

JOINT MELKSHAM AREA NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Draft Consultation Statement

Pre-Regulation 14 Consultation



**MELKSHAM
NEIGHBOURHOOD
PLAN**

INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This Consultation Statement has been prepared to fulfil the legal obligations of the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations 2012¹ in respect of the review of the Melksham Neighbourhood Plan (NHP#2). Section 15(2) of part 5 of the regulations requires that a Consultation Statement should:
- Contain details of the persons and bodies who were consulted about the proposed Neighbourhood Plan.
 - Explain how they were consulted.
 - Summarise the main issues and concerns raised by the persons consulted and
 - Describe how these issues and concerns have been considered and, where relevant, addressed in the proposed Neighbourhood Plan.
- 1.2 Section 1 (Pre-Regulation 14 Consultation) gives an overview of the various consultation events and activities held to date, that have led to the production of the Draft Reviewed Melksham Neighbourhood Plan (NHP#2) and the policies contained within it.
- 1.3 Supporting information relating to this Statement is available on the Melksham Neighbourhood Plan website: <https://www.melkshamneighbourhoodplan.org/>

SECTION 1 PRE-REGULATION 14 CONSULTATION

Approach to Consultation

- 2.1 Throughout the preparation stages of the Reviewed Melksham Neighbourhood Plan (NHP#2), the Steering Group has worked hard to engage with residents and stakeholders on the progress of the Neighbourhood Plan.
- 2.2 The Steering Group is made up of 11 permanent voting members as follows:
- Two representatives each from the Town and Parish Council
 - One representative from Melksham Area Board (Wiltshire Council)
 - One representative from the Melksham Community Area Partnership
 - One representative for environmental and climate change interests
 - One representative from the community (BRAG: Bowerhill Residents Action Group)
 - Two representatives for Transport
 - One representative for Business

In addition, officers from both councils support the Steering Group and attend meetings and when necessary are supported by a Spatial Planning Link Office from Wiltshire Council.

¹ Localism Act 2011

Steering Group meetings:



Hybrid meetings when appropriate:



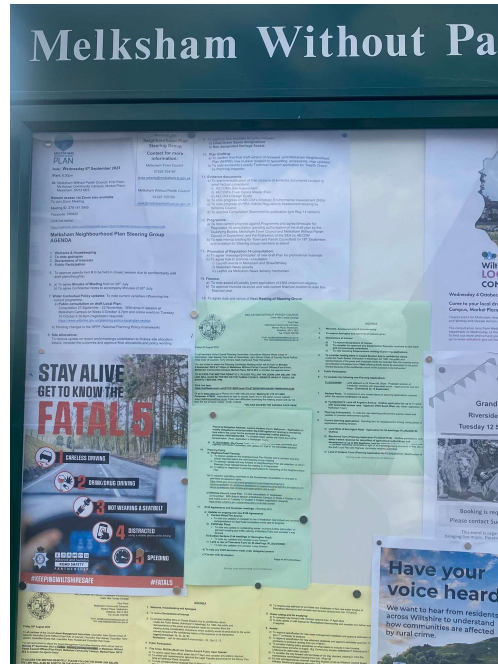
- 2.3 Neighbourhood Plan #1 was brought into force on 1 July 2021 following a yes vote at Referendum. In September 2021, the Steering Group started a review of the plan and sought additional members, particularly from those groups representing heritage, health, seniors, as well as youth sectors, however, despite the best efforts, no representatives came forward from these groups.
- 2.4 The following task groups were formed, which included representatives of the Steering Group, Melksham Town Council, Melksham Without Parish Council, as well as those with a particular interest in the topic from members of the public and local community groups.
- Housing
 - Local Green Spaces
 - Heritage Assets
 - Town Centre
 - Climate Issues
 - A350 Bypass
 - Wilts & Berks Canal Link
 - Design Guide
 - Green Gap/Wedge



Back-to-back workshops for the numerous task groups covering housing, environmental topics, climate issues and strategic projects on 25 May 2022.

- 2.5 Meetings of the Steering Group were held monthly and open to members of the Public with a hybrid option for steering group members and the public to attend via remote link (Zoom). Recordings of the meetings are published on YouTube by the parish council, and removed once the minutes are approved as they are then the accurate record of the meeting.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bRPOlMrxENw>

Agendas and minutes are published on the Neighbourhood Plan and Melksham Without Parish Council websites. Melksham Town Council have a link to the Neighbourhood Plan website for residents to access agendas and minutes. Agendas were also posted on noticeboards throughout the Neighbourhood Plan area, as well as via social media.



Pathfinder Place, Bowerhill



Outside Shaw Village Hall

Both the Town and Parish Council received the minutes of all Steering Group meetings at their respective Planning/Economic Development Committee meetings. Regular updates were provided by Council representatives of the Steering Group or by the Clerks at Full Council meetings.

Consultation Activities

- 3.1 A Website was created to keep residents up to date with progress and events promoting the various stages of the plan, including consultations: (<https://www.melkshamneighbourhoodplan.org/>) with a section entitled “Get Involved” <https://www.melkshamneighbourhoodplan.org/get-involved> . During consultation periods a “pop up” message with a link to the consultations appears for ease of use. Both councils have links to the Neighbourhood Plan website on their own websites.
- 3.2 A Priority for People survey (available online, as well as in hard copy) was conducted in June/July 2021 by Townswork appointed by the Town Council to help inform a Town Centre Masterplan.

PRIORITY FOR PEOPLE : MELKSHAM 2021
MOVING MELKSHAM TOWARDS A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

People take priority.
The world is changing, so we're asking for your help.
Where can I find out more?

How can we make it easier and safer for people, vehicles and goods to move within Melksham town and surrounding villages?

Prior to the pandemic, Melksham Town Council commissioned a review of opportunities and challenges facing the town over the next 15 years, including the climate emergency and our changing lives. The report suggested a strategy covering the movement of people, goods and vehicles throughout the town and its hinterland.

Called **Priority for People | Melksham 2021**, the work to prepare that strategy started with a survey. We were interested in hearing from anyone living and working in Melksham and its surrounding Wiltshire communities, including Beanacre, Berryfield, Bowerhill, Shaw, The Spa, Whitley – as well as Abworth, Broughton Gifford, Bulkington, Great Hinton, Holt, Keevil, Poulshot, Seend, Semington and Steeple Ashton.

Click on the button below and you can read the results and the hundreds of comments and ideas that people added. If you have any feedback or comments of your own, you can contact us direct through feedback@priorityforpeople.org.

CLICK HERE FOR THE SURVEY RESULTS

There are three elements to the Priority for People programme:

JUNE-JULY - Gathering evidence through the survey.

AUGUST-SEPTEMBER - Analysis of results.

OCTOBER-NOVEMBER - Workshops - public meeting. A working group with experts and lay members from across the community is going to explore options for change at workshops in early October - including the identification of a range of workstreams for ideas and initiatives. A public meeting is also scheduled. Regular updates will be provided here.

WHO'S RUNNING THE EVENTS?
Priority for People is funded and managed by **Melksham Town Council**. It is designed to explore how people and goods move around the town and its adjoining communities.

The project is implemented by locally-based **TOWNSWORK**, authors of the Town Council's 'Melksham 2020-2034' report and experienced in working with market and small towns.

ARCHIVES

- 3.3 A Priority for People Workshop was held in October 2021 at Melksham Town Hall, with representatives from the following in attendance:
- Melksham Town Council
 - Melksham Without Parish Council
 - Wiltshire Council, including Highways, Spatial Planning & Senior Climate Officer
 - Transwilts
 - Business Community
 - Vision for West of England
 - Local Parish Councils
 - Age UK
 - Place, Neighbourhood Plan Consultants

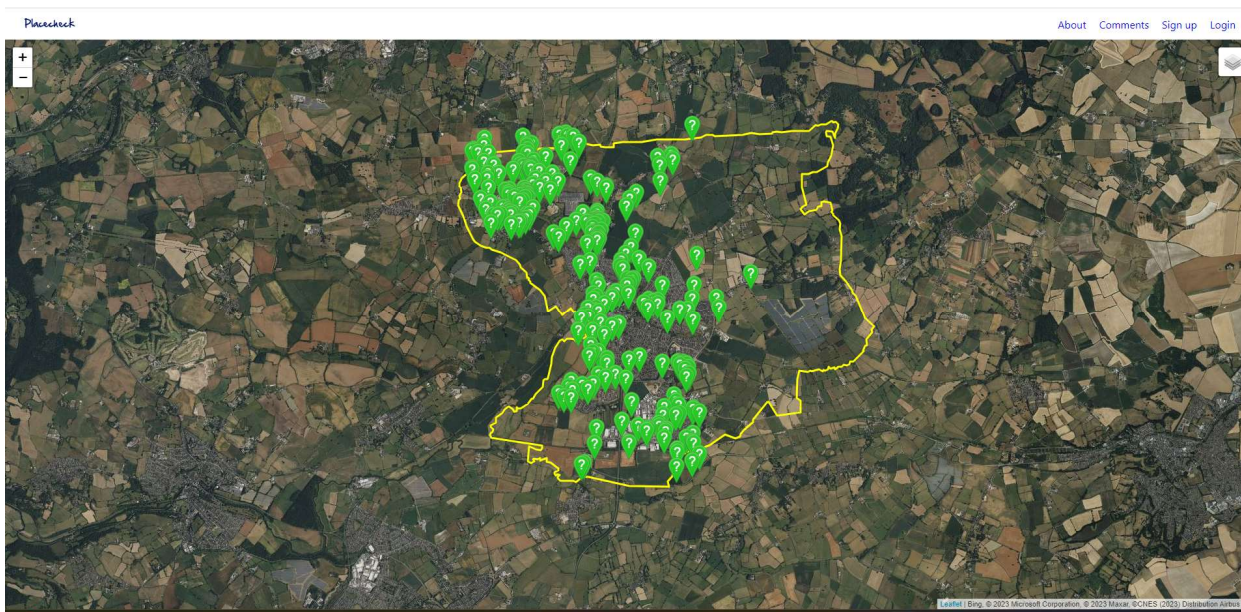
The objective for the day were to:

- Feedback on results of the Priority for People survey and discuss the challenges for changes in the way people move around and through the Melksham Community area, in response to the climate emergency, population growth and economic change.
- How to look afresh at the way the town centre functions, how it is presented and looked after and how it can be made to work better for everyone.
- What can be done now and what can be planned for tomorrow.
- What workstreams should be explored to further development and action?

3.4 Community consultations took place during Spring 2022, seeking nominations for Local Green Spaces which residents valued, in order they could be included in the Neighbourhood Plan. Over 200 nominations were received and subsequently shortlisted by the Local Green Space Task Group, using a set criterion. Similarly, nominations were sought for Non-Designated Heritage Assets, which were reviewed by the Heritage Task Group, in order these could be included in the Neighbourhood Plan. These were done via an online mapping survey, with alternative ways provided for those not online.

<https://www.placecheck.info/app2/maps/melksham>

Local Green Space nominations:



Locally valued Heritage Assets:

Nominate Locally Valued Heritage Assets

Through our Neighbourhood Plan, we can also identify buildings, structures and sites that don't already have listed status (Grade I/II etc) but are worth preserving because of their quality, style or local historical importance.

[online heritage assets map](#)

Tell us about the heritage assets you value using our online map or by emailing office@melkshamwithout.co.uk

You can nominate Locally Valued Heritage Assets on the online map by adding a pin with a short description and a photo (if you have one). You can also support nominations already made (there are thumbs up and down buttons) or add your own thoughts about a nomination.

The criteria for what might qualify as a local heritage asset is long and varied. But as a first vital step, the Steering Group need your suggestions to be able to identify the local features that meet these criteria.

Buildings that are already listed do not need to be identified. If you are unsure if an asset is already listed you can view the full map of listed buildings [here](#).

NOTE: Landowners will only be contacted once local heritage assets have been assessed and only if they are considered to meet the criteria following this stage of nomination.



3.5 A Housing Needs Survey to find out the housing needs for the community also took place in Summer 2022, with 136 people responding to the survey. This fed into the Housing Needs Assessment work undertaken by AECOM as part of a Technical Support package.

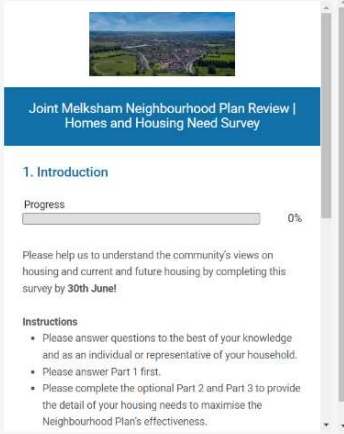
Homes and Housing Need Survey

Melksham Town and Melksham Without Parish Councils are committed to the sustainable development of our area, protecting and enhancing the local places we value and working to deliver housing, jobs and facilities that meets the needs of the community.

Wiltshire Council has a responsibility to plan for housing growth across the County. It is currently undertaking a review of its Local Plan policy framework. It will include information about the level of growth for Melksham and Melksham Without until 2036 which will be likely to include allocations of land for new market and affordable housing.

The review of the Joint Melksham and Melksham Without Neighbourhood Plan brings a new opportunity for local policy to have a key role in shaping the type, tenure and design of new housing development in our area. It can help ensure that new homes meet the changing needs of our community whilst protecting what we value about our neighbourhoods and villages and linking housing development to the delivery of the facilities communities need.

Please complete the survey through this website. If you have any problems please get in touch with us. Paper copies can be made available.

