

KINGTON AREA REGENERATION PARTNERSHIP

HUNTINGTON PARISH

Huntington is a rural parish on the western fringe of Herefordshire against Wales and the character of the countryside and of the people reflect both cultures. It comprises traditional family farms, hobby smallholdings and a scatter of residential properties.

The residents value highly the unspoiled beauty and tranquility of the place and in particular note, as items of special historic and environmental importance, the Castle, the Chapel, the Church and Churchyard, the Centre, the Turret, Rainbow Meadow and the River Arrow and its Water Meadows.

There are three planning issues in Huntington, namely housing, certain types of farm diversification and small businesses run from home. There is no major proposal in the County Plan for housing and the Parish does not want one but there is a desire to allow a very limited expansion of well designed dwellings in the local vernacular scattered around the Parish over a number of years for the family members of long standing residents in the discretion of the Parish Council.

The economics and practices of farming today are changing and participants need to be flexible to meet these needs. Some of these developments are inconsistent with maintaining the traditional aesthetic appearance of the countryside particularly where they affect close neighbours and intrude on the general view character and environment of the landscape. As this Parish particularly values its high landscape quality developments should be constrained in their scale and impact and the Parish Council will have a high regard for these matters.

More and more people are now working from home and it is deemed a desirable development as it brings prosperity to the district with minimal environmental impact. Adaption of dwellings and addition of small ancillary buildings for this purpose should be encouraged. Lack of high speed broadband is at present an inhibitor and every endeavour should be made to provide this throughout the Parish.

The Parish is relatively isolated in the County and its proximity to Kington with its wide range of basic facilities, community and social amenities is a vital ingredient in its ability to survive in a viable and vibrant way so efforts should be made to maintain close links.