

STURMINSTER MARSHALL NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN



CONSULTATION STATEMENT

NOVEMBER 2023

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INTRODUCTION

This Consultation Statement summarises all the statutory and non-statutory consultation that has been undertaken with the community and other relevant statutory bodies and stakeholders in developing the Sturminster Marshall Neighbourhood Plan (NP). It describes how concerns have been addressed and what changes have been made to the final Plan as a result of the pre-submission consultation. It also demonstrates that the Neighbourhood Plan has been developed on the basis of wide and thorough community engagement. In line with the neighbourhood planning regulations, it:

- (a) contains details of the persons and bodies who were consulted about the proposed neighbourhood development plan or neighbourhood development plan as proposed to be modified;
- (b) explains how they were consulted;
- (c) summarises the main issues and concerns raised by the persons consulted; and
- (d) describes how these issues and concerns have been considered and, where relevant, addressed in the proposed neighbourhood development plan or neighbourhood development plan as proposed to be modified.

GENERAL APPROACH TO CONSULTATION

The Steering Group researched existing plans and survey material, carried out new surveys, held public consultation events, and liaised with households, landowners, local businesses and community groups. It also engaged consultants to prepare reports on particular issues, such as a Housing Needs Assessment, Site Assessments, Strategic Environmental Assessments and Design Guidance. The Group met together regularly with Sturminster Marshall Parish Council representatives to report and discuss their findings. Guidance was also sought from Dorset Council.

News about the Neighbourhood Plan and meeting agendas and minutes were posted regularly on the bespoke website and Facebook page : www.Neighbourhood Plan - Sturminster Marshall Parish Council (sturminstermarshall-pc.gov.uk) and <https://www.facebook.com/SturminsterMarshallNeighbourhoodPlan/>

News items were also posted on local noticeboards. The Bridge and the Red Post (local magazines delivered to every household in the parish until recently), notices on local notice boards and banners were used to provide updates to the local community and, in particular, to notify residents of forthcoming consultations. Two parish councillors who live within the Almer and Jubilee Cross settlement areas helped spread the word about the Plan and coordinate local consultations.

Residents were welcome at Steering Group meetings, which (except during the “lockdown” period)) were held monthly in the Memorial Hall Sturminster Marshall.

The intention had been to use the Neighbourhood Plan to guide development on allocated sites in line with the Dorset Local Plan. However, following the consultation phase (January – March 2021) the Dorset Local Plan was delayed. This meant we could either put our work on hold for perhaps two years, or progress the Plan with a reduced scope, without identifying how much and where future development should happen. We chose the latter. Once the level of housing and employment in our parish has been decided through the Local Plan (which would require the release of land from the Green Belt), our Neighbourhood Plan will be updated to incorporate detailed policies on the proposed sites.

STAGE 1: INITIAL CONSULTATION: SEPTEMBER 2018

WHAT WAS DONE

In September 2018, Sturminster Marshall Parish Council resolved to prepare a Neighbourhood Plan. An open meeting was held on 18/10/18 and members of the public received a presentation by Simon Trueick (EDDC). Following a further meeting with members of the public on 21/10/18 there was a presentation by John Baker (Buckland Newton PC) to share their experiences of developing a NP. Subsequently attendees were invited to join a Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group.

A Steering Group was set up in February 2019, under the auspices of the Parish Council. During a Parish Council meeting on 7/3/19 and it was agreed the scope of the NP should cover the whole of the parish.

In their letter dated 24 April 2019, Dorset Council accepted our application to designate the entire parish as the Neighbourhood Plan Area.

STAGE 2: CONSULTATION/DROP-IN SESSION TO GATHER ALL ISSUES – 26/9/19

WHAT WAS DONE

After researching existing plans and survey material, members of the public were invited to a drop-in session in the Memorial Hall to view a summary of the initial topics and local issues that were seen as the starting point for the NP (see Appendix A). The 120 attendees were invited to write down their thoughts on the subject matter and these were subsequently analysed and collated and made available in a report posted on the PC website and Facebook page (see link below). A summary of the outputs was also posted in local magazines.

MAIN FINDINGS

A report on the findings from the initial consultation is available online at: http://www.sturminstermarshall-pc.gov.uk/_UserFiles/Files/website%20update%20on%20Consult%20event%20v%20Final.pdf

A number of concerns expressed during the Consultation event were pertinent to different topics already identified by the Steering Group. i.e.. Environment, Amenities, Traffic and Transport, Employment, Youth and Recreation, and Housing and Development. The first five of these headings had some feedback regarding issues that might need addressing irrespective of whether further housing development occurs and a NP is completed. It was agreed that the scale and patterns of development will, however, have implications for all aspects of the parish environment and infrastructure.

HOW THESE ISSUES AND CONCERNS WERE CONSIDERED:

The Steering Group drew on these conclusions in drafting a statement of the vision, aims and objectives for the Neighbourhood Plan, and used those objectives to guide it in gathering further evidence to inform the plan.

STAGE 3A: HOUSEHOLD SURVEY JULY/AUGUST 2020

WHAT WAS DONE

A survey of residents in Sturminster Marshall parish was carried out in July/August 2020 by the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group. The survey was delivered by hand to all 778 households in the parish. It could be completed online or on paper. Residents were encouraged to complete the survey online if possible via "Survey Monkey". Paper questionnaires were provided to those who preferred them, with advice for returning the questionnaire to the parish clerk or local reception points. Paper replies were subsequently

entered online by Steering Group members. The closing date for the survey was set as Monday 21st August 2020 (see Appendix B or link below). 317 replies were received by that date representing approximately 40% of households in the parish.

MAIN FINDINGS

We received a good response from a broad range of age groups and household types with about 90% having most of the questions completed. Therefore, we had a good sample size of opinions on which to base our evidence for the plan. A full report of the survey findings and copy of the survey form used is available online at:

<http://www.sturminstermarshallpc.gov.uk/UserFiles/Files/Household%20Questionnaire%20Summary.pdf>

A summary of the main findings is provided below:

General - A high proportion of respondents (over 60%) have lived in the parish for at least 15 years and many were either born here or had family connections. Others indicated that they were drawn to the area by the proximity of the countryside and their places of work.

Housing - 63% of responses indicated that their housing need was unlikely to change in the next 10 - 15 years and about 25% indicated that they would need to upsize or downsize. Of those families looking to move home, most would prefer to remain in the parish. 12 respondents indicated that their family may require an additional home in the parish (for example adult children may move out) and 43 respondents indicated a demand for housing for families not currently living in the parish who are likely to want to move here. In total, this would indicate a need for at least 55 new homes from people with a local connection. Whilst most people agreed that we need a broad range of homes and more affordable housing, many were against large developments due to strain on the current infrastructure. 55% of respondents would find the current rate of development, up to 5 homes a year on average (up to 75 homes in total) acceptable if continued over the Neighbourhood Plan period.

Employment – Most respondents completed Q18 on Employment the results showed that the majority of people travel to work outside of the Parish.

Traffic & Transport - The questions in this section provided the greatest number of responses and comments. People in the parish are generally reliant on their cars for getting about. Car ownership levels have risen above those predicted when the current parking standards were devised, and the data shows that problems caused by on-road parking, speeding and safety at junctions are clearly an issue in many parts of the parish.

Community Facilities - Respondents were asked to rank the importance of the existing Community Facilities and the results show that, generally all the current facilities are deemed to be very important to the parish. When asked about the top priorities for new facilities, ideas that have previously been raised appeared again i.e. more footpaths / bridleways, Health Centre, allotments and more open spaces for sports and leisure including facilities for youth activities.

Character & Environment – Open spaces within and around Sturminster Marshall village were highly valued, with Churchill Close Green especially being enjoyed by all ages. There was strong support to retain, maintain and improve footpaths to create safe circular walks avoiding roads where possible. People wanted to see cycle routes established and greater access for the disabled and for pushchairs. There was a relatively small number of respondents to the question about what people thought were examples of good development and bad development with two recent developments appearing at the top of both lists. There were fears that overdevelopment might lead to loss of the rural character of the parish. There was overwhelming support for the idea that climate change should be taken into consideration in drawing up policies in the Neighbourhood Plan and many would be interested in a community energy conservation or energy generation project.

Youth - There were three questions aimed at the under-16s age group. Whilst most of the respondents indicated that they liked living in the parish, enjoyed the availability of sports activities, clubs and proximity of the countryside and the coast, there was a common list of suggested improved facilities:

- “Somewhere for the Youth to gather/hang out so we're not in the way e.g. shelter or hut, skate park, youth club, community centre”.

- Multi-use games area, Tennis Court, Improved play area (Zip Line), New Basketball Net, Permanent Football goal with net, Youth Club, Shelter, Skate Park, Cycle Pump Track.
- Need more play equipment in the park for younger children - rocker or smaller slide/climbing frame etc.

HOW THESE ISSUES AND CONCERNS WERE CONSIDERED

The findings provided reassurance on the plan's emerging aims and objectives and provided useful data and insights to inform the drafting of policies.

STAGE 3B: BUSINESS SURVEY

WHAT WAS DONE

All known businesses in the Sturminster Marshall Parish were identified (as far as possible, totalling approximately 130) and received a leaflet inviting them to complete a business survey by 30th October 2020 (see Appendix C). The survey was made available online (via an advertised link to Survey Monkey) or the group could be contacted by email for a paper copy. The total number of completed responses received was 7, a disappointing response rate of approximately 5% possibly reflecting that many businesses on the industrial estates generally have no or very little connection to the village or parish.

