

## Neighbourhood Plan—Creating an Evidence Base

- **Why create an evidence base?**  
It draws together existing information about issues that affect local planning and quality life and underpins the policies that we will develop to manage these issues locally.
- **What evidence is there?**  
District/county/parish council reports. WDPS, Wildlife Trust, Natural England, The Environment Agency, local community groups and societies, The Woodland Trust, local businesses.
- **What are the stages?**  
Collect evidence in category areas, identify gaps, seek input from the public, develop policies, seek input from the public on policies developed.
- **What are the issues?**  
Pulling together the research in each category area is labour intensive, even with community group support. Commissioning additional research/info may be expensive and slow. We need to ensure that any additional research commissioned has 'integrity' so that it stands up to scrutiny when considered by the public and community groups.

