



BARDSEY CUM RIGTON NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN VILLAGE CONSULTATION – APRIL 2014

Dear Resident,

Much progress has been made towards drafting the Neighbourhood Plan, but much still needs to be done. As you know, the process requires consultation with the community throughout, and this emphasis on real local democracy, embodied in the Localism Act, is very much to be welcomed. It is **your** plan for the future of our community, and can only be implemented with your participation and approval.

Your support has been brilliant, and we need your help again! So please read on, complete the attached short consultation questionnaire and return it in the Freepost envelope provided (or deliver by hand to the Parish Office at the Callister Hall) by Saturday 26th April 2014.

Why We Are Writing To You Now

Your Steering Committee planned to hold a public drop-in meeting on 29th March, as announced in the March issue of Bardsey News. In preparation for the drop-in, we sought a meeting with Leeds City Council to clarify its latest expectations of the Neighbourhood Plan. The meeting was positive and supportive, but some new developments call for further consultation before we hold the drop-in:

- a) LCC's preferred schedule for completing neighbourhood plans in the Leeds area has been considerably relaxed; pending extended public consultation on its SHLAA proposals. It is thus advisable to extend our own programme, so as not to pre-empt the outcome. ***We have the luxury of more time, but the expectation of greater thoroughness.***
- b) As we know, a well constructed Neighbourhood Plan should start with a well considered vision statement! Experience has clearly led LCC to place great emphasis on the quality and representativeness of such vision statements, and on the degree of specific consultation undertaken in producing them. ***We therefore need your feedback on our proposed draft.***
- c) Some potentially challenging issues have become apparent concerning delivery of the required new homes identified by the Housing Needs Survey. ***We need to inform you of these issues and establish your preferences on the options available to us.***

We must have your input to make sure our Neighbourhood Plan meets the requirements of the Localism Act, and therefore passes inspection. ***Much more importantly we need it to make sure we continue to act in accordance with the wishes of the community.***

How You Can Help

Enclosed you will find a copy of the proposed vision statement for Bardsey cum Rigton, together with some explanatory notes on specific terminology. Also enclosed is a summary of the issues arising

from the outcome of the Housing Needs Survey. ***Finally there is a short questionnaire, which should take no more than 10 minutes or so to complete.***

Please let us know your views by completing the questionnaire and returning it to us: either in the Freepost envelope provided, or by hand to the Parish Office at the Callister Hall. Please reply by Saturday 26th April 2014.

Your response will remain anonymous, unless you specifically wish to tell us your name and/or address, in which case please enter it in the comments box.

Further public consultation and the promised drop-in meeting will follow at a future date.

Thank you for your continued and much valued contribution and support.

With Kind Regards,

Bardsey Neighbourhood Plan Steering Committee