

Baldock, Bygrave and Clothall Planning Group (BBPlan)
Meeting held on MARCH 15th 2018
Knights Templar School, Baldock.

Following an introduction by the Planning Group's Chair, Andrew Holford, some KTS Year 8 students gave presentations on their views of the development of Baldock. The presentations were based on projects carried out in school and were very inspiring. They all demonstrated wide research into possible consequences of the development and its impact on all our futures. The houses should be built sustainably, incorporating solar panels and with ecological concerns taken into consideration. Retail and leisure needs should to be addressed and charging points for electric vehicles could be included.

The Group gave a presentation on the results of the recent Neighbourhood Survey to which there were 583 respondents. The survey raised several interesting points such as a perception of more need for small affordable, rentable properties than for large houses and a variety of extra ideas were put forward around leisure activities and retail. The survey also confirmed that there are still considerable concerns about infrastructure, particularly roads, which need to be addressed by the NHDC's Local Plan. The results of the Neighbourhood Survey are given in detail at www.bbplan.co.uk.

Groups of attendees took part in discussions on specific concerns highlighted by the survey and which the Neighbourhood Plan might address. The main outcomes of these discussions can also be seen on the website, www.bbplan.co.uk. The next tasks of the group are to hold one or more design workshops on the types of housing which we hope to see in any development. They will then start writing the Neighbourhood Plan itself, based on the research and local views that have been gathered.

For more information about the Design workshops, please visit our stall at the Festival Street Fair on May 19th. There will be an opportunity to discuss your views on what is good and bad design. Please come along and join the action.

The meeting included a brief AGM. The financial report revealed that the group will be in need of more backing to continue its activities. Ideas for raising funds would be welcome and include the possibility of a small subscription for members of the group, now around 300 strong. Attendees were invited to speak to a member of the committee with any ideas or contributions.