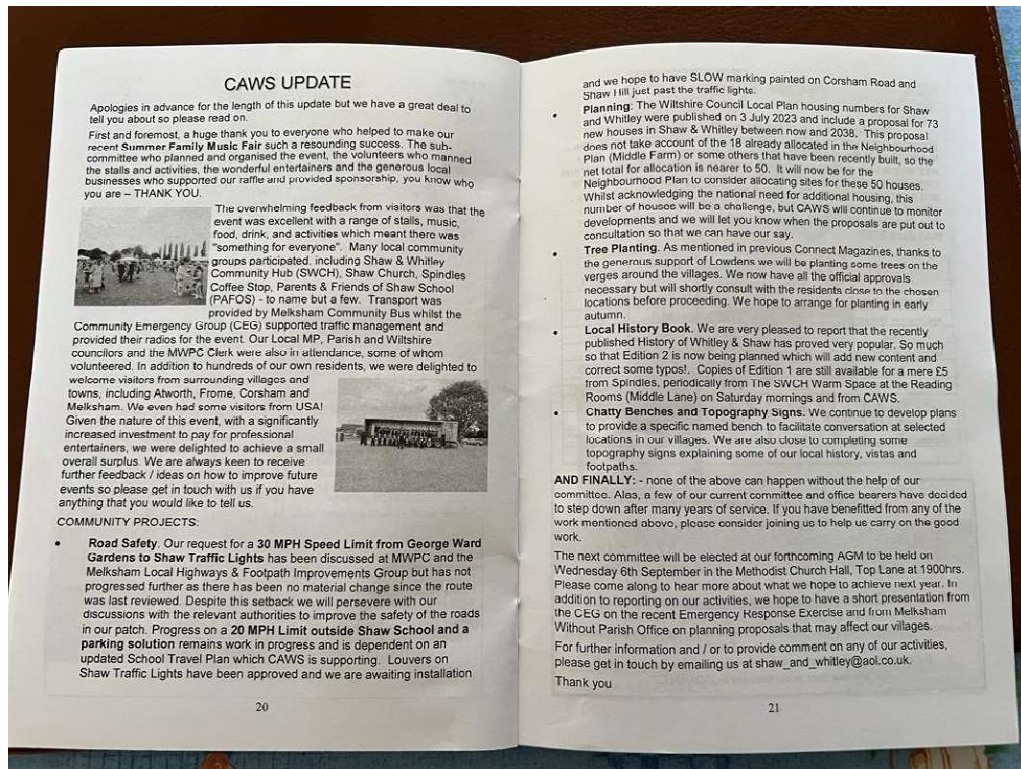


- 3.6 During Spring 2022 a Call for Sites exercise was undertaken. The Steering Group contacted all local landowners on Wiltshire Council's (Strategic Housing and Employment Land Availability Assessment (SHELAA) register) as well as every contact from events and consultations during the NHP#1 process. The Steering Group also advertised in the local press for landowners to come forward if they wished their sites to be considered for possible inclusion in the Neighbourhood Plan and made contact with landowners of vacant town centre regeneration opportunity sites. If landowners did not respond from the email correspondence from the SHELAA list, then officers undertook a due diligence check on the Land Registry for the owner details and contacted them via letter.
- 3.7 During February & March 2023 consultations took place on the Town Centre Master Plan which looked at what residents treasured about the town centre and wanted to protect; listing priorities for improvements and rating design principles for regeneration opportunities. At the same time, consultation took place on the draft Design Code and the shortlist of heritage and local green space sites. Over 200 responses (both online and hard copies) were received. See Appendix 1 for the report on the consultations, a summary of feedback on the key topics, suggested refinements to the Town Centre Masterplan and the next steps and actions. The report was considered by the Steering Group at their 3 May 23 meeting.
- 3.8 Both councils also kept residents up-to-date on progress throughout the time of plan preparation via social media (Facebook, Twitter and Instagram) and newsletters. There is also a separate Neighbourhood Plan Facebook group. Facebook posts were always made into local Facebook groups too, so not just those of the councils and steering group, to gain the maximum exposure. These range from those set up for new housing developments, and business growth groups to more general "Spotted Melksham", and targeted posts in Historic Melksham groups for heritage assets and Rewilding and Recreation groups for the Local Green Spaces.

Local Newspapers and Magazines

- 3.9 Information on consultation events, as well as various articles on the Neighbourhood Plan were also published in the local Paper, Melksham Independent News which is circulated to over 13,700+ dwellings every two weeks, free of charge. A launch press release on the review of the Neighbourhood Plan was issued on 30 March 2022. (Appendix 2)
- 3.10 An update was provided on the Neighbourhood Plan Review in October 2022, which noted the Steering Group had undertaken a call for sites earlier in the Spring that year, with regard to potential site(s) to include in NHP#2.
- 3.11 Updates were also provided via regular quarterly council Newsletters of both the Town Council and Parish Council and published in Melksham News throughout the whole Neighbourhood Plan Review process and on social media. (Appendix 3).

- 3.12 Information was provided in several community magazines, such as, Shaw/Whitley “Connect” village magazine and “Our Community Matters”, a weekly email mailing update via the Melksham Area Board (Wiltshire Council).



Extract from Connect Magazine, August-September 2023 which includes update from Community Action Whitley & Shaw (CAWS) on Melksham’s Neighbourhood Plan Review (NHP#2)

October/November 2023 Edition of Connect below includes editorial from
Melksham Without Parish Council:

Melksham Neighbourhood Plan

Neighbourhood planning was introduced in the Localism Act 2011. It is an important and powerful tool that gives communities statutory powers to shape how their communities develop. It's written by the local community, the people who know and love the area, to ensure the community gets the right types of development, in the right place.



Joint Melksham Neighbourhood Plan 2

2020 - 2038

Pre-Submission Consultation Draft October 2023



The Melksham Neighbourhood Plan is a joint project covering the parishes of Melksham Town and Melksham Without. Its current Plan#1 was adopted in July 2021 with an immediate review started to ensure that the Plan remains current. Plan#2 will be out for consultation (at Regulation 14 stage) in the Autumn. The revised plan will refresh current policies, and include new policies relating to Local Green Spaces, designated Heritage Assets, Town Centre Master Plan, Design Guide and site allocations for housing. As identified in the draft Local Plan, it will be looking to allocate sites for housing to complement the strategic allocations in the Local Plan, and will take responsibility for the whole Shaw & Whitley housing site allocation.

You can read more on the dedicated Melksham Neighbourhood Plan website
<https://www.melkshamneighbourhoodplan.org/>

Melksham Without Parish Council will widely publicise the consultations on both these plans in the Autumn, so check in on social media, the website, posters in the local noticeboards and in articles and adverts in the Melksham News.

There will be public drop-in sessions on the draft Melksham Neighbourhood Plan and all are welcome to attend and ask questions.

- Thursday 26th October from 4 to 7pm at Melksham Community Campus
- Friday 10th November from 4 to 7pm at Shaw Village Hall
- Saturday 11th November from 10am to 2pm at Melksham Community Campus

If you are not online there will still be plenty of opportunities to get involved, and we invite anyone who needs support to access documentation to get in touch with us at the parish council. The office is open Mon – Thurs 10am to 12 and 2 to 4pm on the first floor of the Melksham Community Campus.



This week's news, events and community information for the Melksham area

[Nominate your much-loved public green space in Melksham for protection](#)

Do you have a favourite green space in the Melksham area that you think should be protected from development? Then the team behind Melksham's Neighbourhood Plan want to hear from you. Through the Melksham Neighbourhood Plan, an area of green space that is "demonstrably special to a local community" can be protected through a scheme [...]

Community Matters Issued 29 April 2022



This week's news, events and community information for the Melksham area



Have you had your say on the future of development in Melksham and Melksham Without?

The plan to review and update the Melksham Neighbourhood Plan continues with several consultations still live and awaiting the community to give their input. The most important one is to give your views on current housing needs in the Melksham area. What type of housing is required? Flats? Starter homes? Specialist accommodation for elderly residents? [...]



Community Matters Article issued in June 2022

Consultation Events

- 3.13 A number of drop-in events were held. Consultation also took place at various community events, such as the Christmas Lights Switch On. (See Table 1 below of the various events held)
- 3.14 Consultation events involved residents being able to comment on various 'information boards' provided on various aspects of NHP#2, with post-it notes being provided in order to post on the various information boards and maps. The consultation boards can be viewed here <https://www.melkshamneighbourhoodplan.org/tcmpconsultationfebmar>



- 3.15 A Priority for People Workshop meeting was held on 7 October 2021. The purpose of the day was to produce potential workstreams to take into the community. The results of the survey were published on the Priority for People website <https://www.priorityforpeople.org/> as well as the Town Council website.
- 3.16 Community Consultation events took place on Thursday, 9, Friday 10 & Saturday 11 February 2023 at various times of the day at Melksham Community Campus. Residents were asked what they treasured about the town centre and wanted to protect, what were the priorities for improvements, thoughts on regeneration opportunities, what green spaces should be protected, what should new housing look like and what heritage assets should be protected. The events were held at the brand-new Community Campus building (a Wiltshire Council building that houses the Library, Sports Centre, Community Meeting Rooms) to capture a new audience by attracting casual passersby, this was successful with many gym and library users popping in and the chance for those running the consultation to chat to those in the café area who were waiting during swimming lessons for example. There were lots of A boards and arrows from the Town Hall on the High Street through to the Campus and the exhibition space to entice footfall from the town centre.



A special stakeholder event was held on Tuesday 7 February with town centre businesses, focusing on the Town Centre Masterplan. 500 hand delivered invitations to the event, from the Town Mayor, were put through the doors of Town Centre businesses and stakeholders. Discussions were also held with the Melksham Business Growth Group, who promoted the event to their members and encouraged attendance.

During these events there was a champagne draw, for anyone that left their contact details for future updates:

Social media post about Champagne Draw



Individual Photos of the event featured in the montage below:

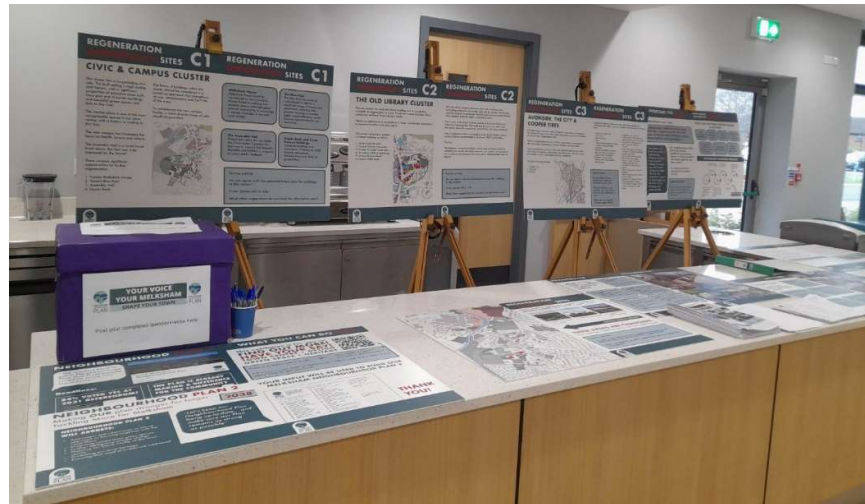
<https://lightroom.adobe.com/shares/0909e1e6189e4fadafc7d6f51b17c32a>

Photo Credits: Joe McCann, Melksham Independent News



- 3.17 Following the consultation events in February 2023, the information boards were made available for a period of time at Melksham Town Hall and The Campus for people to provide comments and fill in a questionnaire. During this period, the staff at the parish council based in the Campus, and the town council based in the Town Hall were available for questions, comments and online access. The library staff were also on hand to assist any member of the public with online access

from free to use computers in the library. A QR code linking to the online survey and hard copy questionnaires were produced for the events so that members of the public could look at the information boards and fill in the survey on their mobile phone, or by paper copy, as they walked around the consultation event.



- 3.18 Both the Parish and Town Clerks gave an update on the Melksham Neighbourhood Plan and what it means to local residents on two episodes of the “Celebrate Melksham” Podcast

<https://open.spotify.com/episode/56i4TM7xmRZdD3oOU5MYdT>



- 3.19 In order to engage with different age groups, the Steering Group used Instagram to engage with the younger generation. Students at Melksham Oak Secondary School were also invited to take part in the Town Centre Masterplan consultation; particularly the Geography students who studied the town centre as part of GCSE and A Level projects. In order to engage with the older generation, flyers were also produced, as less likely to be online but use publication through the Melksham Seniors groups, village hall posters and specific Facebook groups too.

3.20 A Place Shaping Meeting of Melksham Area Board was held on 8 March 2023, which included workshops looking at the Neighbourhood Plan, the Town Centre Masterplan and exploring the identity of the community area. Details and minutes of the meeting here

<https://cms.wiltshire.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=166&MId=14325&Ver=4>



Melksham Area Board

You are warmly invited along to the next Melksham Area Board public meeting

Wednesday 8th March 2023

7pm to 9pm

Library, Melksham Community Campus, Market Pl, Melksham SN12 6ES

With a focus on the place shaping of Melksham and the surrounding area

- Take part in a workshop looking at the joint Melksham Neighbourhood Plan, the Melksham Town Centre Master Plan and exploring the identity of the community area
- Discover some of the exciting new projects happening
- Ask questions, have your say and meet other residents, councillors and organisations.

For more information please
Email: richard.rogers@wilt
Tel: 01225 718628

Wiltshire Council

The poster features three circular images: a group of people looking at a map, a map of Melksham, and a building in Melksham. It also includes a small image of a tablet displaying a website.

Area Board Meeting Poster

THERE IS STILL TIME TO HAVE YOUR SAY ON THE FUTURE OF MELKSHAM

THERE is still time to submit your comments to the town centre consultation currently taking place.

You can find the questionnaire and the exhibition boards in the town hall, in the café area of the Melksham Campus and online - just google Melksham Neighbourhood Plan and there is a pop up with a link straight to the consultation page www.melkshamneighbourhoodplan.org

"A draft Town Centre Master Plan has been produced, but the input from local residents, businesses and community groups has a direct impact on what the priorities will be moving forward in the plan," said Melksham Without Parish Council clerk Teresa Strange said. "So far, the top three things that you have said you want to keep in the town centre are: • Walkable town centre

(74.47%) • Trees and green spaces (72.34%) • Attractive and safe to walk around (69.15%)

And the top three priorities for improvement are: • The quality of the town centre retail and service offer (69.79%) • Conserve and re-use buildings (65.63%) • Protect and increase green space (60.42%)

"Do you agree? What do you think of the regeneration site opportunities at the key gateway locations either end of town? How can they best contribute to our town centre future? Do you agree with the potential future uses of the buildings in the Campus and civic quarter and the old library site, and the most important principles for the future regeneration of Avonside/The City/Cooper Tires?"

