

## **Statement from the Parish Council**

The Parish Council is aware that misleading information about the Modbury Neighbourhood Plan has been circulating in the town. This campaign goes under the name of “Stop the Swap”. The leaflets and associated website are anonymous. The information which is being put out by this group contains numerous distortions of facts, quotes taken out of context and false assertions.

The community should be aware that this is the continuation of a campaign which has been directed at the Parish Council and Neighbourhood Plan Group since the re-consultation on the housing development site proposals of the Neighbourhood Plan which took place last year.

The clear purpose of the campaign is to undermine the proposal for affordable housing on the site east of Ayleston Park. This proposal was included in the first draft of the Neighbourhood Plan in March 2018. It was approved by the community in the detailed reconsultation undertaken in July/August last year and was included in the final version of the Plan which was submitted to SHDC following approval by the Parish Council in January.

We accept that not everyone will agree with all the proposals in the Plan and that everyone has a right to express their opinion in a reasonable way. What is not acceptable is that this anonymous group should seek to persuade the people of Modbury to support their aims through the assertive promotion of misinformation and failure to declare vested interests.

The Plan is now going through its six week consultation, organised by SHDC. This runs until September 14<sup>th</sup>. During this time, you can direct any comments you may have to SHDC at [neighbourhood.planning@swdevon.gov.uk](mailto:neighbourhood.planning@swdevon.gov.uk). Once the consultation period is finished the Plan will be sent to the Independent Examiner whose role is to test whether the plan conforms to conditions set out in the Town and Country Planning Act 1990. The Plan will then be returned to the community for public referendum. At this point you will be able to vote on whether you accept the Plan. Our responsibility is to ensure that you have accurate information on which to base your judgements.

The Parish Council will shortly be circulating leaflets which will give a summary and update of the proposals in the Neighbourhood Plan, and a more detailed review of the housing proposals. We will also be addressing the inaccuracies being circulated. We urge you to consider carefully the information we will distribute to every household and put on the Parish Council and Neighbourhood Plan websites. We trust you to work with us to make the right decision for Modbury.