

Malpas Consultation Statement. 24 April 2025

This Consultation Statement is a summary of the community consultation that was undertaken in reviewing and revising the Malpas Neighbourhood Plan.

In July 2019 Malpas Parish Council to the decision to review the neighbourhood plan to bring the area covered into line with the revised parish boundary and a group was formed with the objective of reviewing the plan.

From the outset the objective was to ensure that the revised Neighbourhood Plan reflected the current views and priorities of the local community.

To this end, various public open meetings were held to gather this information. In addition, the Neighbourhood Plan group reported on its progress at every Parish Council meeting to keep people informed of our progress. The minutes of all meetings are available online at the Parish Council's website, paper copies are put on their notice boards. Until the demise of the Parish News reports was also published there.

A meeting was held to review CWAC's Shmar, housing density, local plan and to decide whether to include specific sites in the review and which ones if any they should be. The consensus of the meeting was that Malpas didn't need any more development and if it had to have some then Chester Road would be the preferred location. The proposed housing density was deemed not to be in keeping with Malpas and its rural location.

A public consultation was undertaken on 16 November 2024 at Jubilee Hall from 9am 12noon to canvas local opinion. Every property in the Parish received a leaflet with details of the event, it was published online, and posters were placed around the village. This event was well attended, and we gained valuable feedback both on the day, and by emails from people unable to attend on the day or wishing to add further comments. A decision was made not to hand out a questionnaire which could influence the feedback. Instead, everyone was given a blank piece of card and encouraged to write down their own thoughts on how the plan should be revised. They were also given the opportunity to go away and think about it and to return their response later. Appendix A contains a summary of the responses received.

Using the replies and commissioned reports we were able to produce a draft Neighbourhood Plan in March 2025. Again, every property was leafleted to inform residents of the public consultation posters were placed all over the village in local business and noticeboards. The consultation covered the six-week period from 31 March 2025 to 16 May. The consultation period was extended to consider all the Bank Holidays.

Copies of the revised Plan together with the specially commissioned reports (Malpas Design Guides and Codes, Malpas Housing Needs Assessment, Protecting and enhancing the Natural Environment and Malpas Housing Need Report) were all available online at Malpas' Parish Councils website. Paper copies were placed in the Library at Bishop Heber High School.

The statutory bodies, local schools and groups were all notified by email of the consultation and where the documents could be viewed. (see appendix A).

Drop-in sessions were held on 29 April, 3 May at the Jubilee Hall in Malpas and The Parish meeting on 24 April at the Malpas Community Church. These sessions were well attended by a good cross section of the community reflecting differing viewpoints. The ward councillor attended as did our MP. The Plan was also discussed at Parish Council meetings.

All the feedback received was considered, and amendments made where appropriate. (See Appendix A for summary of feedback).

Throughout the neighbourhood plan revision process there have been ongoing help and support from CWAC officers particularly Catherin Morgetroyd, and Rachel Williams are ward Councillor.

Appendix A

List of statutory Consultees

List of local organisation and schools consulted

Summary of responses from consultation on 16 November

Summary of responses received from public consultation (31 March-16 April 2025)