"In addition, there are other aspects of the Neighbourhood Plan that ques-



A consultation workshop at the Area Board meeting on 8th March

tions are being asked about, ranging from protecting local green spaces, heritage assets and a design code which sets out what future planning applications

should adhere to, ranging from local identity and character, access and movement, and guidelines for shop fronts, street furniture, building heights, materials

and architectural details. Please take a look and see if you agree, or if there is anything that has been missed." The deadline for comments is Sunday 19th

March (Mother's Day). If you have any queries, please contact either Melksham Town Council or Melksham Without Parish Council.

Melksham Independent News – Article on Area Board Meeting 8 March 2023

Summary of Events and Activities

Table 1

Date	Location	Activity/Event
Thursday, 7 October 2021	Melksham Town Hall	Priority for People workshop
Tuesday, 29 March at 7.00pm	Bowerhill Village Hall	Melksham Without Parish Council, Annual Parish Meeting. Update on progress of NHP#2. *Link below to YouTube recording
Wednesday, 22 June 2022 at 7.00pm	Melksham Assembly Hall	Melksham Area Board Meeting. Update on progress of NHP#2
Wednesday, 21 September 2022 at 7.00pm	Berryfield Village Hall	Melksham Area Board Meeting. Update on progress of NHP#2

Saturday, 3, December 2022, 1.00pm to 7.00pm	Melksham Market Place/Assembly Hall	Melksham Christmas Lights Switch on and Christmas Fayre. Neighbourhood Plan Stall providing information on NPH#2 and upcoming consultation events. Leaflets handed to residents and the chance to chat about the Plan and its use and progress
Tuesday, 7 February 2023	Melksham Community Campus	Consultation on the Town Centre Masterplan with town centre businesses
Thursday, 9 February 2023, 4.00pm-7.00pm	Melksham Community Campus	Consultation on Neighbourhood Plan and Town Centre Masterplan
Friday, 10 February 2023, 11.00am-5.00pm	Melksham Community Campus	Consultation on Neighbourhood Plan and Town Centre Masterplan
Saturday, 11 February 2023, 10.00am-12 noon	Melksham Community Campus	Consultation on Neighbourhood Plan and Town Centre Masterplan
Wednesday, 8 March 2023 at 7.00pm	The Library, Melksham Community Campus	Consultation on the Neighbourhood Plan. Various workshops held, including on the Town Centre Masterplan at the Melksham Area Board
Monday, 13 March 2023 at 7.00pm	Melksham Town Hall	Update provided at Melksham Town Council Annual Town Meeting

Monday, 3 April 2023, 7.00pm	Berryfield Village Hall	Update provided at Annual Parish Meeting of Melksham Without Parish Council. **Link to Neighbourhood Plan presentation below
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***Podcast Links:**

Part 1: <https://open.spotify.com/episode/56i4TM7xmRZdD3oOU5MYdT>

Part 2: <https://open.spotify.com/episode/5fHjENgJyEWGQ06BVvFKzP>

**Link to Neighbourhood Plan Presentation at Annual Parish Meeting

<https://youtu.be/NdB88j8g59g?feature=shared>

Community Events

3.21 The Steering Group had a stall at the Christmas Lights Switch on event, held on Saturday, 3 December 2022. This event is extremely popular with 1000+ people of various age groups attending, making it a good opportunity for Steering Group members to keep people up to date on the progress of the plan and to seek peoples' views.

A 4-page leaflet was handed out at the event, which had a newspaper style and size, and had input and design work from the local newspaper as to how to grab the attention of residents, and layout aspects. This included information on the following:

- Melksham specific policies to address/identified needs
- What a Neighbourhood Plan does and what would happen if Melksham did not have a Neighbourhood Plan.
- What has it done for us so far?
- How can you influence it?
- How to keep in touch

A rotating display board was installed in the Market Place, which provided information on upcoming consultation events and how people could keep in touch with progress of NHP#2.



Changing Display Board at Christmas Lights Switch on/Fayre Saturday, 3 December 2022



Display Tables and Leaflet distribution in the Market Place at the Christmas Fayre, 3 December 2022





Public Meetings

- 3.22 Several updates were provided on the progress of the Neighbourhood Plan at several Melksham Community Area Board Meetings as listed in Table 1 above.
- 3.23 Local community group, Community Action Whitley & Shaw (CAWS) also kept residents of Shaw & Whitley updated on the progress of the plan at their monthly meetings.

7. Other community Events:

- 7.1. **Plant a tree initiative:** Peter had met with MWPC and council officials. The proposal is for 4 mature trees to be planted in the autumn, locations to be determined by a walk around the village shortly. Further sapling planting would be undertaken but before this could be agreed it would be necessary to determine ownership of potential sites such as Whitley Common. **Action – Peter R**
- 7.2. **Neighbourhood Plan:** Wiltshire Council were currently undertaking a review of the plan, over a 2-year period. This included the identification of areas that residents would like to be retained as ‘open spaces’. Peter urged everyone to access and annotate the interactive map which can be found at <https://www.melkshamneighbourhoodplan.org/local-green-spaces>. **Action – All Committee Members**
- 7.3. **Melksham Bypass:** The committee recognised that there is renewed pressure, including from Michelle Donelan MP, to amend (or cancel) the route of the bypass. It was agreed that Peter R would write to Wilts Council and our MP on behalf of CAWS to the effect that we are still of the view that the proposed option is the best. All members of the committee were encouraged to do likewise. **Action – Peter R / All**
- 7.4. **Top Lane Hedge Cutting:** The committee expressed concern regarding the removal of hedges along Top Lane. This issue has been reported to Wiltshire Council for review.

Extract from Community Action Whitley & Shaw (CAWS) minutes of 4 April 2022

Planning Update

Public Consultation on the next iteration of the Neighbourhood Plan will start shortly (see handout – “Your Voice, Your Melksham, Shape your Town”). We should plan on CAWS making a contribution to this but we should encourage individual responses too.

No further news on the Local Plan (95 new houses), the Melksham Bypass, or the Middle Farm/Corsham Road development.

There do not appear to be any extant planning consultations in our area at this time.

Extract from CAWS Chair report January 2023

Neighbourhood Plan:

Peter then provided a brief explanation of the Neighbourhood Plan for Melksham Town and Without Parish Council. This plan endeavours to protect green spaces, protect individual village identities, protect local heritage, and consider the impact of climate change and the Canal Link Project. Importantly the updated Neighbourhood Plan will also allocate development sites for the housing proposed in the Local Plan (see above). The updated plan should be open for consultation soon, and Peter noted that the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group had committed to hold a consultation event in either Shaw or Whitley. He stressed that it is important that CAWS and individuals participate in the consultation and that once this was complete the plan would be subject to a referendum.

Extract from CAWS AGM Minutes 6 September 2023

Neighbourhood Plan 2 - 2026 - 2038

Approach

- Assessment and information to inform approach to housing (together with the Local Plan)
- Allocation of sites for the development to meet proposals set out in the Local Plan
- Protecting valued local green spaces
- Further addressing climate change
- Planning for future vitality of the town centre
- Protecting our local heritage
- Ensuring that local priorities are addressed as the bypass project is developed
- The Steering Group will also explore how to appropriately address the Canal Link project

Key Points

- The plan will propose sites for the 73 new houses proposed in the draft Local Plan for Shaw & Whitley (this is approx. 50 new houses taking into account the 18 houses already allocated in NP1 and buildings already completed)
- Consultation on the plan will commence in Autumn 2023
- A consultation event will be held in either Shaw or Whitley, probably in October, which will be organised by the NP Steering Group and will be supported by their advisers
- Suggested points to look out for and comment on:
 - Where are the proposed development sites and are they the most suitable locations?
 - What community benefits do you want to see from any potential development
 - How will our green spaces be protected?
 - Are there any additional heritage assets that we would like to be reflected in the plan?
 - Do we support the general direction of the plan?
- Once consultation is complete and all inputs have been considered, the plan will be subject to a referendum (TBC but possibly late 2024/early 2025)

Extract from presentation at CAWS AGM on 6 September 2023

Mailing List

- 3.24 A mailing list of those wishing to be kept updated on progress of NHP#2 was collated and included developers, landowners and members of the public. There are over 200 people on the mailing list.
- 3.25 The mailing list was used to keep people updated on progress of the plan, as well as make people aware of consultation events and invite them to take part in online consultations.

Appendices

- Appendix 1 – Report following consultation in Feb/March 23
- Appendix 2 – Updates/Articles in the Melksham News
- Appendix 3 – Newsletters
- Appendix 4 – Facebook Posts

Appendix 1

Report of Town Centre Master Plan Consultation (TCMP)

1 May 2023 to the Melksham NHP Steering Group meeting 3 May 23

Background and Purpose

The Made Joint Melksham Neighbourhood Plan (JMNP) commits Melksham Town Council to progressing a Town Centre Master Plan to direct and guide the future planning and investment of the town centre. This is supported by Town Centre Policy 9 in the made plan. The JMNP2 process and Locality Technical Support has enabled and resourced the progression of Town Centre Master Planning.

A DRAFT Melksham Town Centre Master Plan Report (2023) was produced for the Joint Melksham Neighbourhood Plan Review by consultations AECOM through Locality Technical Support. AECOM undertook the work as a technical exercise in consultation with JMNP2 representatives and Place Studio.

This is a summary note of stakeholder and community consultation that was undertaken in relation to the Consultation on the draft report. It was undertaken by the JMNP2 Steering Group with input from Place Studio.

The purpose of the consultation was to;

- Ensure businesses and other key town centre stakeholders were aware of the master planning process and had an initial opportunity to engage in its production.
- Enable members of the wider community to contribute to the draft report
- Enable Wiltshire Council and other land owners an opportunity to engage in land-use planning for potentially available town centre development sites
- Build the knowledge and priorities of stakeholders and the community into a final document
- Provide community led priorities to inform forward action planning in delivering priority objectives and projects.

Consultation also addressed engagement on emerging evidence related to other areas of JMNP2 policy.

- Local Green Space Designation
- Local Non-designated Heritage List
- Production of a Local Design Guide and Code (By AECOM)
- A communications update on progression of Housing site allocations

Feedback on these matters is recorded separately related to each policy topic.

Summary of Process

Town Centre stakeholder and wider community engagement on the draft town centre master plan report was undertaken by the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group between 8 February and 19 March 2023. It combined a series of engagement opportunities.

- One invited stakeholder three-hour event on 7 February
- Three open community drop-in events were held at The Campus on 8, 10 and 11 February.
- These were followed by further period of exhibition at Melksham Campus and Town Hall until 19 March.
- This was accompanied by online consultation including opportunity to complete the questionnaire.

In addition to drop-in and online engagement, Steering Group representatives reached out to Wiltshire Council as owners of key regeneration sites and as planning authority to ensure its views and intentions were as clearly understood as the Council was prepared to be.

Full records of material exhibited and feedback received have been made and can be made available as part of the TCMP and JMNP2 evidence base.

Engagement Content

Engagement included information boards as well as opportunities to provide feedback and suggestions. This was broken into sections.

The Whole Town Centre

- Views on the principle of undertaking a master plan
- Qualities about the Town Centre that are valued and to protect
- Issues that should be priorities for action and change

Three Regeneration Focus Areas

- Views on if these were the right areas
- Comments on report suggestions for future uses and design
- Open opportunities to make further suggestions

To a significant extent the scope of topics identified in AECOM's report shaped engagement themes and prompts for input.

Attendance

- Stakeholder Event
- Drop in Events
- Questionnaire Returns
- Number of Comments

A record of attendance is contained within the collated event raw data.

Summary of Feedback Received

General Comments

- General strong support for the masterplan and many commenters excited with the potential regeneration of the Cooper Tires area Cluster 3.

- The majority of comments were in-sync' with AECOM's key topics
- Two areas of feedback highlighted apparent emphasis and lack of priority;
 - A significant number of comments identified green spaces and the river as primary assets
 - There was very little response to matters relating directly to sustainability and carbon reduction

- Many commenters expressed that regeneration should be focussed on leisure retail and community facilities.
- Generally, there were concerns about more residential development.
- However, creating smaller and affordable homes in apartments was also suggested.
- 92.52% Agree with the identified regeneration clusters.
- Specific ideas for various sites were expressed.

Comments on TCMP Priority Topics

The following themes attracted the most interest and suggestions;

- Town Centre Vitality and Offer
- Walking including for health and wellbeing & Car Parking
- Heritage and the Appearance of the Town
- Greenery and Green Spaces
- The Riverside and Water

A lack of feedback indicated less direct engagement with Sustainability and Climate

Summary of Key Topics Feedback

Economy and Vitality

Shopping;

- A broad range of local independent and national chain shops. Eg Devides

Things To Do;

- Improved leisure and hospitality offer
- Family focused including cinema, bowling places to eat
- Places to socialise day and evening; cafes, bars, restaurants.
- A place to dance!
- A permanent Melksham museum

Community Facilities;

- Re-opened public toilets
- Facilities for families and young people

Town Centre Business;

- A local business hub
- Access to banking

Heritage and Distinctiveness

Conservation and Enhancement;

- Protection of historic high street buildings
- Conservation of key historic buildings
- Eg Unicorn Public House
- Improvement of shopfronts

Regeneration;

- Removal and regeneration of 1960's infill eg High St/Lowbourne
- Smartening of pedestrian precinct

Streets and Public Realm

Appearance and Image;

- Cleanliness and upkeep of streets and furniture, including on town centre gateways
- Opportunities to “dress” the town centre eg Southgate Bath butterflies.
- Street scene design to compliment heritage buildings
- More street planting and flowers

Town Centre Management;

- Address traffic speed and noise
- Street management to enable “café culture” for outside hospitality
- Improved public seating eg Market Place benches

Green Space and Water

Making Connections;

- Make the most of high quality of existing green spaces
- Creation of linking “green walks” through the town centre linking to green spaces and the station

Wildlife and Nature;

- Increasing town centre nature
- Increasing ecology richness within parks and green spaces

Riverside Access;

- Linking into and enhancing riverside walk

River activity;

- Encourage kayaking and boats

Riverside Development Sites;

- Develop to create increased riverside vitality.

