

# Knighton Neighbourhood Forum

## Update for Knighton Ward Community meeting

Knighton Forum has made significant progress since the last Ward Community meeting in November.

In December the **Open Spaces Working Group** met to discuss feedback provided from a meeting with Council officers. We are currently redrafting our Open Space policies in the light of the comments and suggestions received and gathering the supporting evidence we will need.

Our Transport Survey closed in December with 134 responses and the next step is to generate transport policies that are supported by the evidence of our survey. The **Transport Working Group** met in January to discuss the survey results and met again in February to discuss proposed policies. A further meeting is scheduled for March after which we will be looking to table our proposed transport policies at a meeting with Council Planning officers.

In January Steering Group members and our Planning Consultant Paul Tebbitt presented draft **Housing and Planning** policies to Council Officers. Our policies were well received and the Council provided some helpful advice about further evidence and documentation we will need to include in our Neighbourhood Plan.

The first meeting of a **Conservation and Heritage Working Group** was held at the end of January. This group will identify heritage assets in Knighton, namely buildings of historic, architectural or cultural importance. A first walk around Knighton was organised for 15<sup>th</sup> February and further walks are planned. The Working Group will meet next on 28<sup>th</sup> February.

On 18<sup>th</sup> February Knighton Forum held a well-attended open public meeting on Flood Risk Management. Our guest speaker was the Council's Flood Risk Manager, Philip Thompson and his presentation was followed by a wide-ranging and lively discussion. At this meeting we also discussed a proposal from Adlington for the development of the former Mary Gee Houses site. The meeting unanimously agreed that this development of 100 luxury apartments for over-55s is not what the community needs. The Steering Group has been mandated to respond to Adlington, in the light of our draft housing policies and the perceived need for smaller, affordable homes in the area.

Finally, we would like to express our thanks to the Councillors for funding the installation of bike racks outside four local retail premises. The bike racks are now fully installed. We are still hoping to obtain funding for the lease of portable equipment that will enable us to monitor air quality in the Knighton Area. Note that we have received enquiries from individuals in two other, neighbouring wards who have an interest in this issue.

G. Whittle  
26<sup>th</sup> February 2019.