

NETHER STOWEY NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN CONSULTATION STATEMENT



Produced: September 2019

Table of Contents

1	Introduction	3
2	Purpose	3
3	Consultation stages.....	3
3.1	Initial Notification	4
3.2	Questionnaire	4
3.3	Questionnaire Follow up.....	5
3.4	Village Consultation	5
3.5	Regulation 14 Consultation.....	6
4	Parish Council.....	7

1 Introduction

The Nether Stowey Neighbourhood Plan (NSNP) has been prepared in accordance with the Town & Country Planning Act 1990, the Planning & Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, the Localism Act 2011, the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 and Directive 2001/42/EC on Strategic Environmental Assessment. The NSNP establishes a vision for the future of the Parish and sets out how that vision will be realised through planning and controlling land use and development change.

This Neighbourhood Plan is a planning document prepared by Nether Stowey Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group on behalf of the Parish Council and local residents. It is a legal planning policy document and once adopted it must be used by planners at Sedgemoor District Council in assessing planning applications and by developers and applicants as they prepare planning application to submit to Sedgemoor District Council.

As Neighbourhood Plans carry this much influence in planning decisions, the Nether Stowey Neighbourhood plan will be examined by an independent examiner who will check that it has been prepared in accordance with the Basic Conditions that are set out below

- the draft NP must have appropriate regard to national policies and advice contained in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF);
- the draft NP contributes to the achievement of sustainable development;
- the draft NP must be in general conformity with the strategic policies contained in the development plan for the area of the local planning authority, in this case Sedgemoor District Local Plan 2011-2032

Following a successful examination, the NSNP will go to public referendum (which is organized by Sedgemoor District Council) and will be adopted if approved by a simple majority of votes (i.e. over 50% of those voting) in the local referendum.

2 Purpose

This is a record of the consultations that have been carried out in the course of the creation of the Nether Stowey Neighbourhood Plan.

The Neighbourhood Planning Regulations require that, when a neighbourhood plan is submitted for examination, a statement should also be submitted setting out the details of

- The people and bodies who were consulted about the proposed neighbourhood plan;
- Explain how they were consulted;
- Summary of the main issues and concerns raised by the people consulted;
- How these issues and concerns have been considered and, where relevant, addressed in the proposed Neighbourhood Plan

It is submitted as part of the evidence base for the examination of the plan.

3 Consultation stages

In preparing the neighbourhood plan we had a number of consultation stages which are detailed below

3.1 Initial Notification

Form of Consultation

A leaflet was developed and distributed to every household in the village. This notified villagers that a Neighbourhood Plan was to be produced and informed them that a questionnaire would be available to obtain their input in the near future.

In addition, notices were placed in the Quantock Messenger (the village magazine), on the notice board at The Cross, on the Parish Council Website and there was also a stand at the Village May Fair on 30th April 2016.

Date

The leaflet was delivered to every household in the village between 20th and 22nd November 2015.

Response

A number of villagers volunteered to become members of the Neighbourhood Planning Steering Group and take responsibility for developing the various ‘topic papers’ within the Plan.

Associated Documentation



NSNP Initial
leaflet.pdf

3.2 Questionnaire

Form of Consultation

A questionnaire was developed to solicit input from as many residents of the Parish as possible. Copies of the questionnaire were distributed to every household in the village as well as copies being made available in the Parish Office.

Date:

The questionnaire was distributed during a 1-week period in July 2016.

Publicity

- Item on the Nether Stowey Parish Council web site
- Poster in the window of Nether Stowey Parish Council office
- item in the local community magazine “Quantock Messenger”

Responses Received

A total of 268 completed questionnaires were received.

Issues raised

The issues raised in the questionnaire responses were used in the development of the ‘topic papers’ of the NSNP.

Associated Documents

A copy of the questionnaire can be found at:

<http://netherstowey-pc.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/NP-Questionnaire-ref-version.pdf>

A copy of the resultant report can be found at:

<http://netherstowey-pc.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/NSNP-Questionnaire-Report.pdf>

3.3 Questionnaire Follow up

Form of Consultation

A leaflet was distributed to every household in the village informing them that the responses to the questionnaire had been received and collated and that copies of the report were available from the Parish Office, the library or for download from the Parish web site. In addition, copies of the report could be delivered to households on request.