Still Water;

- Create a (or make more of the existing) lake!

Movement Connectivity and Accessibility

Walking and Cycling

- Walking and Cycling Connections;
- Wayfinding
- Good and safe connections to the town centre including from the station

- Signed walking and cycling connections linking town centre to green spaces and the countryside

A Healthy Town Centre;

- Signed walking, dog walking and running routes linking green spaces, riverside and park Safety;
- Safe pavements for pedestrians and lanes for cyclists
- Improved pedestrian crossings eg Bank Street/Lowbourne and entrance to campus.

Pedestrianisation;

- Partial pedestrianisation from church St to Lowbourne
- Pedestrianize the Town Bridge

Buses;

- improved links between station and town centre

Car Parking Management;

- Improved management of existing car parking including;
- Conservation area resident parking
- Increased free disabled permit parking
- Free local business parking and Campus car park management
- Parking controls near take-aways

Public Car Parks Capacity;

- Optimising capacity including decking at Kings St.

Feedback on Regeneration Clusters

Cluster 1 The Civic and Campus Quarter

73% Support

Suggested Uses

Leisure and Culture

- Adventure centre, like The Arc in Chippenham
- Ice rink Skate Park, BMX track
- Entertainment; cinema/bowling/laser tag
- Drama Club and Theatre

Housing and Community Facilities

- Subsidised community/cultural space
- Doctors Surgery
- Housing on the old Blue Pool and Lloyds Bank

Business

- Small business spaces,

Blue Pool

- Retirement flats are not suitable at the Blue Pool due to the noise from the Assembly Hall.
- Make the old swimming pool a bowling alley.

Assembly Hall

- Assembly hall should remain a music venue/use for leisure
- theatre, opera, lectures and cinema use
- Assembly Hall is too big, old and expensive and occupies a valuable site.
- Build a new hall which attracts new acts and bands and which could be used for wedding receptions etc
- Redevelop into homes and cafe/bars

Melksham House

- Melksham house should be a public building
- Arts quarter with sculptures in ground
- The library into Melksham House,
- Melksham museum
- Transfer Assembly Hall use into Melksham House for smaller events and a new hall built at the back of the old library.

Lloyds Bank

- public amenities, cinema, exhibition space, reading rooms, a museum.

Campus Access;

- Entrance to Campus should be off A350, use the same entrance as cemetery to make both safer.
- Market Place entrance reserved for foot and pedal traffic,

Cluster 2 Former Library, Restaurant and Car Park

72% Support

Suggested uses:

- Flats and affordable housing with active ground floors supported
- Leisure cultural facilities in this area
- Nursery
- Local hospital, GPs, nurses, care hubs
- Community project space in the library.
- Retail
- Nightlife, a cinema / bowling alley

Cluster 3 Avonside, Cooper Tires and The City

94% support

Regeneration principles:

Most popular

- Accessible river path, to use and enjoy the riverside: 77.88%
- Walk & cycle links between the station and town centre: 67.26%
- Cultural and entertainment facilities 60.18%

Least Popular:

- Re-establish the historic street pattern 27.43%
- Reflect interesting features within a modern context 30.97%
- New homes 31.86%

Suggested Uses

- Extension to the centre of Melksham
- Mixture of housing/flats, leisure looking onto the river
- Supplemented with the Kennet & Avon canal link as proposed by Wilts/Berks Canal Trust. Marina and mooring points (linked to canal)
- Riverside open space and sports pitches

Conservation;

- Conserve the main old house. Potential museum,
- Repurpose the 1930's old Cooper tire canteen.
- Keep Coopers entry sign,

Wider Cluster Area

- Avonside converted to riverside apartments.
- More consideration to area around train station

Suggested Refinements and Changes to the Draft Town Centre Master Plan Report

Purpose of the TCMP Report and Scope for Changes

The AECOM Town Centre Master Plan Report is an independent technical report and evidence base of the Neighbourhood Plan.

It informs and influences policy and strategy. It provides a strong national context to Town Centre planning.

Studies into key themes are high level and illustrative. They raise town centre principles and illustrate how could be applied with inspirational examples. The report is not intended to set out a detailed master plan or a strategy for its delivery.

It is however, important that the report identifies themes, assets and principles that have the input from engagement undertaken by the Steering Group. AECOM will therefore be asked to refine the report to reflect this. However, feedback will also inform the setting of more detailed projects, land-use criteria and priorities set out in a delivery framework. See C below.

Changes to the AECOM evidence base report will also need to be mindful of the limitations on the Locality Technical Support package that funded it.

As a result, requested amendments will be high level and relatively small. The feedback from the engagement will more significantly inform the strategy and delivery framework.

Proposed Amendments

Section 4 Engagement

The Steering Group will provide narrative to summarise engagement undertaken. This will closely follow narrative provided in this briefing.

Section 6 Development Principles

Updating of the section will focus on the analysis “today” sections to more closely represent the values and issues identified through engagement.

Changes will seek a larger specific section on green and blue infrastructure. More is needed in relation to the existing and valued green space and the river. Some of the Sustainability and Climate section provides inspiration for greening the Town Centre. More is needed in relation to inspiring green connections and waterside environments.

Whilst the sustainability and climate section did not generate significant feedback, it is a central plank of the JMNP and a contributor to the 2030 carbon neutrality target. The section should be retained.

Section 7 Regeneration Clusters

Land use ideas from the feedback should be cross referenced with the AECOM report. This will result in the removal of some suggestions that will not be feasible or popular. It will add suggestions in where they enrich ideas made by AECOM. Again, more references to green space and the river will be sought in relation to each cluster.

Section 8 Next Steps

The first next step should be to receive and sign off a revised final TCMP Report as an evidence base to the JMNP2. It may then be published.

NEXT Steps and Actions

The TCMP report sets out potential next steps. It is suggested these are refined. Refinements should reflect the approach to advancing JMNP2 and the parallel but distinct approach of advancing the TCMP.

JMNP2

The AECOM TCMP report will become part of the evidence base supporting the review of Town Centre policy 9.

TCMP

The approach could broadly follow the four stages outlined by Place Studio and validated by the Town Council at its January meeting.

Stage 1; Delivery Strategy and Process Plan

- Strategy Development
- Resourcing Analysis
- Schedule for Incremental Projects
- Securing grant funding for quick win projects (Town Council)

Stage 2; Helping secure a Melksham Community Led Partnership

- Joint Meeting/Workshop Facilitation
- Design and Facilitation of Stakeholder Dialogue and Engagement
- Design and Delivery of Community Consultation

Stage 3; Progressing the Master Projects

- Brief Agreement
- Analysis and Survey Coordination
- Scheme Concept Design to Specification
- Engagement Process
- Resourcing

Stage 4; Planning Application Dialogue/Review

- Development Proposal Assessment
- Pre-application Dialogue
- Town Council Application Consultation Response

Updating JMNP2 Draft Town Centre Policy 9

Parallel to completing the TCMP report, Steering Group will receive and be asked to validate revisions to Policy 9 to reference the need for development to respond to delivery of the TCMP priorities. The validated AECOM report outlines these.

Reporting Engagement

Engagement has closed. It has produced feedback that has informed;

- The town centre master plan report
- Local green Space Designations
- Local Non-designated Heritage Listing
- The Melksham Design Code

Feedback has now been collated. Reports of feedback produced.

It is now possible to make material available to stakeholders and the public.

The following methods are proposed;

General Communication.

- Thanks to all who attended and involved.
- Background
- Summary of what was consulted on, when and how.
- Potential link to material
- What events and methods were employed
- Attendance and who attended

Feedback

- Headlines on each topic
- NB using summaries produced.
- Links to full summary reports

Next Steps

- Summary for JMNP2 and
- TCMP (as above)

Wider Update (Optional)

JMNP2 General Update

- Updating on housing and other topics eg green gaps.
- A forward programme for JMNP2 consultations

JMNP1 Performance

- Highlighting recent planning decisions relating to speculative development
- refused quoting JMNP1.

External factors;

- NPPF changes to Paragraph 14 protection period
- Local Plan Publication

Circulation

- Emails providing thanks and links to updates and reports to;
 - JMNP2 Mailing List

- Town Centre Invited Stakeholders
- Key Partners
- Website News Update with links
- Social Media Links
- Melksham News Update
- Potential Town and Parish Council briefings.

Programming of Communications

Feedback related solely to the consultation can be dispatched during May.

If communications are to include forward programming it will be prudent to wait until we know about the NPPF and both Councils have agreed any resulting programme changes.

Recommended

Consultation feedback is provided in May. It contains a notice to watch for further updates.

Feedback communications and content is agreed informally by email with SG members before the next meeting.

A full programme and process update is provided later in the summer following receipt of information and decisions.

APPENDIX 2 – Updates/Articles in Melksham News



Help Make the Joint Melksham Neighbourhood Plan Even Stronger for Longer!



YOUR VOTE COUNTED

The Neighbourhood Plan, which was voted into force in July last year, gives the communities of Melksham Town and Melksham Without real local planning power in guiding the conservation and development of our area until 2026. The Steering Group, made of local people and councillors from both

the Town and Parish worked on behalf of the two councils and the communities of the area to get the Plan in place. The Steering Group are really pleased to report that the Plan is being used successfully to make sure development is plan-led and more closely aligned to what local people want.



LOOKING AHEAD TO 2036

Ongoing and new issues like providing affordable homes in the right places, tackling climate change and helping local businesses recover from the impact of COVID make it imperative that our Neighbourhood Plan evolves to provide strong local powers, alongside Wiltshire's upcoming new Local Plan that will set out where new homes and jobs will be provided looking ahead to 2036. To achieve this Melksham Town and Melksham Without Parish Councils, and the Steering Group have jointly launched the review of the

Neighbourhood Plan to look ahead to 2036. The current Neighbourhood Plan will be updated and added to in order to make sure it remains up-to-date, forward looking and strong. A refreshed website has been launched as part of this: www.melkshamneighbourhoodplan.org On this website you can find out about how the Joint Melksham Neighbourhood Plan is already making a positive difference, and about how to get involved in shaping Melksham and Melksham Without's future up to 2036.



COUNCILLOR
JOHN GLOVER
SAYS

This is your chance to ensure that Melksham remains a great place to live. We worked hard to get a Neighbourhood Plan that local people voted to bring into legal force last summer. Let's keep our Neighbourhood Plan bang up-to-date; this is a living document and we need to respond to a changing context and make sure that our Plan remains as strong as possible.

HAVE YOUR SAY AND FIND OUT MORE ON THE WEBSITE



Use the website to nominate valued green spaces for protection from future development

Let us know using the online green spaces map



Find out more www.melkshamneighbourhoodplan.org

Stay up-to-date, get involved and have your say by signing up for updates on the Neighbourhood Plan by emailing office@melkshamwithout.co.uk

Melksham Town Council
townhall@melksham-tc.gov.uk • Tel: 01225 704187

Melksham Without Parish Council
clerk@melkshamwithout.co.uk • Tel: 01225 705700

**Melksham Independent News - 30 March 2022
(also circulated to mailing list)**

NOMINATE YOUR MUCH-LOVED PUBLIC GREEN SPACE FOR PROTECTION



DO you have a favourite green space in the Melksham area that you think should be protected from development? Then the team behind Melksham's Neighbourhood Plan want to hear from you.

Through the Melksham Neighbourhood Plan, an area of green space that is "demonstrably special to a local community" can be protected through a scheme called 'Local Green Spaces'.

"This could be because of its beauty; historic significance; recreational value (including as a playing field); tranquillity; or richness of its wildlife," explains the Neighbourhood Plan steering group.

"We want to hear from you! Tell us about the green spaces you use and value."

All nominations received will then be assessed by the steering group to see if they meet the criteria for designation as a 'Local Green Space'.

Nominations can be made via the website on an online map: www.melkshamneighbourhoodplan.org/local-green-spaces; or by emailing: office@melkshamwithout.co.uk

[shamwithout.co.uk](http://www.melkshamwithout.co.uk)

Via the website you can also support green space nominations already made and make comments.

The neighbourhood plan steering group will also be contacting all local landowners on Wiltshire Council's possible housing sites list (called the Strategic Housing and Employment Land Availability Assessment or SHELAA), to confirm if they wish their land to be considered for potential allocation in the Neighbourhood Plan and explain what their sites can provide to support the community's housing and infrastructure needs.

Melksham's Neighbourhood Plan, which is a joint project by Melksham Town Council and Melksham Without Parish Council, sets out where a community would prefer to see housing built and how the area should be developed and is used by Wiltshire Council to determine local planning applications.

Picture: A double rainbow over one of Melksham's much-loved green spaces, Shurnhold Fields. Photo by Steve Harvey.

**Melksham Independent
News Article
27 April 2022**



Updating Melksham's Joint Neighbourhood Plan



Our first Melksham Town and Melksham Without Joint Neighbourhood Plan is being used by Wiltshire Council to determine local planning applications to help manage development and deliver our community's wishes and needs. But our plan needs to be kept up to date and its life extended to ensure it continues to provide strong local powers after 2026, when the current plan period ends. To help ensure this happens the Steering Group has already started work on our updated Neighbourhood Plan 2.

The next version of the plan can tackle big and new local issues like climate change, protecting our valued green spaces and heritage, ensuring new homes meet local people's changing needs and support community facilities and planning for our town centre's vitality. It will also need to respond to and coordinate with Wiltshire's new Local Plan, which will probably be adopted in 2024. It will set high level strategic policies for our community area until at least 2036 including allocation of land to meet Wiltshire's share of Government housing targets.

Representing the Community

It's imperative that the updated Neighbourhood Plan continues to represent the community's wishes, so throughout the process there will be plenty of opportunities to **Have Your Say** and help us shape our next Neighbourhood Plan. We have a new website where you can find out more and get involved: www.melkshamneighbourhoodplan.org

Help us Shape the Plan Get Involved and Have Your Say!

