Blandford + NP Monitoring Group Meeting
Monday 15th September 2025 at 10.00am
On Teams
MEETING NOTES

1. Welcome and introductions

Cllr Carol Tompsett Chair)
Nicci Brown
Roger Carter
Cllr Alan Cross
Becci Brady
Cllr Terry Clarkson
Cllr Catherine Moxham
Cllr Gail Del-Pinto
Linda Scott-Giles

2. Apologies

Cllr John Dallison
Cllr Margaret Putt
Sue Cowling
Linda Scott-Giles
Cllr Ian Mackay
Cllr Sheila Chapman
Mark Aldis

3. Matters Arising

a. Withdrawal of government grants and the impact on Neighbourhood Plans
Cllr Nick Ireland, Leader of Dorset Council attended a Blandford Forum Town Council meeting on 8th September. He pointed out that there won't be any officer support for reviews and new plans for Neighbourhood plans moving forward. With this in mind the group agreed that our vision needs to be incorporated in the local plan moving forward.

b. Dorset Councils Local Plan Consultation, including social housing allocations, B+NP response (to be shared) and where it leaves our NP
Due to the huge amount of information in the new Local Plan consultation document it was decided that we create specialised groups to cover certain sections within the plan and collate responses from residents and parish councils. Once we have approval we can then formulate a response on behalf of the B+ group. The groups will concentrate on housing, employment, town centre and the Local Transport Plan-

Town Centre: Roger Carter, Nicci Brown, Cllr Catherine Moxham and Cllr Alan Cross. *Questions 24-28 in the Dorset Council Local Plan.*

Housing : Nicci Brown, Roger Carter and Cllr Alan Cross. *Questions 1 to 14, 31 and 32.*

Employment: Terry Clarkson and Cllr John Dallison (if agreed). *Questions 20, 22 and 23.*

Local Transport Plan: Nicci Brown and Cllr Carol Tompsett

Time plan to formulate a response:

- Meet with Cllr Nick Ireland 1st October and pose questions
- Expert groups report back and circulate responses by **Monday 6th October** to member councils and B+ members **by 6th October** and get approval
-Groups to feed information back to Carol by **10th October**
- Carol will then gather and collate responses over the weekend of 11th/12th October
- Dorset Council Deadline is **13th October**

c. Discuss and agree B+NP Vision, including call for sites, for next review

d. Discuss focus and questions in preparation for forthcoming meeting with Nick Ireland on 1st October 2025 (TEAMS)

- How do Dorset Council envisage working with neighbourhood plan groups moving forward now that funding has been cut

- Why have they put us as South-East Dorset and what made them make this decision when so much of our influence is very much in North Dorset

- The Call for other sites

- How are Dorset Council going to support attracting employment to areas like Blandford +

- Discuss infrastructure and the idea of infrastructure being delivered upfront, rather than after the homes have been built.

-Where has the S106 allocations for education and Healthcare for Blandford been spent?

-Why are Dorset council not dealing with current enforcement issues?

e. River Stour Meadows and NDHA listing

It is not listed as a Heritage Asset, Nicci will enter this in the template being worked on.

f. S106 allocations and g. Update from Andrew Galpin regarding Infrastructure provision

Carol has had correspondence with Andrew and asked if there were any The S106 funds available in the area. Andrew says there is currently no funding available. Carol expressed her concerns for funding for health and educations. S106 funding for funding for health goes to NHS Dorset, so it seems they decide how that is spent. It seems that any allocations for education have been to provide extra school places where a need has arisen, a decision was taken by Dorset Council. They are now reviewing this and will see if there is any more money available to give towards healthcare in Blandford area.

Carol asked where all the S106 money has gone, keeping in mind all of the local development we have had in the area. Carol has asked Andrew for further clarification and more detail about where the allocations have been spent

Carol to raise this with Cllr Nick Ireland and our local MP

h. Discuss Christmas get together on 27th November 2025 with neighbouring parishes and responses received so far

Not much response so far but hopefully, now the Autumn months, we may start to get more replies.

Carol Will re-send the invitations out

4. **Update from working group - incorporation of the Infrastructure List and the Monitoring Sheet**

   No Updates

5. **Updates from NDHA Working Groups & new list for Blandford St Mary**
   Nicci has done a great job of Blandford Forum's list. Frank and Carol are in the midst of this for Bryanston. Blandford St Mary have made a small start and have got the ball rolling.

6. **Update on Pro Barber enforcement issue**
   The tenants are yet to remove the signage which Dorset Council asked them to do. Becci is sending weekly emails to the enforcement department at Dorset Council but is currently not getting any response from them. A paper trail is being kept!

   Becci will continue trying to get a response and the group will put this to Cllr Ireland during the meeting on 1st October.

7. **Update on proposed B+NP communique (with Wyatts)**

   No updates

8. **Any other business**
   Nicci Brown has been pursuing 26 East Street which was up for auction and withdrawn twice, Dorset Council say it has been taken off the market for more preliminary legal matters to be decided.

   Nicci has asked Dorset Council what is happening with the EPV points in Langton Road car park and the disabled parking that has been out of use whilst this is under construction. They have now put the new disabled parking in on the other side of the car park. Nicci has not yet had a response about the EPV points.

9. **Date of next meeting**

   Next meeting will be held on teams on Friday 10th October at 10am to discuss the Local Plan consultation response.