Date

The leaflet was delivered to every household in the village in June 2017

Associated Documentation – Advertising leaflet.



Flyer 2.pdf

3.4 Village Consultation

The first village consultation was a stall at the village May Fair on 29th April 2017 at which draft objectives and policies were shared and commented upon.

Further, 'Community Drop in' sessions were held in May 2018 at the library. There were stalls with displays for each theme giving information and asking for views on the vision, themes, aims and objectives.

Dates

- Friday 13th April 2018, 1000 – 1200
- Friday 13th April 2018, 1500 - 1830
- Saturday 14th April 2018, 1000 - 1200

Publicity

- Production of a leaflet which was delivered to every household in the village
- Placing a copy of the leaflet on the village notice boards
- An article in the village magazine, the Quantock Messenger
- A copy of the leaflet placed on the Parish Council web site
- A larger copy of the leaflet placed in the village library
- Copies of the leaflet made available in the Parish Council office

Associated Documentation – Advertising Leaflet

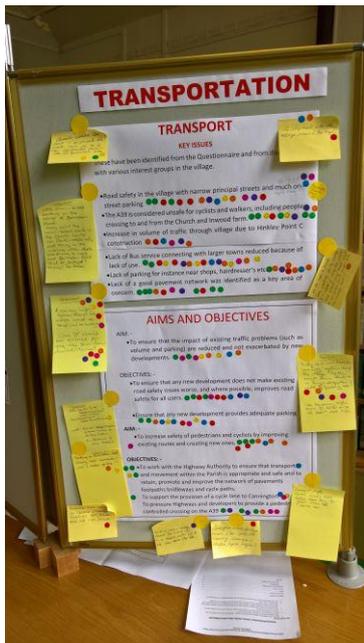


NSNP consultation event.pdf

Issues raised

Attendees to the event were invited to provide feedback on the draft Objectives and Policies by the use of 'smileys' to indicate their agreement or disagreement with the drafts. In addition, they were also encouraged to provide comments on the various topics and themes by the use of post-it notes.

Some images are shown below for clarity.



Report

A report of the event has been produced and can be found at:

<http://netherstowey-pc.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/Consultation-Event-Report.pdf>

All responses, comments, etc were reviewed by the Steering Group and were incorporated into the evolving NSNP

3.5 Regulation 14 Consultation

Form of Consultation

Regulation 14 consultations are mandatory and must include, in addition to residents of the parish, any organisations or bodies potentially impacted by the evolving Neighbourhood Plan.

In the case of Nether Stowey, the organisations and bodies contacted and invited to comment are listed in the document embedded below.



NSNP R14
Consulted Organisa

Dates

The dates of the Nether Stowey Regulation 14 consultation were from Saturday 14th September to Thursday 31st October.

During the consultation period there was a display of the NSNP in the Parish Council office and there were also three 'meet the team' events in which members of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group were available to discuss the Plan and answer any questions from visitors.

Visitors to the 'meet the team events' were surprisingly low, a total of 15 villager attended the events.

Publicity

- Production of a leaflet which was delivered to every household in the village
- A copy of the leaflet was placed on the village notice boards
- An article in the village magazine, the Quantock Messenger (September 2019)
- A copy of the leaflet placed on the Parish Council web site
- Leaflets were placed in the village library
- Leaflets made available in the Parish Council office
- E-mails sent to all potentially impacted organisations and bodies.

Associated Documentation – Advertising Leaflet

The following leaflet was distributed to all households in the village and was placed in various locations throughout the village.



Flyer for
Consultation Sept 2

4 Parish Council

Throughout the time the Neighbourhood Plan was in development, the Parish Council web site provided up-to-date copies of the draft Plan and the Parish Council office has always had an open door policy for anyone to call in with questions or for additional information /clarification as well as offering to assist with completion of the questionnaire detailed in section 3.2 above.

In addition, monthly reports of progress were made at Nether Stowey Parish Council meetings throughout the period of the NSNP production.