Throughout the spring and summer, the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group will be launching a series of community consultations on key local community issues. We need to gather your suggestions and priorities to shape the new Neighbourhood Plan's policies and priorities. Please help us protect and shape our area to meet your needs! Visit the website and sign up to get involved! www.melkshamneighbourhoodplan.org

UPCOMING CONSULTATION OPPORTUNITIES

Protecting Local Green Spaces

SURVEY IS LIVE

The Neighbourhood Plan can protect qualifying green spaces through a designation called Local Green Spaces. But we need to know which ones to protect!

We need to know which green spaces you value the most and why they are special to you and your community. This could be because of:

- its beauty;
- its historic significance;
- its recreational value (including as a playing field);
- its tranquillity; or
- Richness of its wildlife.

The Steering Group can then assess all the nominations received to see if they meet the qualifying criteria for Local Green Space designation.

This survey is already live. It will stay open until 5th June. So don't miss your chance to protect your local green space!



Building a Local Heritage List

SURVEY IN MAY

Melksham's heritage is a key part of our distinct character. It is partly protected by the Melksham conservation area and numerous listed buildings of national heritage importance. But that excludes other historic buildings and features in our area that are locally important.

There is now a way to help address that in our Neighbourhood Plan by adding a list of locally valued historic buildings and features to our existing Neighbourhood Plan heritage policy. This would mean locally listed buildings and features would have to be considered if a planning application came forward that affected one or more of them.

The criteria for what might qualify as a Locally Valued Heritage Asset are long and varied. But as a first vital step the Steering Group need your suggestions to be able to identify the local features that meet these criteria.

The Steering Group will be launching this consultation online in May, so don't miss out!



PLANNING FOR HOMES AND FACILITIES TO MEET OUR COMMUNITY'S NEEDS

People love to live in Melksham and Melksham Without and we have seen it grow significantly as a result. But it is essential that housing growth is managed by an up-to-date Plan and not through speculative development.

With the Wiltshire Core Strategy out of date and developers continuing to submit proposals for housing, our made Neighbourhood Plan is working hard to maintain plan led development for our area now, and aims to continue to help maintain this into the future.

The new Wiltshire Local Plan is likely to plan for Melksham to continue to grow in the years up to 2036. Working alongside the Local Plan, our updated Neighbourhood Plan can continue to ensure we get the right homes to meet our needs. It is vital that any new housing firstly provides affordable opportunities for our community and secondly homes that meet changing needs through life's journey. This can include starter homes to rent or buy, homes for a growing



family, smaller and accessible homes for downsizers, and older local people, to enable us all to continue to live active lives within our community.

To successfully influence the delivery of the right types of local housing and community benefits, our Plan for local homes must be built on solid local evidence. It can take the lead in allocating smaller sustainable housing and mixed use sites to provide diverse local housing and community benefit opportunities more responsively than the Local Plan can.

A New Community Housing Survey

SURVEY IN MAY

To set the agenda, most importantly, the Steering Group needs to understand what our precise local housing needs are. In May it will be launching a special Local Housing Needs survey to ask you about your existing housing and what existing or changing future housing needs you may have. We'll be supplementing this survey with our own highly detailed technical assessment of local housing needs based upon analysis of our community profile.

Talking to Local Landowners

CONTACT US NOW

Alongside the survey to ascertain local needs, the Steering Group is contacting all the local landowners on Wiltshire Council's possible housing sites list (called the Strategic Housing and Employment Land Availability Assessment "SHELAA") and is also once again calling upon local landowners to confirm if they wish their land to be considered for potential allocation in the Neighbourhood Plan and explain what their sites can provide to support our community housing and facility needs. If landowners or interested parties would like a site to be considered then please contact: Teresa.Strange@melkshamwithout.co.uk **Deadline for call for sites is Sunday 5th June.**

Fill out the Housing Survey!

SURVEY IN MAY

This is an extremely important survey. It will help us plan for the right type and location of new homes to provide opportunities for our community through both the Neighbourhood Plan policies and potential allocations.

So please, please take part! The Steering Group will be launching this survey in May.

STAY IN TOUCH, HAVE YOUR SAY AND FIND OUT MORE ABOUT OUR NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN 2

Visit our new Neighbourhood Plan website at www.melkshamneighbourhoodplan.org and sign up for updates to take part at every stage of the journey!

IF YOU ARE NOT ONLINE AND UNABLE TO ACCESS THE WEBSITE THEN PLEASE GET IN TOUCH SO THAT WE CAN ARRANGE ALTERNATIVE WAYS OF ENGAGEMENT.

Melksham Town Council
townhall@melksham-tc.gov.uk • Tel: 01225 704187

Melksham Without Parish Council
clerk@melkshamwithout.co.uk • Tel: 01225 705700

**Melksham Independent News - 28 April 2022
(also circulated to mailing list)**

Survey asks what your housing needs are now and in the future

A NEW SURVEY is being launched next week to find out what the housing needs for the community are.

“The Melksham Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group need to understand what the community’s precise local housing needs are,” explains a spokesperson for the steering group. “On Monday 16th May it will be launching a special Local Housing Needs survey to ask you about your existing housing and what existing or changing future housing needs you may have.

“We will be supplementing this survey with our own highly detailed technical assessment of local housing needs based upon analysis of our community profile.

“The new Wiltshire Council Local Plan is likely to plan for Melksham to continue to grow in the years up to 2036. Working alongside the Local Plan, the updated Neighbourhood Plan can continue to ensure we get the right homes to meet our needs.

“It is vital that any new housing firstly provides affordable opportunities for our community to find homes that meet changing needs through life’s journey. This can include starter homes to rent or buy, homes for a growing family, smaller and accessible homes for downsizes and older local people, to enable us all to continue to live active lives within our community.

“To successfully influence the delivery of the right types of local hous-

ing and community benefits delivery, our plan for local homes must be built on solid local evidence. It can take the lead in allocating smaller sustainable housing and mixed use sites to provide diverse local housing and community benefit opportunities more responsively than the Local Plan can.”

The Housing Needs Survey will go live on Monday 16th May, and you can access it from the dedicated website: www.melkshamneighbourhoodplan.org/get-involved

The deadline for responses is Sunday 5th June. If you are not online, please contact Melksham Town Council on 01225 704187 or Melksham Without Parish Council on 01225 705700 to make alternative arrangements.

Article in Melksham Independent News 11 May 2022



Get Involved in Melksham's Joint Neighbourhood Plan



Our first Melksham Town and Melksham Without Joint Neighbourhood Plan is being used by Wiltshire Council to determine local planning applications to help manage development and deliver our community's wishes and needs. But our plan needs to be kept up to date and its life extended to ensure it continues to provide strong local powers after 2026, when the current plan period ends. To help ensure this happens the Steering Group has already started work on our updated Neighbourhood Plan 2.

The next version of the plan can tackle big and new local issues like climate change, protecting our valued green spaces and heritage, ensuring new homes meet local people's changing needs and support community facilities and planning for our town centre's vitality. It will also need to respond to and coordinate with Wiltshire's new Local Plan, which will probably be adopted in 2024. It will set high level strategic policies for our community area until at least 2036 including allocation of land to meet Wiltshire's share of Government housing targets.

Representing the Community

It's imperative that the updated Neighbourhood Plan continues to represent the community's wishes, so throughout the process there are plenty of opportunities to **Have Your Say** and help us shape our next Neighbourhood Plan. We have a new website where you can find out more and get involved:
www.melkshamneighbourhoodplan.org

Help us Shape the Plan Get Involved and Have Your Say!

Throughout the spring and summer, the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group are holding a series of community consultations on key local community issues. We need to gather your suggestions and priorities to shape the new Neighbourhood Plan's policies and priorities. Please help us protect and shape our area to meet your needs! Visit the website and sign up and take part in the consultations! www.melkshamneighbourhoodplan.org
 You can also visit our dedicated Facebook page: 'Melksham Neighbourhood Plan'

CURRENT CONSULTATION OPPORTUNITIES

Protecting Local Green Spaces SURVEY IS LIVE

The Neighbourhood Plan can protect qualifying green spaces through a designation called Local Green Spaces. But we need to know which ones to protect!

We need to know which green spaces you value the most and why they are special to you and your community. This could be because of:

- Its beauty;
- Its historic significance;
- Its recreational value (including as a playing field);
- Its tranquillity; or
- Richness of its wildlife.

The Steering Group will then assess all the nominations received to see if they meet the qualifying criteria for Local Green Space designation.

This survey is live. It will stay open until Sunday 5th June. So don't miss your chance to protect your local green space!



Building a Local Heritage List SURVEY IS LIVE

Melksham's heritage is a key part of our distinct character. It is partly protected by the Melksham conservation area and numerous listed buildings of national heritage importance. But that excludes other historic buildings and features in our area that are locally important.

There is now a way to help address that in our Neighbourhood Plan by adding a list of locally valued historic buildings and features to our existing Neighbourhood Plan heritage policy. This would mean locally listed buildings and features would have to be considered if a planning application came forward that affected one or more of them.

The criteria for what might qualify as a Locally Valued Heritage Asset are long and varied. But as a first vital step the Steering Group need your suggestions to be able to identify the local features that meet these criteria.

This survey is live. It will stay open until Monday 13th June. So don't miss your chance to protect local heritage assets.



PLANNING FOR HOMES AND FACILITIES TO MEET OUR COMMUNITY'S NEEDS

People love to live in Melksham and Melksham Without and we have seen it grow significantly as a result. But it is essential that housing growth is managed by an up-to-date Plan and not through speculative development.

With the Wiltshire Core Strategy out of date and developers continuing to submit proposals for housing, our made Neighbourhood Plan is working hard to maintain plan led development for our area now, and aims to continue to help maintain this into the future.

The new Wiltshire Local Plan is likely to plan for Melksham to continue to grow in the years up to 2036. Working alongside the Local Plan, our updated Neighbourhood Plan can continue to ensure we get the right homes to meet our needs. It is vital that any new housing firstly provides affordable opportunities for our community and secondly homes that meet changing needs through life's journey. This can include starter homes



to rent or buy, homes for a growing family, smaller and accessible homes for downsizing, and older local people, to enable us all to continue to live active lives within our community.

To successfully influence the delivery of the right types of local housing and community benefits, our Plan for local homes must be built on solid local evidence. It can take the lead in allocating smaller sustainable housing and mixed use sites to provide diverse local housing and community benefit opportunities more responsively than the Local Plan can.

A New Community Housing Survey SURVEY IS LIVE

To set the agenda, most importantly, the Steering Group needs to understand what our precise local housing needs are. A special Local Housing Needs survey has been launched to ask you about your existing housing and what existing or changing future housing needs you may have. We'll be supplementing this survey with our own highly detailed technical assessment of local housing needs based upon analysis of our community profile.

This is an extremely important survey. It will help us plan for the right type and location of new homes to provide opportunities for our community through both the Neighbourhood Plan policies and potential allocations.

So please, please take part! This survey is now live and will stay open until Thursday 30th June.

Talking to Local Landowners CONTACT US NOW

Alongside the survey to ascertain local needs, the Steering Group is contacting all the local landowners on Wiltshire Council's possible housing sites list (called the Strategic Housing and Employment Land Availability Assessment 'SHELAA') and is also once again calling upon local landowners to confirm if they wish their land to be considered for potential allocation in the Neighbourhood Plan and explain what their sites can provide to support our community housing and facility needs.

If landowners or interested parties would like a site to be considered then please contact:
 Teresa Strange clerk@melkshamwithout.co.uk
Deadline for call for sites is Sunday 5th June.

STAY IN TOUCH, HAVE YOUR SAY AND FIND OUT MORE ABOUT OUR NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN 2

Visit our new Neighbourhood Plan website and take part in the consultations NOW!
www.melkshamneighbourhoodplan.org

IF YOU ARE NOT ONLINE AND UNABLE TO ACCESS THE WEBSITE THEN PLEASE GET IN TOUCH SO THAT WE CAN ARRANGE ALTERNATIVE WAYS FOR YOU TO TAKE PART.

Melksham Town Council townhall@melksham-tc.gov.uk • Tel: 01225 704187

Melksham Without Parish Council clerk@melkshamwithout.co.uk • Tel: 01225 705700

Melksham Independent News - 26 May 2022
 (also sent to mailing list)

Have you had your say on future development in Melksham and Melksham Without?

THE plan to review and update the Melksham Neighbourhood Plan continues, with several consultations still live and awaiting the community to give their input.

A spokesperson for the Joint Melksham Neighbourhood Plan committee says, "The most important one is to give your views on current housing needs in the Melksham area. What type of housing is required? Flats? Starter homes? Specialist accommodation for elderly residents? Family homes? And are you looking for rental properties, shared ownership or market value properties to buy?"

"The answers you give are vital evidence in shaping the future mix of the housing development in the Melksham area in the coming years. The deadline for this survey is 30th June.

"There is also still time

to nominate a local heritage asset for potential protection. Is there something historic that you value in the community, but is not a listed building or in the conservation area? Deadline for this survey is 13th June.

"The 'Call for Sites', and nominations for 'Local Green Spaces' has now closed, and the task groups of the Neighbourhood Plan, all made up from local residents and councillors, will now be reviewing the requests made."

To get involved, then go to the website www.melkshamneighbourhoodplan.org and take part in the consultations.

If you are unable to access the website, please contact Melksham Town Council (01225 407187) or Melksham Without Parish Council (01225 705700) and alternative arrangements can be made.

Melksham Independent News Article - 7 June 2022



Melksham Neighbourhood Plan Update



Thank you to everyone who took part in the consultations and evidence gathering exercises that have taken place over the summer months as part of the Melksham Neighbourhood Plan review.

We are taking the opportunity to feedback to you here on what happened next, and to let you know that the next round of community engagement will start on Saturday 3rd December and run to the end of the year.

Housing: Assessment and Information to inform

The steering group undertook a Call for Sites exercise in the Spring, advertising widely locally, with several page adverts in the Melksham News, a social media presence, we also contacted everyone who has ever been in contact in previous consultations or visited an event.

