

Neighbourhood Development Plan

In the last Newsletter (October 2013), The Parish Council reported that it had made a formal application to West Berkshire Council to designate the entire Civil Parish of Stratfield Mortimer as the area for a **Neighbourhood Development Plan** (NDP). Stratfield Mortimer's application was the first and so far the only, such application in West Berkshire. West Berkshire Council was legally required to have period of consultation on the proposal which finished during December and we will be advised in early February whether the application has been approved.

The Parish Council also reported that it was drawing up some draft Visions and Objectives for the NDP to match the subject areas covered by the West Berkshire Local Plan, with the intention of taking these to a public meeting in early spring as the first stage in the process. Once these have been agreed then policies will be drawn up. That public meeting will be at **7:30 pm on 20th March in St John's Hall**. An information leaflet will be distributed throughout the Parish about two weeks beforehand. Please make a note of the date as the involvement of the local community **is vital to the success** of an NDP and it is hoped to that both residents and local businesses would wish to attend.