

Astley Parish Plan Review May 2019

1. Astley Parish Plan was published in 2014 following a period of research and discussion, in accordance with the requirements of the Localism Act 2011. A steering group with six members guided the Parish through the development of the Plan with extra help from officers and councillors of Shropshire Council. Work started in 2011 with a Rural Toolkit Event and continued as the Steering Group undertook a parish survey to invite comments from all residents, and gathered the results in to the Plan. The main findings from the research were used to form the plan, and these are listed at the bottom of this document.
2. The Plan is ready to be refreshed after five years. The Parish Council has taken advice from Shropshire Council and has used this advice to determine how to undertake this review.
3. In the view of the Parish Council, the Parish remains predominantly rural, and Shropshire Council has stated its intention to retain the classification as '*countryside*'. There have not been significant changes to the nature of the area or its infrastructure.
4. With these facts in mind, the Parish Council decided that the review could be a relatively light-touch refresh, to give local residents an opportunity to say if they think the Plan should be developed, or if the findings from the 2014 Plan are no longer applicable.
5. An invitation was placed on the website to invite local residents to consider the plan. Any comments can be submitted in writing or email, or can be submitted in person at the Annual Meeting of the Parish, when the review of the Plan will be considered.

Astley Parish Plan Survey Findings 2014

6. Local Connections

- Parish Council represented views and interests of the Parish
- Newsletter publicising events, activities and information would be helpful
- Internet access – on whole good however information concerning broadband roll out would be helpful

7. Traffic, Transport and Roads

- Issues to be raised with Shropshire Council, Highways Agency and Police with regard to traffic speed, road safety and road and highway maintenance
- Drainage issues to be raised with Highways Agency to ensure that surface water directed into drains
- Main mode of transport is by means of car with small number of residents using bus services
- Better roads or pathways to bus stops and changes to bus service times may encourage greater use of public transport
- Encourage cycling with designated cycle routes and improved road surfaces in and around Parish
- Approach Village Hall Committee, Dog in the Lane Public House and Parochial Church Council for views on cycle parking at their venues

8. Community Infrastructure and Activities

- Community Assets – The following were suggested: St. Mary's Church, Astley Village Hall and Dog in the Lane Public House
- Lack of communication within Parish – suggestion of Parish Newsletter or website
- Volunteers to organise/assist with Parish activities – names received from Parish Plan Questionnaire – to be contacted
- Village Green/Public Space - discuss viability of pursuing either play area or village green

9. Crime, Safety and Health

- Crime Prevention – Publicise Neighbourhood Watch information and Police/Community Support contacts in Newsletter/website

10. Planning and Development

- No great pressure at time of Survey for housing needs for local people
- Small requirement for alterations/development to existing stock within the Parish
- Retention of Open Countryside designation for Parish
- Significant support for building conversions when considering planning exceptions
- 4 – 5 year review period of Community Led Plan

11. Environment, Footpaths and Bridleways

- Retain rural integrity of Parish – peace and quiet and unspoilt nature of countryside environment
- Litter - organisation of litter picks with residents who have identified themselves as willing to help
- Dog Fouling – community to be made aware of new regulations regarding dog fouling and owners responsibility to 'clean up' – posters, newsletter, PC website
- Communication between PC and community with regard to local agricultural activities – muck spreading, heavy traffic through villages
- Parish Council to publicise its role with regard to access i.e. stiles, footpaths, maintenance of grass verges
- Parish Council to signpost members of community to statutory bodies with regard to flooding, extreme weather conditions
- Support for solar panels in the Parish however none for wind turbines or mobile phone masts
- Footpaths and Bridleways – Parish Council to publicise its role with regard to footpaths and bridleways, provide information (leaflet) showing rights of way, classifications, rights and obligations and who to contact to report problems
- Encourage establishment of working party to improve paths (within legal framework) to include interested parties such as walkers/land owners/occupiers/local councillors
- Support footpath link between Bings Heath and Astley Village