MAIN FINDINGS

The business survey results did not identify a clear need for additional employment land over and above that already allocated. From the earlier household survey very few local residents (only 2 of the more than 300 responses) stated a potential need for business premises, and both would be of a scale that could be accommodated within the existing employment sites.

HOW THESE ISSUES AND CONCERNS WERE CONSIDERED

The limited findings provided reassurance on the plan's emerging aims and objectives and provided useful data and insights to inform the drafting of policies.

STAGE 3C: COMMUNITY FACILITIES

WHAT WAS DONE

A Community Facilities survey (See Appendix D) was directed at local service providers operating in the Sturminster Marshall Neighbourhood Plan area, to understand current and future service provision needs. The main contact or representative of community groups within the parish received an email from the Parish Council asking for completed surveys to be returned by the end of November 2020. 31 organisations were contacted with 9 responses to the survey.

MAIN FINDINGS

Consultation with local service providers indicated that the two main halls (Memorial Hall and The Old School) were operating at close to capacity, but that there was a need for extra outdoor sports facilities ie. an extra full size football pitch, a floodlit 3G pitch and a MUGA (multi use games area). It was also reported that the First School needs improvements such as a new school hall and toilets.

Consultation with local residents as part of the Household Survey also identified these needs together with the need for a health centre and allotments. Some residents suggested creating a central shopping area and this is something that will be considered in the next review of the Neighbourhood Plan, when it is clearer the level of development that may come forward through the Local Plan.

HOW THESE ISSUES AND CONCERNS WERE CONSIDERED:

The findings from the Community Facilities Survey and earlier Household Survey provided reassurance on the plan's emerging aims and objectives and provided useful data and insights to inform the drafting of policies.

However, as a result of the identified need for new health care facilities, members of the Steering Group met with a representative from NHS Dorset about the possibility of siting a new medical centre in the village. The conclusion of the meeting was that the size of the village would not warrant a new health centre and these would be concentrated in more populated areas.

STAGE 3D: CALL FOR SITES – OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2020

WHAT WAS DONE

Following Dorset Council's Call For Sites in October 2019 (sites with a capacity for 10 dwelling or more), we carried out our own survey in October/November 2020 seeking small parcels of land with a capacity for 1-10 new dwellings. Landowners, local businesses, developers and land agents were contacted by email and advised where to obtain a Call for Sites Application Form. The survey was also advertised in local magazines and on noticeboards. Emailed responses had to be returned to the Parish Clerk by 27/11/20

MAIN FINDINGS

14 responses were received from landowners and 2 from land agents.

The two lists of sites from Dorset Council and the Neighbourhood Plan were amalgamated and all (22no.) were evaluated by AECOM who produced a Site Options Assessment Report. The final report produced in June 2021 is available to view at: http://www.sturminstermarshall-pc.gov.uk/UserFiles/Files/Sturminster%20Marshall%20Site%20Options%20and%20Assessment_Final%20Report-compressed.pdf

The site assessment found that of the 22 sites considered 2 were suitable for allocation in the Neighbourhood Plan; 13 were potentially suitable subject to the mitigation of various constraints and/or consultation with Dorset Council. The remaining 7 sites were not suitable for allocation in the Neighbourhood Plan due to significant constraints.

HOW THESE ISSUES AND CONCERNS WERE CONSIDERED

Following Dorset Council's decision to delay issuing the next version of the Local Plan the Steering Group decided to progress the Neighbourhood Plan without allocating sites. Therefore, the outputs from the site assessments have not been carried forward to the Neighbourhood Plan. Once Dorset Council decide what land to allocate for development, parishioners will be consulted and the Neighbourhood Plan will be updated accordingly.



WHAT WAS DONE

An Options consultation during Autumn 2021 sought to confirm that the Neighbourhood Plan was addressing the issues of most concern to parishioners. The consultation was advertised widely in the local magazine “The Bridge” which is delivered to most households in the parish, as well as on the Neighbourhood Plan pages of the Parish Council website [Neighbourhood Plan - Sturminster Marshall Parish Council \(sturminstermarshall-pc.gov.uk\)](https://www.sturminstermarshall-pc.gov.uk) and the Neighbourhood Plan Facebook page. A flyer was also distributed just prior to the start of the consultation and displayed on local notice boards. The outputs from previous consultations and investigations were presented to the public during an open event on 24 September 2021, on our website and were summarised in the survey form. The survey forms were available online and hard copies could be obtained from and

returned to the NISA, Coop, Mapperton Farm or Lytchett Motors. The closing date was initially Friday 15th October but this was extended to 29 October, with a further push for responses via social media.

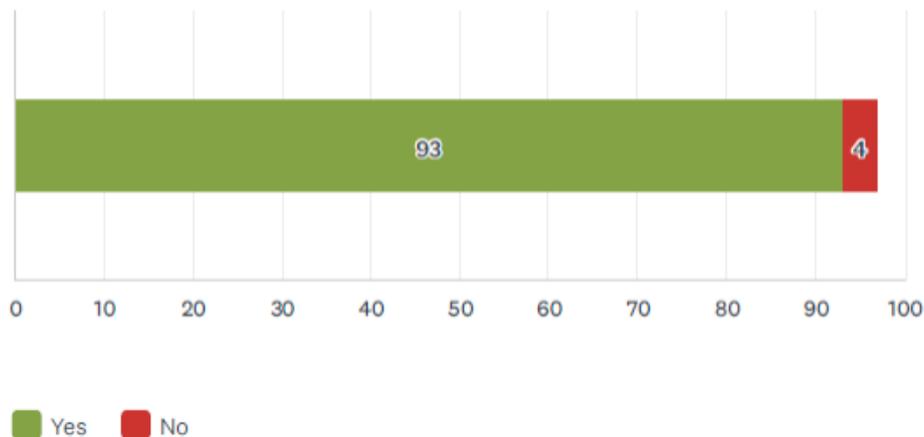
MAIN FINDINGS

We had 101 completed survey forms, the majority from people living within the village: 4 respondents lived outside the parish, and 4 lived in the outlying settlements of Almer, Mapperton, Henbury and Jubilee Cross. A copy of the report can be found here [Consultation Report January 2022.pdf \(sturminstermarshall-pc.gov.uk\)](https://www.sturminstermarshall-pc.gov.uk). Given the limited response from these outlying areas we were not able to assess whether opinions differed by location.

Vision: There was general agreement with the Vision Statement. Whilst about a quarter of respondents took the time to comment further, these comments mainly related to the level of potential housing growth (8 comments), and related concerns about traffic and infrastructure.

Q3 – Do you broadly agree with this vision?

Answered: 97 Skipped: 4



Housing, Employment and Infrastructure Findings: There was broad agreement on the findings we reported. Families looking to move home would like to stay in the parish subject to finding a suitable property. About 20 comments received were in response to local housing needs. In particular, these emphasised the need for smaller properties, bungalows or housing for the elderly, housing for local people and affordable housing. A couple of comments were opposed to more social housing.

Housing needs in the Parish have been independently assessed by AECOM, a company specialising in planning and environmental services. Their assessment on local housing need based on existing data (such as the 2011 Census, 2015 Strategic Housing Market Assessment and Land Registry House Price data) found: Sturminster Marshall has a lower proportion of social rented households compared to the figure for Dorset. – An average ‘entry level’ dwelling costs £303,750. – The income needed to buy an average market home is £84,214. – 88 new affordable homes are needed over the plan period – The study suggests a 25/75 split for intermediate/socially rented properties – There should be a mild focus on building smaller dwellings to allow older people to downsize and younger people to get on the housing ladder.

In terms of employment, the main comment (made in 6 responses) was that there was no obvious need / local benefit to expanding the existing Bailie Gate Industrial Estate, and that this would inevitably lead to more heavy lorries on the village roads.

Comments made in response to infrastructure requirements were more varied. In terms of infrastructure improvements, this centred on the desire to have a local Doctor’s surgery (5 comments), a netball / tennis court (3 comments) and central shopping area (3 comments). A relatively large number of respondents (12) queried whether there was any need for a floodlit 3G football pitch when there were other such facilities in the wider Dorset area. Other comments were centred on the need to retain the village character (8 comments), reduce traffic speeds and parking problems (9 comments), and avoid light pollution (4 comments). The need to expand the local school was also commented upon (3 comments).

Traffic and Transport: There was general consensus that the points identified from the previous surveys had been understood and reflected local views on the concerns and priorities around traffic. About half (50) of people responding took time to add further comments on what we may have missed or got wrong. The top comments were with regard to:

- Improved or alternative access to A350 (8 comments)
- Speeding (8 comments)

- Volume of traffic (7 comments)
- Parking in High Street & close to school and shops (6 comments). General points included that the current situation is perceived to be dangerous, particularly with the mix of lorries, parked cars, buses and pedestrians, and queuing traffic to get onto the A350. A number of people felt there was an ‘accident waiting to happen’.

Local Green Spaces: The consultation demonstrated the high degree of local support for protecting the local green spaces that were identified. Other possible sites to consider for protection (mentioned by at least 10% of those responding) were: Golf Course, Gladwish Plots and Arch Ground.

