**Invitation to a Business Breakfast, 8th July 2014, Eliot House Hotel**

Hello,

You may be aware that Liskeard Town Council has kicked-off the preparation of a Neighbourhood Plan for the town, under the new powers granted under the Localism Act 2011. We can now make a plan at the local level, rather than the future of the town being determined by the Unitary Authority. We want to gather the views of local people, businesses and visitors about what they think is important for Liskeard's future.

On **Tues 8th July 2014** we are inviting business representatives to a Complimentary Breakfast at The Eliot House Hotel to introduce the Plan and focus exclusively on the views of local businesses. We would be very pleased to see you there. More details can be found below, along with a short summary explanation of the Neighbourhood Plan concept.

**Meet at 7.30 am – breakfast is served at 7.45, with round table discussions to follow, enabling you to return to work by 9.00 am**

**RSVP (one representative per business) by Fri 4th July to**: [info@planliskeard.co.uk](mailto:info@planliskeard.co.uk)

**What is a Neighbourhood Plan?**

It gives people like ourselves a real say in how our community develops – the way that land is used for housing, business, shops and leisure. It can also protect green spaces and influence the design of buildings and estates.

Local people play a major role in making the plan. It’s part of their democratic right granted by the Localism Act.

The plan has to be agreed through a local referendum. It may take up to 2 years to complete. It will have legal force for the next 20 years, and *must*be followed by Cornwall Council when making planning decisions.

**Why should we care?**

Are we up for taking part in some tough decisions about the future of the town? Things like where housing should go, jobs created, shopping developed and play spaces increased. Or do we let those decisions be made elsewhere?

**The Liskeard Neighbourhood Plan** is this community’s chance to make these important decisions locally, and to strongly influence how future planning applications are decided. The more people that get involved, the better chance there is of making this a brilliant plan for Liskeard!

BUT there is some ‘small print’: the Neighbourhood Plan must be realistic. **It’s not about stopping development.**

**It’s really about making local land-use choices**, which the whole community will have to support through a referendum.

It must also fit within the National Planning Policy Framework, Cornwall’s Local Plan, and accord with European legislation.

**To find out more see the Town Council’s Neighbourhood Plan website:** [**www.planliskeard.co.uk**](http://www.planliskeard.co.uk)