In addition, land owners who have their land registered as available with Wiltshire Council have all been contacted. This produced a list of some 90 sites that land owners have put forward to be considered for housing allocation in the next version of the Melksham Neighbourhood Plan. National independent company AECOM are now sifting and assessing the individual sites, with a report to follow at the end of the year which will then lead to the site allocation work by the Housing Task Group who will be shortlisting sites before engaging with land owners. There will be the opportunity for some

informal community engagement on the shortlist of sites. The next version of the Plan will include housing site allocations for small and medium sites, whereas the Local Plan being produced by Wiltshire Council will be allocating large, strategic sites.

Running alongside this work, a Housing Needs Assessment has also been undertaken by AECOM for the Neighbourhood Plan area of Melksham Town and Melksham Without; this incorporates the local Housing Needs Survey that was undertaken by ourselves and advertised in the Melksham News. This looks at the type and tenure of the housing mix requirements in the area, and is the evidence for housing mix policy in the reviewed Plan, ensuring that future housing meets the needs of local people. Thankyou to the 136 local residents who responded to the Local Housing Needs survey in May and June; the results of this have now been published.

SEE www.melkshamneighbourhoodplan.org

Protecting Values Local Green Space

There is the opportunity through the Plan to give a Local Green Space planning designation to protect spaces that are important to the local community.

Thank you to those of you that put forward local green spaces that were important due to their historic significance, their beauty, their recreational value, their richness in wildlife or their tranquillity. This designation can only apply to small, local spaces and not large tracts of land. The volunteer task group is now working through the 50+ sites that the public put forward to ensure that they meet the necessary criteria and eligibility to produce a shortlist, we are currently making contact with the local landowners. You can view the sites put forward on the Neighbourhood Plan website.

Green Gaps Designation

As you may be aware, there has been a recent Appeal Hearing upheld for a site on Semington Road, behind Townsend Farm, for 50 affordable dwellings.

One of the things highlighted by the Planning Inspector was the lack of a policy on green gaps, to prevent the coalescence of villages to the town and other villages, and this is being addressed in the review of the Neighbourhood Plan. We are working to secure the appropriate technical support to aid this piece of work, with the aim of consulting the community on this during the assessment period over the next few months.

Addressing Climate Change

A separate task group is working on the broad topic of Climate Issues, including analysis of other Neighbourhood Plans that have recently been examined and adopted to see if there are further policies that can be included in the next version of the Plan, as this is a rapidly changing topic.

Policy updates have been drafted with background information to be revised next. The group working on this brief are closely aligned with the Town Council's Environment & Climate Working Group.

Planning for the future vitality of the town centre

AECOM have also been appointed to look at the Town Centre Master Plan work, and will be taking a holistic, independent approach at the Town Centre, looking at its Economy and Vitality, its Culture and Distinctiveness, its Connections and Accessibility, the quality of its Public Realm, and its Heritage and Townscape; all set against the pressing agenda of Sustainability and Climate Change.

There is also the possibility of some Town Centre Regeneration Site opportunities with vacant sites in the

town centre, including those recently vacated as part of the Campus project; they may provide identified/allocated housing to meet local needs. This is a fantastic opportunity for some revised town centre policies in the revised Plan, and for a Master Plan evidence document to sit alongside the Neighbourhood Plan as a practical separate stand-alone document. AECOM have been fully briefed by the Neighbourhood Plan team and are working with the Town Council and Wiltshire Council on the publicly owned assets aspects.

Protecting our Local Heritage

Whilst not giving as much protection as the Local Green Spaces, there is still the opportunity to list in the Neighbourhood Plan heritage assets that don't have Listed status but still have an important historical value to the local community.

Again, thankyou to those of you who responded to this survey. A small group of volunteers is looking at the evidence for these sites, it's a short list but valuable nevertheless, and the next step is to contact landowners. You can view the list of those sites put forward on the Neighbourhood Plan website.

Strengthening locally distinctive design

For new housing, and other development, it's not just about where it is, and whether its two or three bedrooms, or rented or for purchase; it's about what it looks like and this is where the Design Codes come in.

AECOM have been appointed to do this work, and are looking at what "good design" looks like for the Melksham Plan area and all future planning applications will have to adhere to the Code when the Plan is adopted. From designing out anti-social behaviour, to brick colours, to solar panels, this is all covered in the Design Code. It covers local identity and character, access and movement incorporating the Priority for People work, green and blue infrastructure (eg. trees/fields and rivers/floodplains), sustainability and energy efficiency and the built form. There will be some community engagement on this piece of work as we seek your views.

Ensuring that Local Priorities are addressed

As the proposed Bypass and Melksham Link Canal projects progress

The Neighbourhood Plan is all about planning policy, and to be referred and adhered to when planning applications are considered.

There are a couple of proposed large infrastructure projects that are in the Melksham Neighbourhood Plan area and there are separate task groups looking into these projects to ensure that the Plan is reviewed in line with the latest updates on these projects. The Plan will have Priority Statements on these projects, but they will be light touch as the Neighbourhood Plan is not the place for decision making on these projects; and therefore cannot have policies relating to them. Volunteer task groups have met with the project teams on these separate projects to review the current statement with them.

Who is working on this project?

The Melksham Neighbourhood Plan is a joint project of Melksham Town Council and Melksham Without Parish Council but is community led, and the Steering Group and Task Groups are made up from a wide range of volunteers from the community. Planning expertise is provided by Place Studio, who guide us through the process. The group has been successful in obtaining grant funding from the Government to contribute to the costs, and some technical support from AECOM who are also provided by Locality, directly funded by central Government.

How do I get involved?

Information on the progress on the review of the Melksham Neighbourhood Plan can be viewed on the dedicated website <https://www.melkshamneighbourhoodplan.org/> and dedicated facebook page. You can sign up to the mailing list by contacting any officer at the Town or Parish Council or by clicking the link on the website. If you are not online, please contact either of the councils who can provide written updates. Look out for further consultation and engagement opportunities advertised in the Melksham News too.

Look out for the Neighbourhood Plan stall at the Christmas Market on Saturday 3rd December

To find out details of the new opportunities to help shape your local community.

Melksham Town Council
townhall@melksham-tc.gov.uk • Tel: 01225 704187

Melksham Without Parish Council
clerk@melkshamwithout-pc.gov.uk • Tel: 01225 705700

**Melksham Independent News - 24 November 2022
(also sent to mailing list)**



YOUR VOICE YOUR MELKSHAM SHAPE YOUR TOWN

SAVE THE DATE!
HAVE YOUR SAY

WHAT NEXT FOR THE TOWN CENTRE?

THEN



NOW



2036



WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO THE OLD LIBRARY SITE?

THEN



NOW



2036



WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO THE BLUE POOL SITE?

A draft Town Centre Master Plan has been produced by consultants who have taken an holistic, independent approach. They have examined the town's Economy and Vitality, its Culture and Distinctiveness, its Connections and Accessibility, the quality of its Public Realm, and its Her-

itage and Townscape; all set against the pressing agenda of Sustainability and Climate Change. There is also the possibility of some Town Centre Regeneration Site opportunities with vacant sites in the town centre, including those recently vacated as part of

the Campus project; they may provide identified/ allocated housing to meet local needs. We are seeking your views on the draft plan with a special event planned for town centre businesses to start the process, closely followed by community consultation.

PROTECTING VALUED LOCAL GREEN SPACE



There is the opportunity through the Plan to give a Local Green Space planning designation to protect spaces that are important to the local community.

Thank you to those of you that put forward local green spaces that were important due to their historic significance, their beauty, their recreational value, their richness in wildlife or their tranquillity. This designation can only apply to small, local spaces and not large tracts of land. The volunteer task group is now working through the 50+ sites that the public put forward to ensure that they meet the necessary criteria and eligibility to produce a shortlist, we are currently making contact with the local landowners. You can view the sites put forward on the Neighbourhood Plan website or at the public consultation events and we will be seeking your views on the shortlist.

HOUSING SITE ALLOCATIONS LED BY THE COMMUNITY

The next version of the Plan will include housing site allocations for small and medium sites, whereas the Local Plan being produced by Wiltshire Council will be allocating large, strategic sites. The Plan's housing allocation means that future development is Plan led and not speculative development in isolated green fields. This is your opportunity to comment on where these smaller sites should be. Some 90+ sites have been put forward by local landowners, and are currently being assessed for suitability by independent consultants. We are asking your views on these sites, and the community benefits that they could bring.



Cllr David Pafford
Steering Committee Chair

“ We worked hard to get a Neighbourhood Plan that local people voted to bring into legal force. Let's keep our Neighbourhood Plan bang up-to-date; this is a living document and we need to respond to a changing context and make sure that our Plan remains as strong as possible ”

STRENGTHENING LOCALLY DISTINCTIVE DESIGN

We are forecast to accommodate a further approx. 2,500 houses up to 2036.

For new housing, and other development, it's not just about where it is, and whether it's two or three bedrooms, or rented or for purchase; it's about what it looks like and this is where the Design Codes come in. Consultants have been appointed to do this work, and are looking at what "good design" looks like for the Melksham area and all future planning applications will have to adhere to the Code when the Plan is adopted. From designing out anti-social behaviour, to brick colours, to solar panels, this is all covered in the Design Code. It covers local identity and character, access and movement incorporating the Priority for People work, green and blue infrastructure, sustainability and energy efficiency and the built form. There will be some community engagement on this piece of work over the coming weeks.

PROTECTING MELKSHAM'S HERITAGE



FORMER LLOYDS BANK

The Neighbourhood Plan will list heritage assets that don't have Listed status but still have an important historical value to the local community. Thank you to those of you who responded to this survey. A small group of volunteers is looking at the evidence for these sites; it's a short list but valuable nevertheless, we are currently making contact with the local landowners. You can view the sites put forward on the Neighbourhood Plan website or at the public consultation events and we will be seeking your views on these heritage assets.

KELLY'S LAMP

PUBLIC CONSULTATION EVENTS COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Come to the Melksham Community Campus for an exhibition of display boards with a chance to chat in-person

THURSDAY 9TH FEBRUARY 4-7pm • FRIDAY 10TH FEBRUARY 11am-5pm • SATURDAY 11TH FEBRUARY 10am-12 noon

Consultation boards will then be on display in the campus and town hall from early February to early March
Where you will be able to comment directly on proposals

STAKEHOLDER EVENT

Tuesday 7th February. For town centre businesses focusing on the town centre masterplan
Register your interest at linda.roberts@melksham-tc.gov.uk 01225 704187

KEEP IN TOUCH

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- Attend future consultation events
- Read regular updates in the Melksham News

IN PERSON

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Market Place SN12 6ES
linda.roberts@melksham-tc.gov.uk
Tel: 01225 704187

Melksham Without Parish Council
First Floor, Melksham Campus SN12 6ES
clerk@melkshamwithout-pc.gov.uk
Tel: 01225 705700

Melksham Independent News - 19 January 2023
(also sent to mailing list)

What next for the future of Melksham town centre? A chance to have your say

A PUBLIC consultation, giving residents and local businesses the chance to have their say about future plans for Melksham town centre, is being held this month at Melksham Community Campus.

Questions posed in the consultation include what the next steps should be for the former Blue Pool and library sites, now that Melksham Campus has been built and what does the future hold for the Cooper Tires site after the company closes its tyre factory.

Melksham Town Council clerk, Linda Roberts said, "This is your chance to have your say on the future plans for Melksham's town centre. There are exciting opportunities ahead for the town centre, so do not miss out on the chance to get involved and influence how the town centre develops."

Master plan

The town centre master plan is part of Melksham Neighbourhood Plan, which is a joint initiative by Melksham Town and Melksham Without councils.

"A draft for the town centre master plan has now been put together by consultants who have taken a holistic, independent approach," said the team behind the Neighbourhood Plan. "They have examined the town's economy, vitality, its culture and distinctiveness, connections, accessibility,



Melksham Without clerk, Teresa Strange; Melksham Without vice chair David Pafford; and Melksham Town Council clerk, Linda Roberts

quality of the public spaces, heritage, and townscape, with a focus on climate change and the town's sustainability.

"The plan includes protecting valued local green space, housing site allocations led by the community, strengthening locally distinctive design and protecting Melksham's heritage.

"The next stage is community consultation so that planners can find out local people's views."

Public consultation

The public consultation will take place at Melksham Community Campus on; Thursday 9th February 4pm-7pm; Friday 10th February 11am-5pm and Saturday 11th February 10am-12pm. At the events, there will be an exhibition of display boards, with a chance to chat about the proposals.

On Tuesday 7th February there is also an opportunity for town centre businesses to have

their say. To register your interest in this event, contact linda.roberts@melkshamtc.gov.uk or tel. 01225 704187.

From early February to early March, consultation boards will be on display in the campus and town hall, where people will still be able to comment on the proposals.

The Joint Melksham Neighbourhood Plan gives the councils local planning power in guiding the development and conservation of our area.

Plan 1, which was given the go-ahead by a vote by local people in 2020, is now being used. Plan 2 is also considering long term aims such as tackling climate change and providing affordable homes in the right places. More details about the Neighbourhood Plan can be found on the councils' websites.

FOR MORE DETAILS - SEE PAGE 4

Melksham Independent News Article - 31 January 2023



YOUR VOICE YOUR MELKSHAM SHAPE YOUR TOWN



**ANOTHER CHANCE TO CHAT IN PERSON AT THE COMMUNITY CAMPUS
WEDNESDAY 8TH MARCH, 7PM - AREA BOARD**

DON'T MISS THE PUBLIC CONSULTATION DISPLAY BOARDS

**On display in the cafe area at
Melksham Community Campus
and Melksham Town Hall**

Learn more about the proposals and
comment directly on them.

**RESPOND TO
QUESTIONS
THAT MATTER**

- How should town centre sites be regenerated?
- What green spaces should be protected?
- What should new housing look like?
- What heritage sites should we protect?



**THIS IS A VITAL
OPPORTUNITY
TO HAVE
YOUR SAY!**



**TAKE PART IN THE CONSULTATION NOW
DEADLINE: SUNDAY 19TH MARCH**

**HEAR MORE ABOUT THE PLAN IN THE PODCAST 'CELEBRATE MELKSHAM'
LISTEN ON ANCHOR | SPOTIFY | APPLE MUSIC**

VIEW THE CONSULTATION BOARDS ONLINE AT

www.melkshamneighbourhoodplan.org/tcmpconsultationfebmar



**OR VISIT IN PERSON AT THE TOWN HALL
AND COMMUNITY CAMPUS**
Let us know what you treasure and want to protect in
the town centre and what your priorities for change are.