Local Views: We had some 43 responses to our request for ‘important views’ - the most frequently cited being: White Mill and Mill Lane, from Walnut Tree Field (to Church and to River) and from Bartons Ground / golf course / Gladwish plots.

Rights of Way and Local Walks: The consultation highlighted that most local public rights of way are well used by local people.

A number of comments highlighted that some of the routes become impassable through vegetation overgrowth and poor maintenance. Suggestions for additional rights of way were generally supported, with the provision of a link from Walnut Tree Field across the river being the most supported, followed by extending the Trailway to Spetisbury and Blandford, and keeping Long Drove from Mill Lane to Moor Lane clear of vegetation. Suggestions for other routes that should also be highlighted or added to this list included:

- Mill Lane to White Mill
- Dullar Lane to Lytchett Matravers

Heritage: In general, the responses were very supportive of the approach we intend to take regarding retention of the heritage and character of our area. Many of the comments reflected the fact that local people recognised the need to protect the historic environment and any new development should reflect the character that has evolved. The comments supported our vision. There were also comments on the need to look after the natural environment –to ensure trees, verges and hedgerows are protected. Other points that cropped up in several responses were the need to reduce light pollution. In terms of what features capture the character of the area, the following points capture the majority of comments made:

- The street scene is mixed and varied in terms of its architecture and any new developments should respect and reflect this.
- Houses are built around greens.
- Thatched cottages and old farmhouses characterise the scene. Materials and elevations should match the existing construction.
- The colour of the tiles and brickwork should match with properties in the conservation area. A number of comments noted that the new development over Julian’s Bridge in Wimborne is sympathetic to the nearby, older residential buildings.

We had suggestions of older properties that may not be Listed and are outside the Conservation Area, but should be protected because they make a valuable contribution to the area’s character. These suggestions will be investigated as part of our ongoing heritage and design work.

Potential Development Sites: There was general agreement for the need to protect the Green Belt. It was also clear from the comments that people are very concerned that flooding and runoff, and the traffic generation from any future developments needs to be properly considered and analysed.

In terms of the possible development sites in and around the village of Sturminster Marshall, the sites most residents felt were likely to be suitable were: Land off A350 , Parke Field , Bailie Farm W of A350 and Land off Station Road. During the Options Consultation period supporting documentation was also received from agents representing owners of three of the potentially suitable sites.

Other sites which were potentially 'borderline' having slightly higher responses suggested the sites to be unsuitable rather than suitable, included: Springfield Farm, 134 High Street and The Shieling (Dullar Lane).

Birchmere Land (Bailie Gate Industrial Estate), Bartons Ground and the Golf Course were the most strongly rejected sites, with comments generally reflecting this point.

Respondents were generally less knowledgeable about the Jubilee Cross sites, with about half of those responding saying that they did not know the area. The results were fairly split, and whilst there was generally more support than not, there were few participants from the local area and very little clear support for any single location.

HOW THESE ISSUES AND CONCERNS WERE CONSIDERED

The findings of the consultation proved highly informative and beneficial for drafting the policies for the next stage of the Neighbourhood Plan development.



WHAT WAS DONE

The Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group successfully applied for the Design and Master Planning Technical Package and worked with the consultants AECOM to produce this. Part of the process was a consultation event which was held on 1st July 2022. Local residents, who had expressed an interest in the Neighbourhood Plan process, and a representative from Dorset Council attended a workshop to discuss design principles and master planning.

MAIN FINDINGS

The main findings from this consultation can be found in the Design Guidance and Codes [230428 Sturminster Marshall DDC-Final Report low res.pdf \(sturminstermarshall-pc.gov.uk\)](#).

HOW THESE ISSUES AND CONCERNS WERE CONSIDERED

The results of this report are reflected in the Policies included in the Built Environment section of the Plan.



WHAT WAS DONE

In accordance with Neighbourhood Planning Regulation 14, Sturminster Marshall Parish Council undertook a public consultation and invited comments from organisations and individuals on its Pre-Submission Neighbourhood Plan.

The plan and consultation was publicised via the website, Facebook, posters, banners and The Bridge magazine. The Steering Group also attended the Church Fete with a stand on the Neighbourhood Plan and forthcoming consultation. The Plan was advertised and made available on the Parish Council website and paper copies were available upon request.

The 6 week public consultation ran from Friday 16th June until Friday 28th July 2023. In addition, the Parish Council held a public drop-in session on Thursday, 6th July from 2pm-7pm at the Memorial Hall in Sturminster Marshall where members of the Steering Group were available to explain the plan and its policies and answer questions.

The statutory consultees and local organisations contacted by email were:

- Dorset Council
- Environment Agency
- Highways England
- Historic England
- Natural England
- National Trust
- Sport England
- Wessex Water
- Woodland Trust
- Dorset Wildlife Trust
- Cranborne Chase AONB
- BT
- Scottish & Southern Energy
- Pamphill & Shapwick Parish Council
- Corfe Mullen Town Council
- Lytchett Matravers Parish Council
- Lower Winterborne Parish Council
- Spetisbury Parish Council
- Sturminster Marshall Football Club
- Sturminster Marshall Golf Club
- Sturminster Marshall First School
- St Marys Church, Sturminster Marshall
- Dorset Race Equality Council
- Southern Gas Network
- Mobile UK
- Openreach
- Local Dorset Councillor

Comments could be submitted, preferably using the online response form at: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/SMNP-Consultation> or by completing a paper questionnaire, which was available at the Spar, Sturminster Marshall and the drop-in event and returned to the following email address: *E-mail: sturminstermarshall@dorset-aptc.gov.uk*. Completed forms could also be handed in at the drop-in event and at the Spar.

Consultation responses both written and via the on-line portal were received from 65 members of the public and

Dorset Council (including Conservation Officer)	Historic England
Environment Agency	Sport England
Rights of Way team at DC	Wyatt Homes
National Highways	Bellway Homes
Wessex Water	

MAIN FINDINGS AND HOW THESE ISSUES AND CONCERNS WERE CONSIDERED:

General impressions of the plan - Many people expressed their appreciation for the hard work, abundant research and interesting presentation of the plan.

The following tables explain the main issues raised and how these were considered:

Comments received from statutory consultees and developers are recorded in the table below. Those from local residents (primarily via the survey form) are recorded separately in the table that follows this.

Respondent/s	Para	Policy	Matters raised (summarised)	NP Group Response (<i>italics = action</i>)
Environment Agency	--	--	As no growth is proposed we have no detailed comments to make at this stage.	Noted
Historic England	--	--	Congratulate community on detailed and comprehensive nature of the Plan, especially the policies on the historic character of the area and how this should be protected and enhanced	Noted
Sport England	--	--	Generic response, no specific suggestions / comment on the draft plan	Noted
Bellway Homes (Wessex) Ltd	--	--	The NP should be delayed as its preparation in the context of an out-of-date Local plan serves no useful purpose, given the imminent need for its review.	Disagree – the Local Plan is not currently anticipated to be adopted until Spring 2026, and there will be planning applications coming forward in the interim to which the NP policies will relate. Case law has also confirmed that NPs can be prepared and made in advance of having an up to date Local Plan in place. The need for an early review is also acknowledged in section 4.5
Dorset Council	5.3	Objectives - Heritage and Design	Suggests amendments to broaden scope to including support for the long-term sustainable protection of historic buildings, sites, and structures from harm, addressing the challenges of climate change and an intention toward heritage-led regeneration	The suggested additions may not be easy to understand by residents. However the themes (long-term protection, heritage-led regeneration and consideration of climate change) can be included. <i>Update objectives to reference to achieving the long-term protection, heritage-led regeneration and consideration of climate change</i>
Dorset Council	5.3	Objectives - Natural Environment	There is a duty on public authorities to conserve and enhance biodiversity - the third 'Natural Environment' objective could be amended to remove "where possible".	Agree <i>Remove 'where possible' from the third NE bullet objective</i>
Dorset Council	5.3	Objectives - Traffic and Transport	Broadly supports objectives for traffic and transport, walking and cycling	Noted
National Highways	6.3	SMNP2	Proposals in the vicinity of the A31 corridor will also be expected to address the potential for surface water impacts on the SRN and we will expect appropriate measures to be implemented to ensure that development does not increase flood risk for the SRN and that the	Noted – this can be clarified in the second bullet point of the policy and supporting text <i>Reference the potential for surface water impacts on the SRN and requirements of DfT Circular 01/2022 are met.</i>

