

We had applied for a new grant of £4500 but due to time constraints, ie it has to be spent in six months or by 31st March, whichever is sooner, we revised the application to £2500. This has now been approved and we will apply for a further grant in April. The draft plan is quickly taking shape and the Call for Sites has gone into February's Offa Tree News and on the noticeboards and website. Forms are available from Marion. It was again stated that the HC 5Year Land Supply (5YLS) is not enforceable and if APC can show that it has tried and failed to meet its minimum target of 33 dwellings, then the oversupply of numbers in neighbouring parishes should be taken into consideration.

HC have indicated that the current settlement boundary for Almeley should be reviewed and it was confirmed that we can identify Local Green Spaces and important amenity areas within this. This has become very relevant in relation to the sale of the commons and dingles. It was also pointed out that land in certain areas would not be accepted for development – people clearly stated in the questionnaires of 2005 and 2014 that they do not want building in the conservation area which had been created in 1986.

Since Woonton does not currently have a settlement boundary, it was agreed that the views of Woonton residents should be taken on board particularly in light of the scale of recently approved developments and the fact that there is no public drainage in Woonton.

Data Orchard, the NDP planning consultants, emphasised that any site put forward must meet the three fundamental criteria of Available, Achievable (viable) and Suitable. A hierarchy of desirable points will be used to evaluate proposed sites..

To date no land has been put forward in and around the Settlement areas of Almeley and Woonton although some sites had come forward in other areas of the parish in the call for land process. These are being reviewed independently by our planning expert who is dealing directly with those land owners who have come forward.