

Newent Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP)

Appointment of Planning Consultant

Recommendation to Full Council – 27th November 2023

Introduction

Newent's NDP has progressed to the point where a professional planning consultant is needed to assist the Steering Group to take forward the plan through its next stages to the final draft.

Funding for the consultant fees is expected to be sourced from the government's Locality Grant available to NDPs.

Interviews were held for three candidates. The first took place by Zoom as the candidate is based in Lancashire, and two more were held in person, the following day. After the final interview, the ten Steering Group members who were present at the in-person interviews and had been present or watched the recording of the Zoom interview, discussed the merits of the three candidates in detail and at length.

A vote was taken and one candidate received a clear majority of votes cast.

Recommendation

That Newent Town Council approve the appointment of Lee Searles of Andrea Pellegram Ltd to the role of planning consultant to the Newent NDP. Such approval is subject to the receipt of satisfactory references.

Helen Selwood

Interim Chairperson

21/11/2023