Respondent/s	Para	Policy	Matters raised (summarised)	NP Group Response (italics = action)
			requirements of DfT Circular 01/2022 are met (in particular paragraph 59).	
Dorset Council	6.3.6	Map 3	Why not also show Flood Zone 2 on Map 3? Using the sequential approach set out in national and local policy, Flood Zone 2 should also be avoided where possible in favour of FZ1. Provide a key with this map. The plan area isn't clear. Would you like us to help producing a clearer map?	Noted – the map can be refined to include FZ2 and a key. <i>Request Dorset Council's help in producing improved map including FZ2 and a key.</i>
Dorset Council	6.3.7		While the data sources may not be 100% accurate at the local level, they do give a good indication of the risk of flooding, and are the best sources of information currently available.	Noted – the SMNP group are conscious of the lack of groundwater flooding data in the area (the layers as shown have been withdrawn and replaced with a groundwater susceptibility layer) and therefore consider that the potential inadequacies of the current data should also be noted. <i>Amend text to refer to the data as the best sources of information currently available, but noting that this does need to be supplemented with further work / local knowledge in relation to local springs / groundwater flood risk.</i>
Dorset Council	6.3.8	SMNP2	First sentence (end) could be condensed to “elsewhere”. Note that this is already national policy – see NPPF para 167 and that more information on national flood risk policy is in the government’s planning practice guidance: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/flood-risk-and-coastal-change . First bullet, first sentence, is similar to NPPF footnote 55 Second bullet, compare to NPPF para 169 Third bullet, question the logic of the second part of the sentence, as presumably if there is an efficient (i.e. functioning) SUDS system then the proposed development wouldn’t increase runoff. For national SUDS policy, there is a Written Ministerial Statement: https://www.parliament.uk/globalassets/documents/commons-vote-office/December-2014/18-December/6.-DCLG-sustainable-drainage-systems.pdf Second paragraph is similar to NPPF para 174(e).	Noted – whilst this is reflected in national policy the policy seeks to highlight the locally important issues that should be considered eg presence of springs, and to highlight just the differences is considered to potentially be more confusing than allowing some overlap. <i>Add new paragraph in supporting text to clarify that the approach is intended to be broadly in line with national policy but includes those factors that are particularly relevant to the NP area.</i> <i>Amend first sentence as advised</i> <i>Amend first bullet to better reflect footnote 55 of the NPPF</i> <i>Amend third bullet to read “Management / maintenance arrangements for any flood risk remediation including SUDS should be clearly set out as part of the planning application, to ensure there is sufficient scrutiny that these are achievable and will remain effective”</i>
Wessex Water	6.3.10	SMNP3	There is an established planning and funding mechanism for ensuring waste treatment facilities are in place prior to occupation.	Whilst it is accepted that generally, development proposals are advanced in conjunction with assessments of waste water

Respondent/s	Para	Policy	Matters raised (summarised)	NP Group Response (italics = action)
Bellway Homes (Wessex) Ltd			When sites are allocated for development through the Local Plan process or granted planning permission Wessex Water identify improvement works required at its treatment works and fund these through the 5 year business plan process. We recommend this Policy is removed.	treatment capacity and through liaison with water companies and local authorities; issues of capacity may need to be resolved, and a planning condition limiting the occupation of new dwellings until such time as adequate foul water treatment is secured is recognised as an appropriate condition in some circumstances. By extension, the use of planning policy to ensure that salient site-specific matters are resolved is a reasonable approach that does not conflict with national planning guidance. This topic / issue has been covered in a number of Neighbourhood Plans.
Dorset Council	6.3.12	SMNP3	For national planning practice guidance on wastewater and water quality, see https://www.gov.uk/guidance/water-supply-wastewater-and-water-quality In particular, paragraph 020 discusses the issue of areas where there is inadequate wastewater infrastructure.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy PW1 of the Staplehurst NDP in Kent https://localplan.maidstone.gov.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0010/369298/Final-Staplehurst-Neighbourhood-Plan.pdf • Policy WNP12 (and supporting evidence for the plan for Whitburn (South Tyneside) https://www.southtyneside.gov.uk/article/14136/Whitburn-Neighbourhood-Plan-2021-to-2036 • Policy 7: Water and Wastewater Infrastructure of the Aldbourne NP Plan made in March this year https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/media/11049/Aldbourne-Neighbourhood-Development-Plan-Part-A/pdf/Aldbourne_NDP_Part_A_Made_March_2023_006.pdf?m=638155271239300000 <p>Having reviewed the wording, some minor changes may help better convey the points.</p> <p><i>Amend policy wording to read “Major planning proposals will not be supported unless there is demonstrable capacity in the local sewerage system to accommodate increased flows at the point of occupation and any new connections will not increase adverse impacts to the neighbourhood area.”</i></p>
Dorset Council	7.1.2		For the avoidance of doubt, Green Belt is not protected for its ecological value or because it is a ‘valued landscape’. It is a policy designation to prevent urban sprawl and keep land ‘open’ between settlements	Noted – this can be clarified. <i>Amend supporting text to refer to Green Belt separately, that it is not a landscape designation per se, and its main purposes.</i>
Dorset Council	7.3.4	Map 6	Map 6 and Appendix 7 refers to ‘Quiet Roads’, which are not a formal designation. The ‘Quiet Lanes’ initiative was not taken up in	Quiet Roads is specifically used to describe Old Market Road and Rushall Lane on the Core Strategy Policies Map under Policy KS9.

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			Dorset, but may be looked at again as part of the LTP update (and consideration of whether it is likely to be effective). It is unclear on this map where the quiet roads are located so it would be useful if these could be identified, and further discussions could be had on how to achieve these quiet routes.	<p>Whilst this is not specifically mentioned in the policy, it is considered that its intent is to enhance the environment for pedestrian and cyclists in rural areas and reduce the diversion of traffic on to inappropriate routes (as per the penultimate bullet point in that policy). This could be through the Quiet Lanes, but may also be feasible through other measures. However it is acknowledged that the plan could benefit from additional clarification in the supporting text, and cross-reference to Policy SMNP20 which also relates to this topic.</p> <p><i>Amend supporting text to provide further clarification as outlined above, and refer to Policy SMNP20. Amend Map 13 to include these Quiet Roads and include paragraph on the Quiet Roads and Quiet Lanes initiative in this section.</i></p>
Dorset Council	7.4.2	Map 8	Clarification ref mapped layers would be helpful, particularly with regard to: SPA, SSSI, LNR vs additional habitats, SNCI and Local Geological Sites (some of which are wholly outside the NP area but could nonetheless be shown).	<p>Noted – the map can be refined to include this additional information, if Dorset Council can assist.</p> <p><i>Request Dorset Council's help in producing improved map including SPA, SSSI, LNR vs additional habitats, SNCI and Local Geological Sites and a key.</i></p>
Dorset Council	7.4.2	SMNP6	Maypole Green, Stocks Green and Timber Green, and Trafalgar Green are all registered village greens, and are therefore already protected for recreational purposes through that legislation. The NPPG advises that, if land is already protected by designation, consideration should be given to whether any additional local benefit would be gained by designation as Local Green Space.	<p>Agreed that the relevant legislation provides sufficient protection, but it is also important that this is known.</p> <p><i>Amend supporting text and policy to distinguish between the village greens and the proposed LGS, and their relevant protection through Section 12 of the Inclosure Act 1857 and Section 29 of the Commons Act 1876.</i></p>
Dorset Council	7.4.2	SMNP6	Walnut Tree Field, Bartons Ground, and Old Railway Line are all Green Belt. As per the NPPG consideration should be given to whether any additional local benefit would be gained by designation as Local Green Space – however accept that this is a more detailed level than Green Belt (unlike village green comparison).	<p>Noted – the additional clarification of these sites' local importance is considered relevant in this context and that they therefore should remain within the LGS list</p> <p><i>Clarify Green Belt status but local importance within the text under 7.4.2.</i></p>
Dorset Council	7.4.2	SMNP6	As well as Green Belt, the Walnut Tree Field site is designated as a Scheduled Monument and a Local Nature Reserve. This could be noted in the supporting text.	<p>Agreed – the former point in noted in Appx 3 but the LNR status is not mentioned. C</p> <p><i>Include LNR status in Appx 3 and reference these points within the text under 7.4.2</i></p>

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Dorset Council	7.4.2	SMNP6	It is understood that Bartons Ground is owned by Eton College who have recently decided to terminate the lease of the land to the parish council. There doesn't appear to be any public right of access of the site, and therefore the landowner could potentially fence the site off, which would potentially reduce its value to the community (although land can still be considered for LGS designation even if there is no public access). We ask that you ensure the owners of the site are consulted on your proposals and that their response is given due consideration.	The landowners have been contacted and consulted but no response has been received. The permissive path remains in situ.
Dorset Council	7.5.1	SMNP7	Change of use applications are not specifically exempted, though the majority will be exempt through the de minimis habitat exemption.	The text currently states 'may be exempt' <i>Amend text to add "for example, through the de minimis habitat exemption" and replace text in brackets in the third paragraph of SMNP7 with "other than exempted by national regulations"</i>
Dorset Council	7.5.7	SMNP7	Advise removing "wherever practicable" when referring to enhancing biodiversity as this is a requirement of national policy and legislation.	There will be some de minimis applications which will be exempt, and paragraph 180 deals only with avoiding significant harm to biodiversity in terms of planning applications.
Dorset Council	7.5.7	SMNP7	Reference to "measures taken to avoid harm to, and where practical strengthen the network of ecological sites" may be better separated out from prior section on biodiversity net gain.	Agree - this may sit better as a separate paragraph. <i>Move to create separate paragraph within the policy.</i>
Dorset Council	7.5.7	SMNP7	This policy could go further and identify wildlife corridors within the parish that may be of particular importance, and where measures to strengthen should be targeted	Agree – at this time the best basis for this would be the existing and potential ecological interest layers on Dorset Explorer. <i>Reference Dorset LNP ecological networks in supporting text and add to mitigation options within Policy SMNP7</i> <i>It is noted that these highlight areas include the land allocated under Policy RA1, and therefore it is also appropriate to highlight the need for mitigation in section 9.4 and Policy SMNP16.</i>
Dorset Council	8		Suggest emphasising statutory protection regarding designated assets, showing conservation area boundaries on the relevant maps, and that all comments made regarding a Conservation Area should address the specific Conservation Area by name	This is covered in 8.1.2 <i>Include Conservation Area on relevant maps</i>
Dorset Council	8		The neighbourhood area extent also includes an Article 4 Direction area which should be included as a section under Section 8.	The Article 4 directions date from 1984 and 2003 and reference the withdrawal of permitted development rights with regards to engineering operations to construct a fish farm / agricultural

