



# Wem Rural Parish Council

## Future Development in the Parish Statement

This Statement was adopted by the Council at the Meeting on 2 October 2012.

Planning Policies for Shropshire were required to be reviewed following the creation of the Unitary Council and the demise of the 5 Borough and District Councils and the County Council.

As part of that review between 2009 and 2012, the Parish Council resolved the Parish would be classed as 'Countryside', a classification meaning that no new open market development would be allowed. As stipulated in Shropshire Council's Planning Policies, residential development would be restricted to barn conversions, exception sites for affordable homes and agricultural workers homes.

The Council is astute enough to understand that in the future the choice of whether development takes place in the Parish or not may not be within its power. Therefore it has identified certain objectives to be prepared for such a time. It has also identified settlements in the Parish which, should the residents within the settlements approve, may be considered for further development. The Council may also be willing to consider development close to existing residential sites in the Wem Urban area, that fall within Wem Rural Parish boundary, and that contribute to the sustainability of Wem Town.

The Parish Council will only support development where:

- It maintains and, where possible, enhances the high quality of the rural environment, its appearance, tranquillity and bio-diversity.
- It makes a positive contribution to the social and economic wellbeing of the community.
- It achieves a high standard of design and sustainability.

The Parish Council would prefer development to be generally limited to the sympathetic conversion of suitable buildings within or adjacent to settlements, together with proposals which support well-conceived schemes of rural diversification, to avoid a highly dispersed pattern of new building. Away from identified settlements, in the countryside, development should be strictly controlled to protect the countryside for the sake of its intrinsic character and beauty.

Settlements identified:

Aston  
Tilley  
Edstaston

Quina Brook  
Newtown  
Northwood