

Appendix C

What is a Neighbourhood Development Plan and what will it do?

As you may already know, Milton Abbot Grouped Parish Council and Kelly Parish Meeting have agreed to create a neighbourhood development plan covering their combined areas. Because it covers Milton Abbot, Chillaton and Kelly [and all places in-between] we have taken those initial letters and called it MACKPlan.

Its purpose is to give local people greater control over what kind of development takes place in their area, where it is and what it looks like.

The Borough Council will, by law, have to take MACKPlan into account when it decides on planning applications. But, because MACKPlan will have legal status, there are rules about what it can cover.

- It must reflect relevant national and local planning policies and have at least the minimum amount of new homes specified in the Borough Council's own Local Plan.
- It must be based on what local people want and be approved by them in a referendum.
- As well as new development, it is about maintaining successful, sustainable communities and protecting and enhancing the special character of our area.

There is a group of local residents working on MACKPlan and they will be preparing a questionnaire to be sent to every household in the plan area. That survey needs to cover as many issues that are important to local residents, as possible. To do that, we need your views now on what MACKPlan should cover.

It might include:

- Provision for new homes, some of which may be for local people who, to be able to stay in the area, either need 'affordable' housing or require accommodation designed to meet their particular requirements.
- Identifying derelict properties and encouraging their refurbishment or re-development.
- Encouraging local firms to start up in the area or expand existing businesses.
- Issues about transport, such as traffic, cycling and walking.
- Support for community facilities like village halls shops and pubs.
- Ideas about how to increase the local production of renewable energy.
- The protection of historic buildings and archaeological remains.
- Protecting the natural environment and our local landscape.
- The design and location of new development.

In thinking about these sorts of issues, you might want to consider the following questions:

- What do we have now that is worth protecting and enhancing?

- What do we have now that either needs improving or removing?
- What haven't we got, that we should try and have?

MACKPlan is a real opportunity to take control over development in our area. Help us to make it as effective as possible by giving us your views on the issues it should cover. Please either email feedback@mackplan.org.uk or write to me at Laurel Cottage, Chillaton, PL16 0HS.

This is just the first step in involving local residents in developing MACKPlan; a process that will take at least 12 months. If you want to keep up to date as we progress, then please go to www.mackplan.org.uk and join the mailing list for our email newsletters. If you are not on-line, then please contact me at the above address and we will send you printed copies.

If you have any comments, queries or concerns about anything to do with MACKPlan, then why not use the forum on our website at www.mackplan.org.uk to make your views known? Or you can email us at feedback@mackplan.org.uk if you prefer.

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