



**The Pontesbury Neighbourhood Plan** which covers the whole Parish has made significant progress during the last year. Hundreds of responses were received to the detailed questionnaire delivered to every household during the summer. These answers plus the results of an earlier survey will inform the policies of the Neighbourhood Plan, which are designed to influence future development.

Whilst many residents are rightly concerned about the current rate of development this has largely taken care of the housing allocation given to Pontesbury for the period to 2038. National Planning Policy requires Shropshire to take its share of future house building and in turn Pontesbury has to take its share of the county housing target. Changes proposed in Shropshire's revised Local Plan mean that rural areas take a smaller percentage of the development than at present. The revised Local Plan has changed the status of Pontesbury from a joint market town to a community hub which means a lower future housing requirement.

A Neighbourhood Plan cannot contradict national and county guidelines. What it does is give the local community a greater say in the future management of development in terms of such matters as design, amenity and safeguarding views and landscape features. In the coming year residents will have further opportunities to influence the final shape of the Neighbourhood Plan which when completed will entitle the Parish to have a greater share in the money available for local infrastructure improvement.