearly 800 houses to the village which virtually doubles the size of Queniborough!

The new potential developments are:-

- 250 Houses on the Melton Road (Hallam) CBC Ref P/17/2613/2 ;
- 150 Houses on Barkby Road (Davidsons) Ref P/17/2252/2
and
- 125 Houses on Queniborough Lodge (David Wilson Homes) Ref P/17/2437/2.

If you're happy with this that's fine but if it aggravates you as it does us you should make your views heard. You can't comment on Charnwood's website yet as these are not full applications but you can email comments to development.control@charnwood.gov.uk (don't forget to quote the application number, along with your name and address) or you can write to the Charnwood Borough Council Leader: Mr Jonathan Morgan, Council Leader, Charnwood Borough Council, 21 Stanford Lane, Loughborough, LE12 5TW. Letters to our Parish and Borough councillors and Ed Argar our MP may also be merited.

Back to the Neighbourhood Plan.

Based on the findings from the community consultation events, the stakeholder consultation event and comments received from villagers, our consultants, the Rural Community Council (RCC) have now collated and reported back on what we see as the key topics that Queniborough needs to address in our Neighbourhood Plan. Now the real work begins.

The topics identified are:- Open Green Spaces ; Environment ; Footpaths & Bridleways ; History & Heritage ; Flooding ; Renewable Energy ; Facilities & Services ; Traffic & Transport ; Housing ; Communications ; Employment & Business/Economy

There are a significant number of issues and opportunities underlying each topic if you would like to see these they are on the Parish Council website (see details below). All issues and opportunities raised will be used to inform the development of the Neighbourhood Plan.

Our next stage will be twofold; firstly we need you to choose what you consider to be the main issues and opportunities underlying each topic. This is so that we can concentrate most of our time on the issues and opportunities you believe are most important. To that end we will be issuing a questionnaire in the next few months asking for your input. Secondly, we need to understand what are classed as planning issues i.e. those issues that will directly affect planning developments within Queniborough. To do this, we have invited a planning expert to our meeting in February who will advise on the best way forward and help us to identify which topics/issues/opportunities you raised are planning issues and which ones we need to address outside the planning arena.

Later in the year we will be running a series of workshops using the data from the questionnaire and our new knowledge of planning issues to provide some potential solutions to those main issues. The output from these work streams will be the basis of our draft Neighbourhood Plan.

It seems a long-winded process but it's important that we can assure the Independent Examiner that the policies within the draft Plan are based on clear evidence, including the issues and opportunities gained through community consultation.

We also attended a Leicestershire County Council, Neighbourhood Planning Networking Event on Tuesday 28th November. At the workshop we were given information about the role of the Independent Examiner and how they will assess our Plan, which will be very useful down the line.

All our documents including RCC's reports and the minutes of our meetings are available on the Parish Council's website under <http://www.queniboroughpc.org.uk/neighbourhood-plan.html> . Please feel free to have a look.

If you would like more information or like to get involved please contact Mike Jones via email on jones.michael8@sky.com or telephone on 0116 260 7773. Thanks in advance.

Pam Jones for and on behalf of the QNP Steering Group.