**Hard copy surveys are available and you can also
get support to be online at the library.**



WHAT IS IT ABOUT - HERITAGE • TOWN CENTRE • GREEN SPACES • DESIGN

KEEP IN TOUCH

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Melksham Without Parish Council
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**Melksham Independent News - 2 March 2023
(also sent to mailing list)**



YOUR VOICE YOUR MELKSHAM SHAPE YOUR TOWN



TAKE PART IN THE CONSULTATION NOW
DEADLINE: SUNDAY 19TH MARCH

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PUBLIC CONSULTATION
DISPLAY BOARDS**

On display in the cafe area at
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Learn more about the proposals and
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**RESPOND TO
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What green spaces should be protected?
What should new housing look like?
What heritage sites should we protect?



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YOUR SAY!**

**HEAR MORE ABOUT THE PLAN
IN THE PODCAST**

'CELEBRATE MELKSHAM'

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Melksham News Independent News – March 2023
(also sent to mailing list)

Help shape the future of Melksham

THE community is invited to attend the Melksham Area Board public meeting to learn more about shaping Melksham and the surrounding areas.

The meeting is on Wednesday 8th March, at Melksham Library in the Campus, 7pm to 9pm.

Melksham Without Parish Council clerk Teresa Strange explained, "There is some exciting work going on to improve the physical space in and around Melksham and you are invited to join us to hear more about it and have your say.

"Melksham Area Board will be focussing upon shaping our local town and the surrounding area. This will include a workshop jointly led

by Melksham Without Parish Council and Melksham Town Council that will consider three different pieces of work.

"The first will be looking at the 'Town Centre Master Plan' that looks at how the heritage, economy, accessibility and public realm can be developed. This is currently out for consultation, and you will be able to find out what feedback has been received so far and have a final opportunity to get involved and influence it.

"The second will highlight the importance and current state of the "Joint Neighbourhood Plan" that is vital to plan and protect our town, surrounding area and countryside.

"The third will introduce some

of the other projects around the natural and built environment and raise the important question of what the identity of the Melksham area is and should be moving forward.

"At the meeting, we will also hear the latest news on highways schemes, the work going on at Spa Road roundabout, the transfer of Wiltshire Council assets to the local community and much more.

"There will be plenty of opportunity to have your say and get involved in shaping the community area to be an even better place to live work and enjoy. We hope you can join us."

For more information contact richard.rogers@wiltshire.gov.uk or telephone 01225 718628.

Melksham Independent News Article - 2 March 2023

APPENDIX 3 – COUNCIL NEWSLETTERS



Summer Newsletter clerk@melkshamwithout.co.uk
MELKSHAM WITHOUT PARISH COUNCIL
Sports Pavilion, Westinghouse Way, Bowerhill, Melksham, SN12 6TL • 01225 705700



Clerk Teresa Strange & Chair John Glover

MELKSHAM NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

The parish council are actively involved in the review of the current joint Neighbourhood Plan with the Town Council and members of the community on the Steering Group and new Task Groups.

There are lots of ways to get involved as the local community, please see the separate page on the Neighbourhood Plan in this issue which details all the current consultations. Local community members are on the individual task groups who will be reviewing the

evidence gathered from these surveys, and on other topics, and if you would like to get involved with this work in more detail, then please get in touch. Its your community, we need to hear from you on how to shape it for future generations!

- Housing
- Environment – Green Space, Heritage Assets, Design Guides
- Sustainability & Climate
- Strategic Projects – Town Centre, Implications of proposed Bypass & Canal Link

**26 May 2022 Edition of
Melksham News**



Winter Newsletter

clerk@melkshamwithout-pc.gov.uk

MELKSHAM WITHOUT PARISH COUNCIL

First Floor, Melksham Community Campus, Market Place, SN12 6ES • 01225 705700



Clerk Teresa Strang & Chair John Glover

BUDGET & PRECEPT FOR 2023/24

Melksham Without Parish Council agreed their Budget for 2023/24 at the Full Council meeting held on Monday 23rd January 2023.

The Council unanimously agreed to set its Precept – the proportion of Council Tax paid to the Parish Council – at £245,271.03 for the 2023/24 financial year, which is an increase of £9,581.98 (4.1%) on last year's Precept. However, due to the additional number of houses that have been

built and occupied in the parish, there are more residents contributing to the Precept. This means that the average Band D household will contribute £84.71 to Melksham Without Parish Council, a zero rise on last year. (Band D properties are used as a measure of the national average).

The parish council have strived to maintain services without increasing the burden on residents, against the backdrop of the current cost of living crisis.

BERRYFIELD VILLAGE HALL

The opening event on Saturday 21st January was a great way to top off the culmination of several year's work to provide a new community space in Berryfield that was fit for purpose.

The committee that has formed to run the hall on behalf of the parish council has now been formally recognised as a charitable trust, the lease will be signed shortly and the different areas let to local groups and organisations. The ribbon was cut by the Deputy Lieutenant AVM David Couzens and the hall was full of local residents, both from the new Bowood View development and the older parts of Berryfield, Semington Road and the mobile home park next door – enjoying tea and cake, and listening to music provided by Strings Incognito. Thankyou to the local businesses that provided refreshments; Asda, Co-op, Waitrose and Newmans



Butchers. Look out for lots of exciting things to do in the new hall from organisations that have already booked regular slots. To make contact with any enquiry or booking then please contact via BerryfieldVillagehall@outlook.com until the phone and online booking system is up and running.



OLD AND NEW



MELKSHAM NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

The parish council are working hard on the review of the Melksham Neighbourhood Plan.

This is a joint project with the Town Council and members of the steering group from various organisations in the community. Now it's time for you to have your say on how to shape the town, and to say what's important to you.

Public consultation events are being run in the Campus next week on the Town Centre Master Plan and local green spaces, design guides for local development and local heritage assets. Come along and have a chat and find out more about it. Its interactive, lots of displays, maps, and the chance to give your opinion on the changing face of high streets and what that looks like in your town.



NEW CO-OPTED COUNCILLOR

A very warm welcome to a new Councillor Peter Richardson.

Melksham Without Parish Council met on Monday evening, and one of the first order of business was to co-opt a new councillor to fill the vacancy in the Beansacre, Shaw, Whitley and Blackmore ward following the resignation of Councillor Mary Pile. Candidates had submitted their application in writing, and were invited to say a few words and answer questions on the night; before councillors voted. It was a close run thing and the council are delighted to welcome a new councillor who lives in the ward and already has



a proven track record of representing the interests of local residents as Chair of CAWS (Community Action: Whitley & Shaw).

WHO IS MY COUNCILLOR?

BERRYFIELD WARD	
	Shona Holt shona.holt@melkshamwithout-pc.gov.uk
	Richard Wood richard.wood@melkshamwithout-pc.gov.uk
BEANACRE, SHAW, WHITLEY AND BLACKMORE WARD	
	Terry Chivers terry.chivers@melkshamwithout-pc.gov.uk
	John Doel john.doel@melkshamwithout-pc.gov.uk
	Stefano Patacchiola JP stefano.patacchiola@melkshamwithout-pc.gov.uk
	Peter Richardson peter.richardson@melkshamwithout-pc.gov.uk
BOWERHILL WARD	
	Alan Baines alan.baines@melkshamwithout-pc.gov.uk
	John Glover (Council Chair) john.glover@melkshamwithout-pc.gov.uk
	Mark Harris mark.harris@melkshamwithout-pc.gov.uk
	Rob Hoyle rob.hoyle@melkshamwithout-pc.gov.uk
	David Pafford (Council Vice Chair) david.pafford@melkshamwithout-pc.gov.uk
	Andy Russell andy.russell@melkshamwithout-pc.gov.uk
	Robert Shea-Simonds robert.shea-simonds@melkshamwithout-pc.gov.uk

PUBLIC CONSULTATION EVENTS

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION
Come to the Melksham Community Campus for an exhibition of display boards with a chance to chat in-person

THURSDAY 9TH FEBRUARY
4pm-7pm

FRIDAY 10TH FEBRUARY
11am-5pm

SATURDAY 11TH FEBRUARY
10am-12 noon

Following all the events there will still be plenty of time to send in your comments, the boards will remain up at the Campus and you will be able to fill in a questionnaire or respond online.

There is a separate event for town centre businesses on Tuesday 7th Feb, please get in touch to register your interest for an invitation to that dedicated evening.

VILLAGE HALLS WEEK

Village Halls Week

2023

Warm, welcoming and inclusive spaces

#VillageHallsWeek

Last week was "Village Halls Week", a national campaign shining the spotlight on the contribution England's 10,000+ village halls make to rural communities.

There is plenty to celebrate in the parish, with five warm, welcoming and inclusive community spaces. Just taking a snapshot of last week, there was a newspaper service available daily from Whitley Reading

Rooms, the community dining lunch at Bowerhill Village Hall, pre-school at Shaw Village Hall and table tennis in the school room at St Barnabas Church in Beansacre. The week commenced with the opening of the brand new village hall at Berryfield. All of these wonderful spaces are run by volunteers, and supported with grant funding by the parish council.

WANT TO KEEP IN TOUCH?

on twitter @melkshamwithout
on Instagram melkshamwithoutpc
on Facebook Melksham Without Parish Council


or visit our website
www.melkshamwithout-pc.gov.uk

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN – HAVE YOUR SAY!

SIMPLY VISIT THE LINK BELOW TO OUR NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING WEBSITE WHERE YOU CAN GET INVOLVED

<https://www.melkshamneighbourhoodplan.org/local-green-spaces>

DEADLINE 5TH JUNE



The neighbourhood plan can protect qualifying green spaces through a designation called Local Green Spaces. But we need your help to choose which ones to protect!

We need to know which green spaces you value the most and why they are special to you and your community. This could be because of:

- Its Beauty;
- Its Historic Significance;
- Its Recreational Value;
- Its Tranquillity or Richness of its Wildlife.

WHAT IS THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN?

Neighbourhood planning gives communities direct power to develop a shared vision for their neighbourhood and shape the development and growth of their local area. They are able to choose where they want new homes, shops and offices to be built, have their say on what those new buildings should look like and what infrastructure should be provided, and grant planning permission for the new buildings they want to see go ahead. Neighbourhood planning provides a powerful set of tools for local people to plan for the types of development to meet their community's needs and where the ambition of the neighbourhood is aligned with the strategic needs and priorities of the wider local area. (Gov.uk)

HOW TO USE THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING WEBSITE:


Create an account with Placecheck

Simply explore the interactive map and chose an area in which you have an interest.

Click on that area and a text box such as the one on the right will pop up.

You then have the option to either agree with a thumbs up, or disagree with a thumbs down as to whether you believe this area should be protected.

The best part is there is no limit, so you can have your say all over Melksham!




NO COMPUTER? NO PROBLEM!

Feel free to jot down your nominations and submit them to Melksham Town Hall in person or by telephone us on 01225 704187

Melksham Town Council Newsletter in 11 May 2022 Edition of Melksham News

APPENDIX 4 – FACEBOOK POSTS



Help Make the Joint Melksham Neighbourhood Plan Even Stronger for Longer!

YOUR VOTE COUNTED

LOOKING AHEAD TO 2036

HAVE YOUR SAY AND FIND OUT MORE ON THE WEBSITE

Melksham Town Council
townhall@melksham-tc.gov.uk • Tel: 01225 704187

Melksham Without Parish Council
clerk@melkshamwithout.co.uk • Tel: 01225 705700

Melksham Town Council
Published by Melksham TC Staff
21 March 2022

Launch of the Melksham Neighbourhood Plan Review, new website
<https://www.melkshamneighbourhoodplan.org/> and the opportunity to nominate green spaces for protection from future development
<https://www.melkshamneighbourhoodplan.org/local-green-spaces>

3 likes, 1 comment

Melksham Town Council Facebook Post 21 March 2022



Melksham Town Council Facebook Post 21 February 2023



Melksham Town Council Facebook Post – 9 February 2023

Melksham Town Council @MelkshamTC · 3 Feb

****Melksham Town Centre Business Consultation****
*****CALLING ALL TOWN CENTRE BUSINESSES, THERE WILL BE A SPECIFIC EVENT FOR YOU ON TUESDAY 7TH FEB 2023*****
 Register your interest at : linda.roberts@melksham-tc.gov.uk 01225 70418

PUBLIC CONSULTATION EVENTS

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Come to the Melksham Community Campus for an exhibition of display boards with a chance to chat in-person
THURSDAY 9TH FEBRUARY 4-7pm • FRIDAY 10TH FEBRUARY 11am-5pm • SATURDAY 11TH FEBRUARY 10am-12 noon
 Consultation boards will then be on display in the campus and town hall from early February to early March
 Where you will be able to comment directly on proposals

STAKEHOLDER EVENT Tuesday 7th February. For town centre businesses focusing on the town centre masterplan
 Register your interest at linda.roberts@melksham-tc.gov.uk 01225 704187

KEEP IN TOUCH
 Information on the progress on the review of the Melksham Neighbourhood Plan can be viewed on the dedicated website www.melkshamneighbourhoodplan.org and dedicated Facebook page. You can sign up to the mailing list by contacting any officer at the Town or Parish Council or by clicking the link on the website. If you are not online, please contact either of the contacts who can provide written updates. Look out for further consultation and engagement opportunities advertised in the Melksham News regularly.

