## Draft input to Wellesbourne & Walton News – April Edition

At an open forum meeting held in the Village Hall in early February, a resounding vote was taken by the near 150 residents present in favour of supporting the development of a Neighbourhood Plan covering Wellesbourne and Walton. The main incentive for producing such a Plan is that this will have "statutory status" and consequently must be taken into account by Stratford District Council when making any decisions that could have an impact on our village. This will put us in a much stronger position to challenge changes that might otherwise be imposed upon us which we consider to be inconsistent with our declared vision for the future.

A Steering Committee, comprised predominantly of local residents, has now been set up which will be chaired by John Hargis. One of the first tasks of this Committee will be to seek approval from Stratford District Council to embark on the preparation of a Neighbourhood Plan. Once the Steering Committee is given the go-ahead, there will be a period of consultation where the views of all within our community, covering residents, organisations and businesses, will be sought on a wide range of issues. This will require several stages of feedback to ensure that the wishes of our people have been adequately represented as far as might be possible. Thankfully we start from very a good base as we can draw heavily on the work already done in our "Vision4Wellesbourne" Parish Plan and "Village Design Statement".

The intention is that the Steering Committee will provide regular updates on progress in this Newsletter, as well as through other communications channels which will be set up in due course.

If you have any points that you would wish to raise with the Steering Committee then please contact them on mobile 07967 057448 or e-mail <a href="mailto:wellesnep@yahoo.co.uk">wellesnep@yahoo.co.uk</a>.