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				reservoir, means of enclosure, means of access, temporary uses including moveable structures, and the use of land as a caravan site. This does not appear to be material in relation to section 8 and applies to land within the Green Belt. As such there appears to be no obvious benefit from including this as an issue within the Neighbourhood Plan.
Dorset Council	8.1.5	SMNP8	Clarify the criteria adopted for the non-designated heritage assets under Appendix 5, and how these assets are to be considered regarding potential for 'harm' and public benefit within the consideration of the planning balance.	<p>Agree that it would be helpful to set out the basis by which the non-designated heritage assets were assessed for inclusion, and that these have been submitted to Dorset Council in response to their consultation.</p> <p>The balanced judgement is referenced in the policy but could be more clearly set out in the supporting text.</p> <p>The final sentence of Policy SMNP8 supports development proposals that would enhance or lead to a better appreciation of assets. In the context of national policy this may be better if expressed as an enhancement or better appreciation of the significance of the heritage assets.</p> <p><i>Amend Appx 5 to include how the non-designated assets were assessed. Add supporting text / new 'box' explaining national policy regarding non-designated heritage assets. Amend SMNP8 to reference significance.</i></p>
Dorset Council	8.2.14 8.2.16 8.2.18 8.2.20 8.3.11		May be better to reference "Listed Buildings or features"	<p>Agreed</p> <p><i>Amend text to reference "Listed Buildings or features"</i></p>
Dorset Council	8.2.3 8.2.4 8.2.9 8.3.6 8.3.14		Refer to relevant grade of Listed Buildings	<p>Agreed</p> <p><i>Amend text to reference Grade of Listed Building</i></p>

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Dorset Council	8.2.5 8.2.14 8.2.16 8.2.20 8.3.6 8.3.7 8.3.11 8.3.12 8.3.15		May be helpful to include a more detailed description of locally important buildings as a reference within the text here, rather than relying on cross-reference to Appendix 5	Disagree – this would make the document unnecessarily long, and the descriptions are contained in Appendix 5.
Dorset Council	8.3.14	Map 10	The plan should make at least one reference to Charborough Park, as it is a Grade II* Registered Park & Garden, and part of it falls within Sturminster Marshall Parish. The section listing the heritage assets of Almer might be the appropriate place, and Map 10.	Agreed <i>Include reference to Charborough Park as a Grade II* Registered Park & Garden within Section 8 and include on Map 10</i>
Dorset Council	8.3.3 8.3.8 8.3.13		A focused map should be included for Henbury, Jubilee Cross and Mapperton that illustrates the location of locally important buildings.	<i>Include relevant maps</i>
Bellway Homes (Wessex) Ltd	8.4	SMNP10 - 12	These Design Principles policies relate to the design of larger scale housing developments. As the NP does not propose to allocate any larger scale sites for housing, these are premature and unnecessary.	Disagree – minor sites may create new highway and plot divisions, deal with corner plots, building form and scale, and boundary treatments etc. Furthermore the plan period extends beyond the anticipated adoption of the new Local Plan and therefore would apply to future developments (and the issues considered are likely to remain relevant).
Dorset Council	8.4.4		South-facing properties will also need to consider overheating as covered in para 8.4.16 and also Part O of Building Regulations	Agreed – the need to consider overheating can be mentioned here with a cross-reference to Policy SMNP13 <i>Amend 8.4.4 to cross-reference to the need to consider overheating (use of shutters / overhangs / deep window reveals) in Policy SMNP13, and more clearly set these points out in the final section of that policy.</i>
Dorset Council	8.4.12	SMNP12	May wish to consider policy controlling external lighting	Agree – noted that in terms of street lighting, Dorset Council specify rural areas outside of AONBs to be in accordance with Environmental Zone 2 standards, with luminaries well controlled and restricting the upward light ratio to 0% with a CCT which should ideally not exceed 3000K

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				https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/-/street-lighting-and-illuminated-signs-policy#lighting-provision . There is also guidance on good practice in https://darksky.org/resources/guides-and-how-tos/lighting-principles/ <i>Add further criteria to policy SMNP12 to minimise the impact on dark night skies through the appropriate control of external lighting, and include context (as above) in the supporting text.</i>
Dorset Council	8.4.14	Life Cycle Assessment box	Update to refer to the Home Quality Mark , in place of withdrawn EcoHomes. The HQM includes a section on evaluating the environmental impact of the materials used.	Agreed <i>Amend text to reference the Home Quality Mark, in place of withdrawn EcoHomes.</i>
Dorset Council	9.1.4		For accuracy, NPPF text refers to 'required' not 'expected'	Agreed <i>Amend text to refer to 'required' not 'expected'</i>
Dorset Council	9.2.1		Provide references to the published documents, for example, in footnotes	The evidence is provided in the footnotes, but the source (which was primarily the Sturminster Marshall Housing Needs Assessment (HNA), December 2020, Aecom Ltd, Census 2021 data and the) can be quoted. <i>Add sources to footnote relating to the 'published evidence'</i>
Dorset Council	9.2.1	SMNP14	Consider setting within policy that the level of discount on affordable housing for sale should be set at a minimum of 40%" - see the government guidance on First Homes: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/first-homes .	Agree that it would be appropriate to set the level of discount on First Home at 40%, based on the HNA evidence. This should also include reference to providing at least 25% of the affordable housing as First Homes (as per NPPG). <i>Include supporting text and amend policy to reference First Home proportion and discounts</i>
Dorset Council Bellway Homes (Wessex) Ltd	9.2.1	SMNP14	It is unlikely that a scheme large enough to trigger the policy will come forward in advance of the DCLP, we question the value of adopting a separate affordable housing policy for Sturminster Marshall. Doing so risks adding unnecessary complexity to an already complicated development management process. Requires clearer justification from the supporting text for these requirements (albeit these are very similar to those already in place). Would also need to clarify what is meant by 'larger sites' in this situation. NPPF para 64 states that affordable housing should not be sought for residential developments that are not major developments (10	Whilst it may be unlikely that large-scale development can be achieved until such time as the Green Belt is reviewed, this cannot be known with absolute certainty, and it is considered useful to include the recent evidence and reflect this in the policy, referencing major (as opposed to larger) development. Agree with Dorset Council that it would be appropriate to revert to using the adopted Local Plan affordable housing thresholds for conformity, recognising that this may be reduced if site-specific viability evidence indicates that it would not be possible to deliver that level of affordable housing.

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			dwelling or more), other than in designated rural areas (Sturminster Marshall is not a designated rural area).	Should more homes shift to open market types, this reinforces the need for these to include dwellings of a type and size that would inherently be more affordable (as noted in 9.2.3). <i>Amend policy and supporting text as above.</i>
Bellway Homes (Wessex) Ltd	9.2.1	SMNP14	The policy proposes specific elements of the housing mix, such as 4+ bedroom homes to not exceed 20%, and a specific design feature – a designated work area – to be incorporated into the design of new homes. As the NP does not propose to allocate any large scale sites for housing, this policy is premature and unnecessary.	See above. Further information is provided in relation to working from home, to clarify what should be considered in this respect. <i>Include further details on typical homeworking requirements, referencing the Workplace, (Health Safety and Welfare) Regulations 1992 which suggest a minimum of 4.6sqm per person</i>
Dorset Council	9.3.4	SMNP15	For clarity, you could consider defining the boundary of the Jubilee Cross built-up area on a map.	Agreed – this will be based on the ONS definition of ‘built-up areas’ (2011) and address points, but taken along defined boundaries and local knowledge of groundwater flooding. <i>Include map and basis / reasoning for drawing the boundaries</i>
Dorset Council	9.4.7	SMNP16	A draft policy of the expansion of the industrial estate is also in the Dorset Council Local Plan Options Consultation (draft Policy STMR1). We note your policy and associated criteria, and support it.	Noted.
National Highways	9.4.7	SMNP16	Henbury Farm benefits from an existing access directly from the A31. The submission of a transport assessment should be in line with DfT Circular 01/2022 and consider the operation of the A31 and the suitability of the existing access arrangements to accommodate any intensification of use. Any necessary improvements to the access which are required to accommodate development traffic will be expected to meet the standards as set out within the Design Manual for Roads and Bridges and brought forward as part of the development.	Agreed that this can be mentioned in the supporting text – but perhaps broadening to make clear that this would also apply to other access points off the A31. <i>Amend supporting text to reference National Highway expectations in relation to transport assessments for sites directly accessing the A31</i>
Bellway Homes (Wessex) Ltd	10.1.9	SMNP17	The “bar / catering facilities at Sturminster Marshall Golf Club” is listed as a valued community facility in SMNP17. Sturminster Marshall Golf Course is already designated as an Asset of Community Value. The ACV designation provides protection for this facility by requiring the community to be invited to bid for this asset, should its owner wish to sell it. Its inclusion in SMNP17 is therefore an unnecessary duplication.	Registration as an ACV would not provide protection for the facility as there is no requirement in that legislation for the landowner to sell the facility to the community (regardless of price offered). The Government policy statement on ACV (published Sep 2011) also makes clear that “the fact that the site is listed [as an ACV] may affect planning decisions – it is open to the Local Planning Authority to decide that listing as an asset of community value is a material

