**Meeting Thursday 17th November at Hillside House, Baltonsborough**

Present :

Steven Everitt (Chairman Baltonsborough Parish Council)

Kevin Sherrard (Vice Chairman Baltonsborough Parish Counci)

Nina Richards (Head MDC Housing Policy)

John Meeker (Head MDC Planning Policy)

Angela Roberts (Clerk)

The meeting opened at 7.30pn by kind permission of Steve Everitt who had offered a venue for the meeting.

Primarily Nina Richard & John Meeker had contacted Steve Everitt (Chair of the Parish Council) for brief discussions with an exchange of ideas regarding housing in Baltonsborough.

Both Steve & Kevin stressed at this point that this was in no way an official meeting and that any opinions they expressed were personal to them and did not reflect the views of the Parish Council or village residents.

Both Nina Richards & John Meeker accepted this.

John Meeker gave brief background details regarding how Mendip District Council see the way forward to fall in line with the Mendip Local Development Framework Core Strategy (Draft plan for consultation – Preferred Option Stage).

~~Farmers~~ *Landowners* with pieces of land in the area have had the opportunity to promote pieces of land which may become available for housing. These are then investigated for suitability e.g. drainage, access etc. and shortlisted. The council would then ‘promote’ these options for future consideration.

In the LDF which was last updated on the 31st March 2011 it suggested that 45 homes would need to be built before 2026. Of these 17 home had been considered and passed and are in the course of construction. This would leave 28 homes over the next fifteen years. The LDF would not be officially adopted until next year but no significant changes are expected.

The recent Baltonsborough Parish Housing Needs Report highlighted that 10 properties would need to be built to meet affordable housing in the village.

~~Nina &~~ John had produced a map of the area showing the areas ~~which~~ where MDC *believed* *landowners would consider development* ~~would promote for development~~(please see attached). ~~These~~ There were numbers ~~and~~ cross-referenced to ~~a list of~~ planning applications *and land offered* ~~passed and in the pipeline~~ in Baltonsborough (see attached).

On this list was an area cross referenced as BAL003a (land adjacent to Church Lane (south).

This ~~is the~~ area (BAL0003a) *had been proposed to Mendip~~is~~* ~~generally being discussed in Baltonsbough~~ as the land owner had made it known that this area is under consideration and has had a draft sketch drawn up. This would also include plans to convert/move the village shop, provide an amenities area etc.

Steve & Kevin felt that this item should have come to the notice of the Parish Council before becoming public knowledge. Both Nina & John stressed that these were merely options that the owner devised, there are no plans submitted and no plans as to when and if this development would happen if at all.

Concerns over this particular site *were* raised but these were personal views and could not be taken as any indication of the final outcome should a planning application be presented.

Other issues were raised regarding the Flower and Hayes development BAL018 and BAL002. Both these sites had ongoing problems with the planning applications regarding affordable housing issues and industrial units which were originally included in the first planning application and as yet have not been built.

Nina & John confirmed that no planning would be permitted outside the blue line on the map provided. Once the target of 45 new homes had been met - applications could be considered but could not be included in the overall target plan(45)option on the LDF.

Discussion over the value of a Local Village Plan - both Nina & John are in favour of the Parish carrying out this type of survey / plan. It could actively be linked into the LDP Core Policy 5 and also *to* ~~in~~ the Localism Bill (which was passed on the 16th November). Parish Plans ~~and~~ would be taken into consideration on planning applications and other issues affecting the village.

We were advised : BAL001 Talbots Orchar~~e~~d, Ham Street. had been received and information would be sent out shortly.

:BAL010 Land North of South View, Martin Street would be going to appeal.

Nina & John stressed that there was no hidden agenda for this meeting and it had been called to get

A general opinion of these sites.

Steve & Kevin expressed once again that any comments made this evening were personal views.

The meeting closed 7pm.