

DITCHEAT PARISH PLAN – ACTION PLAN 4

Housing

priority: to address concerns raised in the survey about the need for low-cost housing to rent and buy within the parish whilst meeting MDC's housing requirement of 26 dwellings in ditcheat village in the next 13 years without impacting on the orchards

target(s):

- make MDC aware of the type of housing development the community feels is needed when meeting mendip's housing allocation
- preserve the character of ditcheat village and develop in such a way as to integrate both buildings & people, ie small-scale development
- involve the community in identifying alternative sites for development to the orchards

impact/success criteria:

- future housing development is in line with the wishes of the community as expressed in the survey
 - that any development is small scale
 - that land alternative to the orchards is identified & offered for development
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July 2014

What we've done so far

- We've liaised with Mendip District Council who are fully aware of our Parish Plan
- We hand-delivered a flier to all homes in Ditcheat village to ask if anyone has land they want to put forward for consideration for development.
- We received two positive responses which, if accepted by Mendip, could provide enough land to meet Ditcheat's current housing requirement. These remain private until Mendip's Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) is published.

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What happens next

- Mendip District Council will conduct their SHLAA asking for development land in Mendip's 5 major towns, and primary and secondary villages. We decided to ask people throughout Ditcheat village as Mendip will only contact major landowners and land agents. We will need to await the outcome of the SHLAA
 - Mendip's Local Plan has had to go before an Inspector. Our Parish Council has made representations to the Inspector's hearings with the aim of altering Ditcheat village's status from a primary to secondary village. This *could* have an effect on our housing requirement, so we need to await the outcome of the Inspector's enquiry.
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