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				consideration if an application for change of use is submitted, considering all the circumstances of the case.”
Dorset Council Wyatt Homes	10.2.3	SMNP18	<p>The site has been allocated for over 20 years, over which time there appears to be neither the financial resources to deliver it or the willingness of the landowner to release the site. The policy largely re-iterates Policy SM3, and also conflicts with the proposals in the draft DCLP (Policy STMR2).</p> <p>The Playing Pitch Strategy (PPS) Assessment Report (March 2019) presents a supply and demand assessment of playing pitch provision across the whole Dorset Council area. The draft Playing Pitch Strategy and Action Plan (June 2019) builds upon the preceding Assessment Report, and provides a strategic framework for the maintenance and improvement of existing playing pitch provision and accompanying ancillary facilities. For grass Football pitches the report concludes “There is overall current spare capacity on adult, youth 9v9 and mini pitches types across the East Dorset Sub Area, whilst youth 11v11 pitches overplayed by 2.5 match equivalent sessions.” This increases to 4.5 match equivalent sessions by 2038. For the Churchill Close Recreation Ground, the report notes that the adult pitch is over played by 0.5 match equivalent sessions and recommends the transfer demand of overplayed pitches to a site with spare capacity. A need for additional sports capacity at Sturminster Marshall, such as a football pitch, is not disputed. For the NP to continue to reserve the site for sports and recreation use it should be demonstrated that there is a need for additional provision and that the scheme is developable (for example, confirmation by the landowner funding in place). The landowner has promoted the site for housing development.</p> <p>If retained, it might be worth mentioning that the site currently lies within green belt, and therefore any proposals need to be compatible with green belt policy (see NPPF para 149).</p> <p>Additional points from Wyatt Homes:</p>	<p>Whilst there has been no coordinated effort to bring this site forward, this is more reflective of the lack of joined-up working between Local Government and Sports Clubs and lack of clarity within the Local Plan as to who would take this forward. As noted by Dorset Council, the 2019 assessment evidences an issue with the adult match spare capacity, and little in the way of full sized 3G pitches for team training, but with reference to the current provision on the Recreation Ground suggests that it would be appropriate to transfer demand to a site with spare capacity – though how this is achieved is not clear. Alternative options of using the cricket pitch or school playing fields aren’t feasible – the former is within the area used for football, the latter has limited space (taking into account the trees and temporary classrooms / tarmacked areas) and would raise security issues in terms of access arrangements. The Action Plan references the Parish Council, Dorset County Football Association and Football Foundation as “potential partners” but this has not been communicated and it is not clear which partner would take a lead and what role the Parish Council is expected to play.</p> <p>It is accepted that the deliverability of the sports pitch is questionable, particularly given the landowner’s expressed intent as reinforced by the draft Local Plan options.</p> <p><i>Amend policy to remove reference to the sports pitch (and associated changing rooms) – the remaining requirements are unlikely to need the whole area, and as such the text should be revised to ‘within this area’. Explain within supporting text that this will need to be kept under review, and include project for Parish Council to liaise with Dorset County Football Association and Football Foundation to ascertain what is intended. Refer to the likely review of the NP which would occur upon the adoption of the emerging LP in 2026 and which could revisit the justification and effectiveness of SMNP18 as necessary.</i></p>

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			<p>The Playing Pitch Needs Assessment and Action Plan notes that the cricket pitch on Churchill Close is underused, and advises utilising this spare capacity to accommodate future demand and / or to alleviate overplayed provision. Further to this, the report does not take into account available provision at Sturminster Marshall First School.</p> <p>The report also states that ‘experience shows that only housing sites with 600 dwellings or more are likely to generate demand for new provision to be created’. For context, Sturminster Marshall in total is allocated 435 dwellings within the emerging Dorset wide Local Plan. Furthermore current provision also exceeds the FIT standards of 1.2ha per 1000 population (based on Sturminster Marshall’s current population of c. 1,507 people, and the amount of space at Churchill Gardens (2.2ha) and the First School (0.27ha) but potentially lacks children’s play areas and more specialist provision such as multi-use games areas (MUGA) or a skate park for instance.</p> <p>As an absolute minimum, if the NP is to refer to saved policy SM3, it should acknowledge that the Site is a proposed allocation for residential development with accompanying SANG in the emerging Dorset Local Plan, and that for consistency with emerging strategic policy, the retention of saved policy SM3 will need to be referred to as out of date and that it would be superseded should the emerging LP progress.</p> <p>If draft LP policy STMR2 were to be delivered, Land at Station Road would provide much needed homes alongside the delivery of a strategic SANG at Dorset Springs. Wyatt Homes are open to constructive engagement with the NP group and village community to help to shape open space and opportunities for community facilities within the conceptual development of the scheme, including play areas, the provision of a multi use games area (MUGA) or allotments.</p>	
Dorset Council,	10.2.5	SMNP19	The policy is not worded in a manner to assist in decision-making, and the term ‘large scale’ is not defined.	Disagree that the policy should be deleted, as the need to properly consider infrastructure needs should significant development come

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Bellway Homes (Wessex) Ltd			<p>Infrastructure providers are routinely consulted on major applications, so it is not clear what this policy adds to the process, and planning obligations can only be sought where they are: necessary to make the development acceptable in planning terms; directly related to the development; and fairly and reasonably related in scale and kind to the development.</p> <p>The infrastructure needs of potential strategic allocations will be firmed-up as the Dorset Council Local Plan progresses, and will be embedded in the respective DCLP policies.</p>	<p>forward is a key concern for local residents, and little evidence has been provided to date in terms of the service providers responses through the Local Plan 2021 consultation or evidence base – e.g. https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/documents/35024/3473863/Final+Consultation+Summary+-+Sturminster+Marshall.pdf/cfd835b-66af-d0f6-d7df-b0b935a3ae9b does not include any responses from education or healthcare. Whilst infrastructure providers may be consulted on major applications, they often do not respond (and therefore it cannot be ascertained whether the impact has been considered or if they simply do not have the resources to respond in a timely manner), and their concerns cannot be as readily addressed as the planning application has already been submitted at that point.</p> <p><i>For clarify, it may be appropriate to refer to major (rather than large-scale) proposals as this is a well-understood term, reference including appropriate mitigation “where necessary” and explain the reasoning behind this policy more clearly in the supporting text.</i></p>
Dorset Council	11.1.7 11.1.8 11.1.9		<p>Support NP’s efforts to extend the trailway, and would welcome dialogue with developers landowners on this.</p> <p>Would it be more accurate to describe it as a disused railway line, which could become a trailway route?</p> <p>Further work is needed in Sturminster Marshall where only small sections of disused track are currently accessible (footpath E53/20) but not for disabled access. These improvements would help achieve the goal for equal opportunities stated within the LTP3. Making use of the former railway line, owned by Dorset Council, where possible is supported. This is also an important ecological corridor to retain, therefore further discussion on its potential is suggested. Section 11.1.9 addresses that solutions to cross the A350 to the north of Sturminster Marshall still need further consideration. Dorset Council acknowledges that this has been a long-standing issue and supports the NP to help identify feasible solutions.</p>	<p>Agree</p> <p><i>Change as suggested</i></p>
Dorset Council	11.1.13	Table 11	Developer contributions may be able to help fund these improvements.	Noted

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			<p>A new foot bridge across the River Stour would be a major investment and further discussion would be required to secure funding.</p> <p>Regarding the footway from Jubilee Cross along Wimborne Road to Lytchett Matravers, this has been identified a collision cluster site by Dorset Council in 2022 and it will be further investigated by the Road Safety Team in due course. Therefore, the Jubilee Cross Junction could be improved for pedestrians and cyclists to facilitate a safe footway link to include crossing points as well as improving the junction for motorised vehicles.</p>	<p><i>Include reference to identified collision cluster site at Jubilee Cross and planned investigation by Dorset Council Road Safety Team</i></p>
National Highways	11.1.13	Table 11 / SMNP20	<p>Note the potential for improving provision for crossing the A31 on the Wareham Forest Way indicated on Map 13 and within Table 11, and intention to promote this through any future review of Dorset Council's Rights of Way Improvement Plan - we look forward to opportunities to comment on any proposals that come forward through this process.</p> <p>National Highways will require to be consulted on any proposals in relation to crossing provision on the A31</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p><i>Include reference to need for involvement of National Highways in terms of any crossing facilities</i></p>
National Highways	11.2	SMNP21	<p>Given the proximity of Sturminster Marshall to the A31, any large scale development coming forward in the plan area will need to be supported by an appropriate assessment of traffic impacts which should consider the operation of the SRN in line with national planning practice guidance and DfT Circular 01/2022. Where proposals would result in a severe congestion or unacceptable safety impact, mitigation will be required in line with current policy. We are therefore continuing to work with Dorset Council in the preparation of their transport evidence base for their emerging Local Plan</p> <p>The policy wording could helpfully be expanded to reference both the A350 and A31 corridors.</p>	<p>Agree. At this time (November 2023) we are still waiting the publication of the A350 study.</p> <p><i>Include A31 within policy, and reference to National Highways expectations in the supporting text. If possible, update to include the findings of the A350 study if these become available prior to submission.</i></p>
Dorset Council	11.2.2	SMNP21	<p>First bullet unclear - is this concerned about the size and volume of vehicles on the local road network</p>	<p>It seeks to ensure that there is a clear understanding of the likely increase in traffic resulting from the development, including the volume of HGVs anticipated.</p>