- Sign up for the mailing list
- Visit the website which is regularly updated www.melkshamneighbourhoodplan.org
- Follow the Facebook page [melkshamneighbourhoodplan](https://www.facebook.com/melkshamneighbourhoodplan)
- Attend future consultation events
- Read regular updates in the Melksham News

IN PERSON
 Melksham Town Council
 Market Place 2012 402
linda.roberts@melksham-tc.gov.uk
 Tel: 01225 704187
 Melksham Without Parish Council
 753 High Street Melksham, Wiltshire SN12 4JZ
clerk@melkshamwithout.gov.uk
 Tel: 01225 705700

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Melksham Town Council Facebook Post – 3 February 2023

Melksham Town Council @MelkshamTC · 24 Nov 2022

Latest update from the Melksham Neighbourhood Plan team
 Might be easier to read from this link melkshamneighbourhoodplan.org or see the full page in the Melksham News this week

Melksham Neighbourhood Plan Update

Housing: Assessment and Information to Inform

Thank you to everyone who took part in the consultations and evidence gathering exercises that have taken place over the summer months as part of the Melksham Neighbourhood Plan review.
 We are taking the opportunity to feedback to you how we have responded to your views, and to let you know that the next round of community engagement will start on Saturday 3rd December and runs to the end of the year.

The steering group undertook a call for ideas exercise in the Spring, advertising online locally, with several page adverts in the Melksham News, a social media presence, we also contacted everyone who has ever been in contact in previous consultations or visited an event.
 In addition, local owners who have their land registered or available with Melksham Council have all been contacted. This produced a list of some 80 sites that land owners have put forward to be considered for housing allocation in the next version of the Melksham Neighbourhood Plan. National independent company ACCIM are now valuing and assessing the individual sites, with a report to follow at the end of the year which will then lead to the site allocation work by the Housing Task Group who will be developing site briefs engaging with land owners. There will be the opportunity for some

informal community engagement on the shorter list of sites. The next version of the Plan will include housing site allocations for small and medium sites, whereas the Local Plan being produced by Wiltshire Council will be allocating large, strategic sites.
 Running alongside this work, a Housing Needs Assessment has also been undertaken by ACCIM for the Neighbourhood Plan area of Melksham Town and Melksham Without, this incorporates the local Housing Needs Survey that was undertaken by consultants and advertised in the Melksham News. This looks at the type and tenure of the housing mix requirements in the area, and is the evidence for housing mix policy in the next version of the Plan, ensuring that future housing meets the needs of local people. Thanks to the 130 local residents who responded to the local Housing Needs survey in May and June, the results of this have now been published.

www.melkshamneighbourhoodplan.org

Protecting Values Local Green Space Green Gaps Designation Addressing Climate Change

Melksham Town Council Facebook Post – 24 November 2022



Melksham Without Parish Council

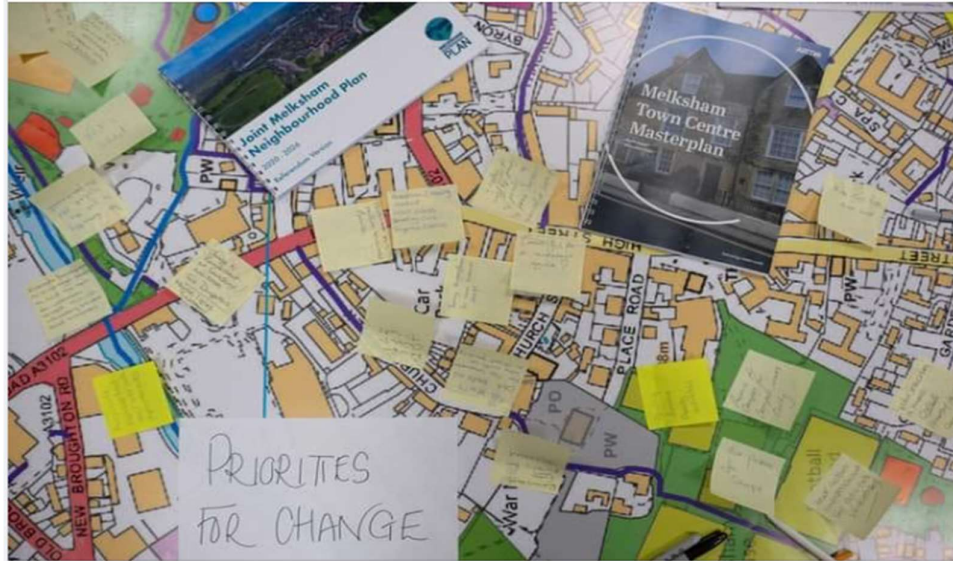
16 March · 🌐



THERE IS STILL TIME TO HAVE YOUR SAY ON THE FUTURE OF MELKSHAM

There is still time to submit your comments to the Town Centre consultation currently taking place. You can find the questionnaire and the exhibition boards in the Town Hall, in the Café Area of the Melksham Campus and online, just google Melksham Neighbourhood Plan and there is a pop up with a link straight to the consultation page www.melkshamneighbourhoodplan.org

A draft Town Centre Master Plan has been p... See more



Melksham Without Parish Council Facebook Post – 16 March 2023



Melksham Without Parish Council

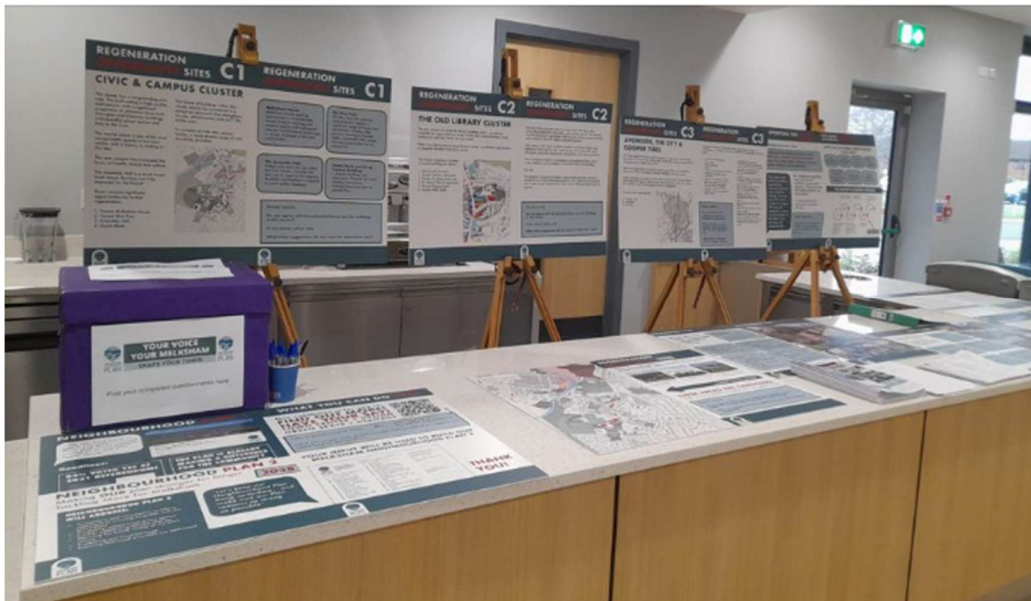
2 March · 🌐



Have you had your say on the town centre master plan? given your view on the things to treasure, and priorities for improvement?

Then there is still plenty of time... the consultation boards will remain at the cafe area of the Campus until Sunday 19th March. You can fill in a survey there, or go online (you can see all the consultation boards there too).

<https://www.melkshamneighbourhoodplan.org/tcmpconsultatio.....> See more



Melksham Without Parish Council Facebook Post – 2 March 2023

Melksham Neighbourhood Plan

Community



Send Message



Melksham Neighbourhood Plan

16 February · 🌐

The consultation boards are now available to view in the cafe area of the Campus, and in the Town Hall.

They are also available online at

<https://www.melkshamneighbourhoodplan.org/tcmpconsultatio...> as well as the survey.

YOUR VOICE

YOUR MELKSHAM

SHAPE YOUR TOWN

HAVE YOUR SAY

Melksham Neighbourhood Plan Facebook Post – 16 February 2023



Melksham Neighbourhood Plan

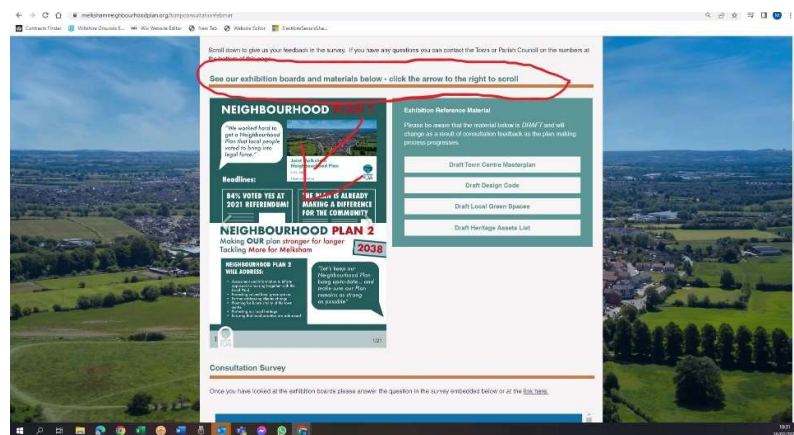
16 February · 🌐

Want to view the Melksham Neighbourhood Plan consultation boards but can't get into town to view at the Campus or the Town Hall?

They are on the website, see the bit ringed in red below, and then you can arrow right to work through the 10 boards one by one - you will need to view the boards to answer some of the survey questions.

To access the consultation online - the boards, the questionnaire and the draft evidence documents that use this link

<https://www.melkshamneighbourhoodplan.org/tcmpconsultatio...> or go to the home page and there is a pop up link



Melksham Without Facebook Post – 16 February 2023



Melksham Without Parish Council

11 February · 🌐



Thank you to everyone who attended the consultation events this week. We are thrilled it generated so much interest; with a steady stream of people who came to find out more and leave their views.

The information boards and questionnaires will be available at the Campus and Town Hall now, so there is still time to have your say; right up until 19th March.

Or you can go online <https://www.melkshamneighbourhoodplan.org/tcmpconsultatio.....> See more



Melksham Without Facebook Post – 11 February 2023

Melksham Without Parish Council
11 February · 🌐

On today - Saturday - 10 to 12noon



Melksham Without Parish Council
10 February · 🌐

Consultation Reminder

Public consultation event on TODAY at the Melksham Community Campus for the Melksham Neighbourhood Plan - the Town Centre Master Plan, Design Guides, Local Green Spaces, Local Heritage assets.

The Town Centre Master Plan Exhibition is open to the public for two more days this week.

Do you want to influence what happens to your town centre?

What should be protected?

What can be changed ?

Come to the Melksham Community Campus (through the café area) for an exhibition of display boards, maps and a chance to chat in person on :

FRIDAY 10TH FEBRUARY 11AM - 5PM

SATURDAY 11TH FEB 10AM - 12 NOON

Consultation boards will be then be on display in the campus and town hall until early March where you will be able to comment directly on proposals.

[#melkshamneighbourhoodplan](#)

www.melkshamneighbourhoodplan.org

Melksham Without Facebook Post – 10 February 2023



Melksham Without Parish Council

8 February · 🌐



STARTING TOMORROW - THURSDAY 9TH FEB

Public consultation events this week for the Melksham Neighbourhood Plan - the Town Centre Master Plan, Design Guides, Local Green Spaces, Local Heritage assets.

A special event for town centre businesses launched the consultation period last night.

Come and have your say and shape where you live.

In the Campus, through the cafe area.

Thursday 4 - 7pm

Friday 11am to 5pm

Saturday 10am to 12

Melksham Without Facebook Post – 8 February 2023



Melksham Without Parish Council

1 February · 🌐



OPEN.SPOTIFY.COM

#8 Melksham Neighbourhood Plan Pt 2 - Shape Your Town

Listen to this episode from Celebrate Melksham on Spotify. In Celebrate Melksham's first two parter we interview Linda Roberts (Melksham Town Council Clerk) and Teresa Strange...



Save

Melksham Without Facebook Post – 1 February 2023



Melksham Without Parish Council

31 January · 🌐



Public consultation events next week for the Melksham Neighbourhood Plan - the Town Centre Master Plan, Design Guides, Local Green Spaces, Local Heritage assets. Come and have your say and shape where you live.

****Special event for town centre businesses next Tuesday evening - PLEASE REGISTER****



YOUR VOICE YOUR MELKSHAM SHAPE YOUR TOWN



REMINDER - CONSULTATION STARTS SOON



PUBLIC CONSULTATION EVENTS

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Come to the Melksham Community Campus for an exhibition of display boards with a chance to chat in-person

THURSDAY 9TH FEBRUARY 4pm-7pm

FRIDAY 10TH FEBRUARY 11am-5pm

SATURDAY 11TH FEBRUARY 10am-12 noon

Consultation boards will then be on display in the campus and town hall from early February to early March.

Where you will be able to comment directly on proposals.

STAKEHOLDER EVENT


Tuesday 7th February. For town centre businesses focusing on the town centre masterplan
Register your interest at linda.roberts@melksham-tc.gov.uk 01225 704187

**HEAR MORE ABOUT THE PLAN IN THE
CELEBRATE MELKSHAM PODCAST**

Melksham Without Facebook Post – 31 January 2023




Melksham Neighbourhood Plan
Community

 Send Message



Melksham Neighbourhood Plan

26 January · 

Last night's Steering Group meeting, looking at everything that is forming part of the upcoming community consultations..... lots of volunteers working hard to shape the town and villages that they live in.

Come and have your say - consultation at the Campus on Thurs 9th, Friday 10th and Sat 11th Feb at different times. See details in the Melksham News this week.

Melksham Neighbourhood Plan Facebook Post – 26 January 2023

Melksham Town Council
Published by Melksham TC Staff · 8 February ·

What an amazing turn out last evening from lots of town centre businesses at the stakeholders consultation event.

The Town Centre Master Plan Exhibition is open to the public for three more days this week.

Do you want to influence what happens to your town centre?

What should be protected?

What can be changed ?

Come to the Melksham Community Campus for an exhibition of display boards, maps and a chance to chat in person on :

THURSDAY 9TH FEBRUARY 4PM - 7PM
FRIDAY 10TH FEBRUARY 11AM - 5PM
SATURDAY 11TH FEB 10AM - 12 NOON

Consultation boards will be then be on display in the campus and town hall until early March where you will be able to comment directly on proposals.

[#melkshamneighbourhoodplan](#)



Melksham Town Council Facebook Post – 8 February 2023