

Locality Application for Neighbourhood Planning Funding

Details of Applicant

Shaftesbury Town Council

How long have you been working on your neighbourhood plan

6-12 months

What is the target date for completing your Neighbourhood Plan and submitting it to the Local Authority

Sept 2014

Neighbourhood Plan area or name

The Shaftesbury, Melbury Abbas & Cann Neighbourhood Area was approved by North Dorset District Council at its Cabinet meeting 16th September 2013

Evidence Base Comments:

A post it note exercise was conducted at 3 engagement events and comments have been analysed into broad areas. However we believe a robust approach is needed and we would like to have a Consultant to advise us on the best way of doing this.

Community Engagement Comments:

Several community engagement exercises have been performed. The views and opinions of the local community have been collected. However, a more rigorous approach is required and we need expertise to help us plan and implement this.

Writing Policies

We need professional help with this.

Issues and Aims Comments:

We need professional help with this.

What is the population of the proposed or designated neighbourhood area to be covered by the neighbourhood

9000

What issues do you think the plan will need to address:

Housing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Housing
Town centres and/or retail <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Town centres and/or retail
Economy and Employment <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Economy and Employment
Transport <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Transport
Natural environment <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Natural environment
Built heritage <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Built heritage
Design <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Design
Community facilities <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Community facilities
Other <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other
Too early to say <input type="checkbox"/>	Too early to say

Comments on Issues

Shaftesbury is a hilltop town in rural North Dorset and we want conserve the the character while providing a viable economic environment.

If yes, how much housing is needed?

500 houses over the next 3 years, 2013 - 2016.

Please provide details on special habitat or landscape designations

Site based studies will be required for these sites including a landscape assessment to evaluate the potential impact on the setting of the nearby Cranborne Chase and West Wiltshire Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB).

Comments regarding developer interest

There is land to be developed at the site known as Hopkins Land, to the south of Wincombe Business Park and land west of the A350 opposite Wincombe Business Park. This is basically extending the existing eastern development to the North of Shaftesbury.

Do you have any cash resources that you would use to support the production of the neighbourhood plan?

Currently there is no cash but requests have been made to Shaftesbury, Melbury Abbas & Cann Councils to contribute towards this Plan.

If support is available, please provide details on which groups/organisations are supplying it?

Shaftesbury Town Council - have helped with the initial administration for designating the area Shaftesbury Task Force, which is a Community Partnership - general admin support

What type of support do you need?

Although some initial consultation exercises have been performed, we now need professional help to create a project plan (and conduct more extensive community engagement programmes). The group also require specialist support with identifying and writing policies, which will eventually lead to the final Plan.

Please describe how this help would help you to move forward?

The volunteers, although enthusiastic, do not have the appropriate skill set to drive the project forward.

If you are applying for funding to get started on your Neighbourhood Plan please complete the following table with the activities to be undertaken and their associated costs. Please also specify the start date and end date of these activities.

Develop a website	
one off fee	£1000
Undertaking a household survey –	
Design of survey, and distribution to households	£3000
Develop a project plan	
2 days consultancy time @ £500 per day	£1000
Policy writer	
Engage Planning Expert - 2 days @ £500 per day	£1000
Support for site allocations, 6 week pre-submission consultation	
2 days consultancy time @ £500 per day	£1000
Total	£7000

Please explain why this grant is needed.

The grant is needed so that we can access expert help to progress our Neighbourhood Planning application.

Please explain how it will help your neighbourhood plan to move forward.

There is insufficient expertise within the Group. The grant will enable professional help so that we can develop a project plan and implement it in the right way.

If you are commissioning expert support, please give details of the name, qualifications and professional memberships of the person(s) you intend to use where known. If you are commissioning expert support, please give details of the name, qualifications and professional memberships of the person(s) you intend to use where known

We will use consultants approved by Locality - if there is an approved list we would appreciate advice.