Neighbourhood Plans: **DECISION STATEMENT**

24 February 2022



STINSFORD NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN 2021-2038

Dorset Council is satisfied that the Stinsford Neighbourhood Plan 2021-2038, as modified, meets the basic conditions, is compatible with the Convention rights and complies with the definition of a neighbourhood development plan.

A referendum will therefore be held on the 5 May 2022.

<u>Background</u>

The Stinsford Neighbourhood Area was designated by the former West Dorset District Council on the 19 September 2017 in accordance with Part 2 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (the 'Regulations'). The relevant body is confirmed as Stinsford Parish Council and the designated neighbourhood area covers the Stinsford civil parish.

In September 2021 Stinsford Parish Council submitted its draft neighbourhood plan and supporting material to Dorset Council¹. Dorset Council was satisfied that the documents submitted met the requirements of Regulation 15 of the 'Regulations'. The Parish Council was notified of Dorset Council's conclusion and informed that the plan could proceed to examination.

The submitted documents were made available for consultation from 13 October 2021 until 24 November 2021 and an independent examiner, Andrew Mead MRTPI MIQ, was appointed to examine the Plan. The examiner's report was received on 2 February 2022.

In summary, the examiner's report concluded that the Stinsford Neighbourhood Plan 2021-2038 would meet the basic conditions and other legal requirements, subject to his recommended modifications as set out in Appendix A of this decision statement.

Dorset Council has considered each of the recommendations and modifications contained in the examiner's report. In considering the conclusions of the independent examiner, Dorset Council agreed that the legal requirements and basic conditions had been met. The referendum version of the neighbourhood plan agreed by Dorset Council includes the examiner's recommended modifications as set out in Appendix A of this document.

Dorset Council is therefore satisfied that the plan as amended...

- (i) meets the basic conditions (as set out in Schedule 4B to the Town & Country planning Act 1990); and
- (ii) is compatible with the Convention rights (within the meaning of the Human Rights Act 1998); and
- (iii) complies with the provision concerning Neighbourhood Development Plans made by or under Sections 38A and 38B of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, and

¹ On 1 April 2019 the county's nine councils were replaced by two new organisations. Dorset Council became the local authority for the area previously covered by West Dorset District Council.

...can now proceed to a referendum.

The area covered by the Stinsford Neighbourhood Plan 2021-2038

The neighbourhood plan area covers the civil parish of Stinsford only.

Details of the Neighbourhood Plan Referendum

The independent examiner considered that it was appropriate for the referendum to be held over the neighbourhood area. The referendum will therefore be held over the neighbourhood area, being the same area as the civil parish of Stinsford.

Information about the referendum will be published on the Council's website and made available for inspection no fewer than 28 days before the referendum.

Where to find more information...

Copies of this decision statement, the examiner's report and the neighbourhood plan can be viewed online at: <u>Stinsford Neighbourhood Plan - Dorset Council</u>

Appendix A: Modifications from Examiner's Report

Appendix: Modifications

Below are the recommendations and modifications taken from the Examiner's Report.

Note: Additions are shown in **bold** and deletions are shown in strikethrough or described.

Proposed modification no (PM)	Page no./ other reference	Modification
PM1	Policy SNP2	Add a final bullet point: " - new roads should be tree lined, unless there are compelling reasons to the contrary."
PM2	Policy SNP3	Delete the second sentence and replace with: "The characteristics of the river valley pasture landscape (including those characteristics identified in Table 2), which provide the setting for Dorchester and the Stinsford river valley settlements, should be respected." Replace Figure 2 of the Plan with the new Figure 2 submitted
		by SPC on 8 January 2022.
PM3	Policy SNP5	Delete the first sentence. Amend the second sentence to: " (as shown on Figure 4 and described in Table 4)".
		Replace Figure 4 and Table 4 with those submitted by SPC on 8 January 2022.
		Retitle the submitted Figure 4 as "Important Local Views".
		In the submitted Figure 4, replace the term "Local Views" in the key with "Important Local Views".
PM4	Policy SNP10	Criterion iii). Delete: "(significantly above that required by Building Regulations)."
PM5	Policy SNP12	Add to the end of the policy:
		"Regard should also be had to the National Design Guide and the National Model Design Code."

Examiner's note: A consequence of the acceptance of the recommended modifications would be that amendments would have to be made to the explanation within the Plan in order to make it logical and suitable for the referendum. These might also include incorporating factual updates, correcting minor inaccuracies, revising any references to the NPPF (2021) with updated paragraph numbers, or text improvements suggested helpfully by DC. The amendments could also include the additional non-designated heritage asset near Eweleaze Barn suggested in representations² and any clarification of the development of the Kingston Maurward Masterplan (Project P4). None of these alterations would affect the ability of the Plan to meet the Basic Conditions and could be undertaken as minor, non-material changes.³

² Regulation 16 representation by Linda Poulsen; response by SPC on 8 January 2022.

³ PPG Reference ID: 41-106-20190509.