

Comments from villagers in response to the following:

Tibberton Parish Council is considering putting together a draft Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) containing a range of policies including housing, community facilities, economy, green spaces and planning contributions.

To start the process, **you are invited to contribute to an initial aspirational/scoping/feasibility document for Tibberton.**

Question you could comment on:

- What, where and how much development would you want to see in Tibberton over the next 20 years?
- What, where or which facilities are needed, perhaps green spaces, footpaths/footways/roads, housing, planting, signs?
- What should be important to Tibberton in the future?

Notices were published in the Parish Link, the village website, NextDoor social media forum and by email.

The following comments were received from villagers during August to November 2020.

The comments have been lightly edited to ensure clarity and maintain anonymity.

1. We suggested that Tibberton could be part of such a hub, comprising in addition: Taynton, Rudford and Highleadon. This increases both the physical area and population within the hub; important for at least two reasons:
 - a) It is of critical importance that the NDP teams include young people who will actually be affected by the decisions and should be motivated and involved in the decision making. (With respect to everyone currently involved, we more elderly people are making suggestions and plans which many will not live to see come to fruition).
 - b) The enlarged area will assist in location of sites for wind turbines and solar panels - an example of the latter can be seen at Malswick.
2. The move to electric power:
 - a) It is Government policy that fossil fuelled vehicles be phased out within the next two decades. Apart from the bigger question of how sufficient fuel will be available when derived only from wind and solar; electric charging points will be required in sufficient numbers to provide power for the size of a population dependant on personal transport for work, editedshopping and pleasure.
 - b) Not every home will be able to provide an individual source of supply, additionally there will be vehicles passing through whose drivers will find they need to recharge their battery. In order to meet these demands a recharging provision will be required. Villages in close proximity could share the facility, this should make the location of charging points easier to provide.
3. New Housing:
 - a) It is stated Government policy to encourage increased housing stock in the countryside.
 - b) The enlarged area of the suggested hub and geographical position provide greater opportunity, scope and no doubt demand. In the light of the proposed "new town" at Churcham, a proportion of new comers would prefer more rural housing as opposed to 'town' and will no doubt look to surrounding villages.
4. Health Facilities:

The Government policy of increased housing provision in rural areas (which would also fit in with the current desire for many people to move from urban to rural living in order to Work from Home) then provision should be made for a health centre within the hub.

5. Public Transport:

It is suggested that electric only vehicles will remain highly priced and not within everyone's reach, therefore scope for increased public transport or/and Park & Ride could well be a feature of the hub's NDP.

6. Industry:

Small industrial units are more suitable, appropriate and attracted to rural hub communities.

The following points that we feel would enhance village life.

A footpath from Burway Farm to the Muzzle Patch and from Orchard Rise to the road junction to Huntley Lane foot path needs improving.

The village boundary should be increased to allow infill building and a few small developments. What is needed is affordable houses in the 2 to 3 bedroom category so that many more young people and families can stay in the village or move here. Younger generations are needed to carry on with organisations. Bungalows are a priority build for the older generations to move to and free up houses for families.

Bovone Lane and Thorncroft Lane should be upgraded.

As a perpetual problem parking on Orchard Rise needs to be looked at and improved.

Hedgerows and verges are becoming a big problem and needs to be addressed otherwise driving through villages will become more hazardous.

A small recreation area would be nice so that people could sit and meet villagers.

The footpaths are impossible for wheelchair users to use because of overgrown hedges. I am sure someone is paid to cut them but I see no evidence of this. As the village has lots of older people, & the young have disabilities as well, this should be remedied.

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- *What, where and how much development would you want to see in Tibberton over the next 20 years?* Tibberton has no public amenities other than the village hall, plus that at Rudford but even those are closed at present and there is no shop or pub. The bus service is so limited that people are forced to use cars. For those reasons I would be against any further development in Tibberton.
 - *What, where or which facilities are needed, perhaps green spaces, footpaths/footways/roads, housing, planting, signs?* Facilities needed are better public transport – you cannot expect car use to reduce without putting the means in place first (walking and cycling for many older people are out of the question), but should be encouraged for those who are able. Well maintained footpaths are definitely needed and a safe crossing point, for Tibberton (and Rudford) residents to the bus stop on the other side of the B4215, which is a very busy road. Speed calming measures – there is far too much potentially dangerous speeding in Tibberton. Wild flowers on verges and reduced cutting to encourage pollinators.
 - *What should be important to Tibberton in the future?* There should be a strong focus on protecting the environment and reducing pollution by various means, some of which are mentioned above

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1. Keep any NDP simple and focussed and don't try and control everything

2. We are very lucky to live in a lovely village with a mix of older heritage properties as well as modern more practical family housing. I think it will be important going forward to keep this mix, protecting the heritage and aesthetic value of the village, whilst also allowing for expansion and the provision of more family housing.
3. The council could identify areas for infill housing within the envelope of the village and ensure that new developments in those spaces are in keeping with the neighbouring properties, that could work for both old and new properties, meaning development in the identified areas should be sympathetic to what's already there.
4. There needs to be an understanding of whether there is a tipping point for development, at which stage the primary school, the roads, or the sewage systems will start to struggle, and to make sure if that is in danger of being breached that funding and plans are agreed to improve those facilities.
5. In 20 years time there are likely to be a lot more really elderly people in the village (due to the ageing population and improved health care) so having good walkways and footpaths, and perhaps more communal seating along the green areas that exist by the road side would encourage people out of their houses and to exercise / socialise, i guess that would also be useful for young mums with kids too.
6. Going forward it is likely that more people will be working at least partly from home rather than travelling into offices, that being the case the provision of shared green spaces, footpaths, and places to take the kids to safely let off steam will be increasingly important too.
7. It was interesting during lock down how much less traffic was rushing through the village, it would be good to see some sympathetic traffic calming measures introduced to slow vehicles down, especially on the dangerous bends such as by Whitehall Lane, and perhaps restricting the size and weight of vehicles allowed through the village.
8. Improved bus services would be a great help, young adults in the village really need a car at present to be able to get employment and hold down a job, as even the frequency of buses from the main road to Newent isn't sufficient for what will become ever more flexible working and the need to travel to Newent, Ross and Gloucester at times other than 9.00 - 5.00.

What can do locally to respond to the threats of climate change to our community. There is great potential to harness the growing popular awareness of these issues into a local community project. This could provide benefits to both the local community and to the creation of a more diverse local natural environment.

One idea would be the creation of a new area of community woodland. All political parties seem to be waking up to the reality of climate change, the threats to the planet and the importance of planting trees to reduce CO2 levels. A community that is prepared with a plan and an identified suitable site, would be able to attract funding and obtain free trees for such a project. The involvement of local members of the community in tree planting events would have a very positive effect of bringing people together and giving hope, at a time when there is much division and general gloom about the future.