Respondent/s	Para	Policy	Matters raised (summarised)	NP Group Response (<i>italics = action</i>)
				<p><i>Amend bullet to read: an understanding of the likely increase in traffic resulting from the development, including the volume of HGVs anticipated, and how these will be distributed across the local road network;</i></p>
Dorset Council	11.2.4	SMNP22	<p>Although a new road link may reduce HGV traffic along Station Road and make the local environment safer and more pleasant especially for children walking to school, it could displace HGV traffic onto other less suitable routes through the village. The proposed new link road, if feasible, would be dependent upon several factors:</p> <p>Clarification of purpose and relationship with other routes within the village – current flows / severity of problems and the impact of a new road on the local network – this will require modelling, including for the junction with the A350 and the A31/A350 Roundhouse Roundabout and any wider benefits for the village</p> <p>Cost - likely to be £multi-millions and dependent on developer contribution.</p> <p>Land ownership and potential/committed development - as this will influence the route.</p> <p>Known flooding issues in the area</p> <p>Implications for future residents in housing development if the link road is within close proximity.</p> <p>Whether the link road would interfere with the Trailway and other existing or proposed networks in this location.</p> <p>It is advised that the NP Group may wish to involve a Transport Consultant in developing a high-level business case for the proposed link road to establish the feasibility of the proposal, to include route options and estimated scheme costs and identify the risks and constraints of the proposal.</p>	<p>It is accepted that at the current time there is only limited to justify the need for a link road, as this junction is not monitored by Dorset Council as the Highways Authority, but it is very clear that the community are in full support of such a road in order to alleviate the current issues that they experience on a daily basis. It is also noted that Wyatt Homes’ illustrative masterplan for the site (submitted to the PC as part of their response to the options consultation) includes a link road, as shown below.</p>  <p>ILLUSTRATIVE MASTERPLAN LAND AT STATION ROAD, STURMINSTER MARSHALL <small>CLIENT: Grasscroft DRAWN: TR CHECKED: MR APPROVED: MC SCALE: NTS DATE: 11/03/21 DRAWING NO: US_906_LD_DKG_MPLAN-RevD</small></p> <p>The Parish Council is considering commissioning a feasibility assessment to provide more information on the need and potential for such a route (and the ‘box’ on the previous page refers to the Parish Council seeking solutions for improving access to the A350 (or creation of a new road from Bailie Gate Industrial Estate to the</p>

Respondent/s	Para	Policy	Matters raised (summarised)	NP Group Response (italics = action)
				A350) before any further development occurs). The policy as it is currently drafted does not require the route to be delivered, as it is accepted that its feasibility has yet to be demonstrated, but does ask that it is considered. It can be made clear that this policy will be kept under review, and potentially informed by the Parish Council's findings. <i>Amend supporting text to reference Wyatt Homes illustrative masterplan.</i>
Dorset Council	11.2.4	SMNP23	Query practicality and feasibility of providing EV charging points for visitors - payment system, administration and maintenance etc	Accept that this may not be feasible and therefore the wording must include' is too onerous. Add reference to rural character, as this is not intended to encourage large-scale charging areas that would be more suited to urban areas (11.2.6 specifically references parking clusters (of no more that 4 spaces in any one group) should be interspersed with trees and soft landscaping to provide shade and visual interest). <i>Amend policy to encourage rather than require unallocated charging points for visitors and residents, and reference rural character in terms of size / design.</i>
Bellway Homes (Wessex) Ltd	11.2.4	SMNP23	As the NP does not propose to allocate any large scale sites for housing, this policy is premature and unnecessary.	Disagree – this policy would apply to all scales of development.

The following are the comments made by local residents – they are in the order they submitted (by topic) but in places the issue they raise is covered in a different part of the Plan.

Para	Policy	Matters raised (summarised)	NP Group Response (italics = action)
Vision and Objectives			
5.2.3		Regarding the Vision: people come to the Village for recreation - staying for holidays, cycling and walking through, playing golf and football, and fishing. It is an asset to many people beyond the Parish boundary, particularly those who live in more built-up areas.	Noted. <i>Update "Vision" to reference visitors</i>
5.3	Objectives	Agree or broadly in agreement = 9 responses	This is endorsement of our Visions and Objectives.
5.3	Objectives	Broadly support the proposals; however the Newton Roads area does not seem to have been considered.	Noted. We have considered the whole of the parish and consulted with all residents.
5.3	Objectives	Not sure what the overall objective is? Lots of "big" words without any substance.	This sets the overview for the policies that follow, to safeguard and enhance our community and the environment.

Para	Policy	Matters raised (summarised)	NP Group Response (<i>italics = action</i>)
9.0	SMNP14	Would people who have grown up in the area be given priority on the affordable housing?	This is one of the objectives. SMNP 14 and SMNP 15 have local connection criteria.
10.2.3	SMNP18	It would be an asset to have an added recreational area opposite the Spar.	Noted; this is the intent of Policy SMNP 18.
10.2.1	SMNP19	No mention of health service facilities	This is covered in Section 10 and SMNP19. We have liaised with Dorset Health and been advised that Sturminster Marshall is not large enough to warrant its own health centre.
3.4.7		Whilst I support the vision and objectives it is difficult to see how these will be achieved if the proposals within the DLP, to build over 400 houses on 3 sites is allowed. Such large scale development would change the character of the village for the worse.	We are still waiting for the revised version and housing numbers to be produced. We hope the information contained in our Plan will help the planners better understand our area and influence the next version of the Local Plan. If large scale development is conformed we will look to update this Plan to try to ensure it is developed in the best way for our community.
9.3.1 & 9.3.2		Serious concerns re. Henbury service development. Impact on traffic, access, noise pollution, night sky (pollution) and in turn wildlife. Concerns re. The Shieling, Dullar Lane potential 14 dwellings-there are bats and other wildlife in this area / on land and also more properties impact on ability to view night sky. Also concerns for additional traffic crossing A350 and A31, already a challenge for cyclists and pedestrians to cross at busy times. If lights were installed at Cross Roads on A350 near Bailey Gate this would cause traffic to queue and would impact on health of residents from polluted on A350 as impact on privacy and quality of life.	The plan does not allocate sites for development. Proposals for Henbury service area are beyond the remit of the Neighbourhood Plan. Problems associated with development in Dullar Lane are noted. The design codes accompanying the report are intended to address the issue of maintaining 'local character'.
9.2.1	SMNP14	The rural character must be retained. Any new development should be for affordable housing and bungalows.	Noted. Section 9.2 of the NP includes information on the type of housing needed and affordable housing.
Climate Change and Flooding			
General		Agree – 2 responses	This is endorsement of the policies in this section.
General		The agencies which have responsibilities for these areas need to be firmly held to account for their performance.	The NP is a planning document guiding future development within the parish. It cannot hold agencies to account
General		Yes! A cob wall construction does not like flood water Flooding is of major concerns to us. Our 13th century cob cottage would be at risk if we flood. We already pay over £1300pa for insurance so this is an area we are keen to ensure is considered.	Noted: flood risk is a major concern for the NP, and SMNP2 seeks to ensure that all sources of flooding are properly recognised, but we cannot make specific proposals for buildings with cob walls
6.1.3 & 6.1.4	SMNP1	Climate change and its effects on our environment need to be central to our thinking.	Agree and hope the plan does this
6.2.2	SMNP1	I agree with the NP recommendations. In relation to sustainable development standards it does annoy me that current developments are still installing gas fuelled heating and not renewable systems. The development of Churchill	Although national policy is to move towards elimination of gas boilers, it is not yet mandatory so although we support moves to reduce carbon dioxide emissions, we cannot mandate this.

