



Droitwich Spa Neighbourhood Plan

Newsletter 4, April 2021

This monthly newsletter is designed to keep you in touch with work on the Droitwich Spa Neighbourhood Plan. Please contact us if there is a topic you would like to know more about, or have any questions for us.

Focus on the Transport and Highways Team

Rod Hopkins, Topic Manager for the Transport and Highways Team, has been a Droitwich resident for over six years and was elected to the Town Council in 2019. We would like to introduce to you some of the team working on this interesting topic:

Chris Bowers, working on Footpaths and Pavements
Chris has lived in Droitwich Spa since 1984 and has been actively involved with various community groups ever since. A member of the Wychavon Leisure 50+ Walking Group since 1997, Chris has more recently become a committee member and walks leader. She is also a member of the local Civic Society, and both the History Society and the Historic Droitwich research group. Chris draws on the expertise and experience of others walking in and around the town and out into our local countryside. The need for exercise during the Covid lockdown has seen many more people walking, including young families. This has not only highlighted some local issues but enabled many to benefit from what is good locally. Chris's role is to identify how these pathways may be secured, enhanced and improved during the years up to 2030.

Mike Ford, working on Bus Transport

Mike is a newcomer to Droitwich having moved here from Birmingham, and has a significant history with National Express Travel West Midlands as a Driver Tutor and specialist adviser. Now semi-retired he currently works for Blue Door Logistics involved in WCC Special Needs transportation. He brings diverse views anew without prejudice other than a recognition of practicality and financial viability. Mike believes environmental concerns must be respected above all; that traditional courtesy between people who travel in different ways is crucial where there are shared path/cycleways, roadways and rail access. All should be working together for the benefit of the community in Droitwich. Mike is looking forward to being part of the team working to improve ways of getting around our town and further afield.

Jill Hindle, working on Highways

Jill has lived in Droitwich nearly all her adult life and absolutely loves it here! Jill joined the Royal Navy from college and then became a Publican which meant she travelled a lot, but her heart was always here. Jill set up her Driving School over 30 years ago. When given the chance to help with Highways issues that effect her everyday life, Jill jumped at the opportunity

Other Members of the team. We also have team members working on Trains and Cycling.

Progress Update

We now have a detailed analysis of the residents' survey responses. We are now preparing Project Definition and funding application documents. We've also drafted Terms of Reference for the Town Council Support Group.

Can you help? Or just have your say!

People are urgently needed to help make real progress with the Droitwich Spa Neighbourhood Plan.

We now have many people in place to manage the specific topics of the plan (Topic Managers), but they need assistance in identifying issues and options for their resolution, using information already gathered and the results of the residents' survey. Topic Managers coordinate the work of their helpers. They are not expected to do all the work themselves.

Helpers do not need to be experts. They will have some knowledge or interest in aspects of the topic.

Housing & Infrastructure - Help with this topic in general. Topic Manager is Mike Lambden.

Transport & Highways - Topic Manager is Rod Hopkins.

Environment - Help with this topic in general. Topic Manager is Tony Jones.

Sports, Leisure - Help with this topic in general. Topic Manager is Alan Humphries.

Community Services - We need a Topic Manager.

Heritage and Culture - Help with aspects of this topic. Topic Manager is Margaret Rowley.

Business - We need a Topic Manager.

Special Interests - We need a Topic Manager.

Youth - help with youth issues (from youth and adult perspectives). Topic Manager is Malcolm Wakeman.

We also need help with our web based document library, and document construction.

If you are able to help us, or know someone we could approach, please contact us via email: droitwich.neighbourhood.plan@gmail.com or phone 07766 415094.