Para	Policy	Matters raised (summarised)	NP Group Response (italics = action)
		Mews in Churchill Close is an example of this. Why are the Council allowing this to continue in view of the National Policy of reducing carbon emissions and becoming Carbon Neutral?	
6.2.2	SMNP1	New development should have heat pumps installed.	Whilst we say that new buildings must demonstrate energy efficiency and sustainability in their design, we have not specified mandatory heat pumps as they may not be practicable in all cases.
6.3	SMNP2	<p>Various comments regarding flooding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - need for detailed analysis of flood risk - there has always been a flood risk. - this winter (2023) saw the worst flooding for many years. Elm Gardens was threatened with flooding from drainage off the High St. because the current owners of Bartons Ground have failed to maintain the drainage ditches leading to floodwater collecting close to properties. - round water flooding when springs add to flooding after heavy rainfall already make the village impassable at times but this has not yet been addressed and any further significant development will make this worse. - Major developments mean more concrete and less land and trees/shrubs to absorb rainfall so add to an existing problem. - Any development on Springfield Farm needs careful consideration and investment to ensure the flooding near Newton Road is not negatively impacted by the development - Risk of associated road traffic accidents given build up of surface water when heavy rain - No development near rivers 	<p>We are aware of the fact that flooding has been an issue but the NP hopes to reduce the probability of exacerbating the problem by ensuring that there is good knowledge of the local issues and conditions, and that flood risk assessments are triggered in areas susceptible to groundwater and surface water floodings as well as within the standard flood risk zones for rivers.</p> <p>Site-specific concerns noted: the NP is not allocating any sites, and if a planning application comes forward, a flood risk assessment would be needed in line with SMNP2.</p>
6.3.2 6.3.10	SMNP3	Control of flooding would need to raise the flood barrier. As global warming is here and extreme weather was probably not thought of when they built the barrier.	Noted: raising flood barrier not mentioned specifically but could be deemed necessary once flood amelioration associated with any additional development is assessed.
6.3.5	SMNP2	All seem sensible but lack of detail makes further comment difficult	Noted: more detailed assessments will be required once housing numbers and site allocations have been determined
6.3.10	SMNP3	<p>Various comments regarding flooding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Additional large scale development will put pressure on water treatment - Additional sewage pumping and treatment capacity needed. - If water companies cannot manage at the moment without discharging sewage into the Stour how would they cope if there were more houses? 	Wessex Water have been and will continue to be consulted and will identify improvement works necessary to serve developments, and SMNP3 seeks to make sure this is done prior to occupation.
Natural Environment			

Para	Policy	Matters raised (summarised)	NP Group Response (<i>italics = action</i>)
General		Agree or broadly in agreement = 6 responses	This is endorsement of the plan
General		No building on Greenfield sites should be allowed.	The plan does not allocate sites for development
General		Keep as much Natural Environment as possible	The aim of the plan aim is to do this
7.2	SMNP4 SMNP5	The village has a significant place in Dorset's history and its character must be maintained. Its view of various features such as the church and Badbury rings and the countryside should be maintained or the character of the village will be lost forever. If development of housing or for business is made it must preserve the character and views and therefore should be controlled and housing should be made in the same character/ charm of a rural village	The aims of the plan include protecting the rural setting and enhancing wildlife value within the parish. Whilst Badbury Rings is outside the Neighbourhood Plan area, both this and the church are recognised as important local landmarks in views, and therefore will help protect their setting.
7.4	SMNP6 SMNP7	Various comments re importance of Local Green Spaces and wildlife corridors / areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - vital to the sustainability of our planet. - need to keep green spaces and protect wildlife and habitats. The character of the village is important! 	Noted. The aims of the plan include protecting the rural setting and enhancing wildlife value within the parish
7.4	SMNP6	Various comments regarding the need to prevent building on the golf course. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - This is a very valuable asset to the area, not only for the golfing community but the locals who use the clubhouse for social and recreational uses - Importance for wildlife. - The valued views across the Stour Valley would be destroyed. 	The plan does not allocate sites for development. Its size precluded us from including it as a Local Green Space
7.4	SMNP6	The old orchard on the Alms House site is an important open space and should be protected	This is not currently evidenced to be designated as a Local Green Space but as it may be considered a priority habitat and is within the conservation area, certain constraints apply
7.4	SMNP6	Whilst it is correct to say there is no existing development consents on Barton's Ground a proposal to build 9 properties was submitted in 2019 as part of the call for suitable development sites in the draft DLP. It remains extremely popular with walkers and is in constant use. Designation as a LGS, to preserve for the local community, is strongly supported.	Noted.
7.4.2	SMNP6	The long gardens of 101 & 105 High Street need to be conserved both for wildlife habitat but also to reflect the manners of an earlier age when residents could feed their family off a plot.	Whilst it is recognised that such gardens can encourage wildlife, the Neighbourhood Plan cannot mandate that such gardens be preserved.
7.4.2	SMNP6	Barton's Ground requires preservation and care on the following grounds:- Amenity. It serves an important open space in the village and, having formed part of the Millenium Project it now contains important trees which are the subject of a Tree Preservation Order, and a Village Pound which abuts the rear boundary. It is a green space enjoyed on foot by many local people in the	Barton's Ground is proposed to be protected as a Local Green Space. It is now let and being used for grazing by horses. Historic Significance Noted. Specifically, Henry VI who founded Eton College

Para	Policy	Matters raised (summarised)	NP Group Response (italics = action)
		cause of a day and has an important connection to the public footpath running North/South alongside the edge of the meadow/pasture beyond. Historic Significance. The period of ownership by Eton College reflects a history which stretches back to the Hundred Years War at least when northern French monastic lands were seized and made part of the endowment of the College by the Plantagenet Kings of the time. The landscape of Barton's Ground betrays a much longer history of occupation however. The pits and trenches reflect dwelling sites and workings going back many centuries and excavation some years ago is reputed to have yielded hordes of oyster shells implying not only ancient occupation but undoubted links to coastal parts of the country. Any development on or adjoining this precious ground should be studiously avoided.	There is no confirmed or published evidence of this according to the County Archaeologist, though ditches and banks are found in some nearby fields as revealed by examination of 1940s air photographs.
7.4 7.5	SMNP6 SMNP7	The loss of habitats will impact on wildlife and habitats. There are very few green spaces suitable for wildlife - only Walnut Tree Field and Bartons Ground	Noted. Green spaces have been recognised as important
7.2 7.4 8.4 9.3.1 11.1.10	Henbury SMNP4 SMNP6 SMNP12	Serious concerns re. Henbury service development. Impact on traffic, access, noise pollution, night sky (pollution) and in turn wildlife. Concerns re. The Shieling, Dullar Lane potential 14 dwellings-there are bats and other wildlife in this area / on land and also more properties impact on ability to view night sky. Also concerns for additional traffic crossing A350 and A31, already a challenge for cyclists and pedestrians to cross at busy times. If lights were installed at Cross Roads on A350 near Bailey Gate this would cause traffic to queue and would impact on health of residents from polluted on A350 as impact on privacy and quality of life. A large part of 'local character' relies on green space, both public and private i.e. garden areas allocated to dwellings. This should be emphasised when inspecting planning for new developments which are suspected of overcrowding a plot.	Proposals for Henbury service area are beyond the remit of the Neighbourhood Plan. The plan does not allocate sites for development. Any development at the Sheiling prior to acceptance of the plan would be subject to planning consent. Problems associated with development in Dullar Lane are noted. The design codes accompanying the report are intended to address the issue of maintaining 'local character'
Built Environment			
General		Agree = 4 responses	This is endorsement of the Neighbourhood Plan.
General		All of the building sections are important	Noted
General		This is a particularly efficient set of principles and should be strongly defended	Noted
General		Lots of encouraging ideas re. design etc. However large house builders seldom take any notice and local planners do not enforce it.	The Neighbourhood Plan will become part of the planning policy and should be followed in most cases.
General		None of the current buildings include solar panels, heat pumps etc	Seem Policy SMNP1. Whilst we say that new buildings must demonstrate energy efficiency and sustainability in their design, we have not specified mandatory heat pumps as they may not be practicable in all cases.

Para	Policy	Matters raised (summarised)	NP Group Response (italics = action)
8.1.2 & 8.2.9		Holly Cottage 101 High Street is a grade II Listed Building and contains elements of early building practice such a cob walling, brick in fill panels, thatched roofing with timber frame and much which reflects the period of its construction circa 1685. It needs to be considered in conjunction with the neighbouring thatches Grade II Listed Building Keystone Cottage, 105 High Street, which sits in harmony both historic and visual with Holly Cottage and likewise an undisturbed setting.	Noted. These properties are Listed Buildings and the designation provides significant protection to the properties, which does not need to be replicated in this Plan and its policies.
8.2 / 8.3 & 8.4	SMNP10, 11 & 12	Design principles - the village is made up of a whole variety of designs reflecting the year of build. Good design is a matter of taste but consider the blend with existing buildings.	This is covered in the policy.
8.4	SMNP12	I agree with the design principles but I would like to see "MUST" instead of "consider" or "should" as these words enable an option to avoid design.	Clarification will be inserted in the introduction as to what 'should' means – in that is it not simply discretionary. <i>Add explanation of the term 'should' in the introductory chapters.</i>
8.4	SMNP9 - SMNP12	The Village is varied in its range of buildings and this should be reflected in any larger development by avoiding the use of generic repeated designs and appearances. Far too many developments elsewhere use the same brick type, roofing, porches, fencing, windows etc, as if uniformity is a virtue. In villages it is not.	This is covered in the policy.
8.4	SMNP10	Trees are good to look at but small trees can grow quite rapidly and form extensive roots which can and often do cause damage to underground utilities which could be disruptive whilst they are repaired. Also during periods of drought they can cause differential movement in buildings by drying out the subsoil as they draw large quantities of water. I would therefore caution against trees being planted unless there is minimal risk that the concerns highlighted above can be avoided.	The supporting text makes clear that the anticipated canopy size and root zone of trees should be taken into account in the layout.
8.4.6	SMNP11	We love the mix of large and small and old and newer properties in the village and area keen to ensure that new properties encompass the right look to blend in.	Noted. Where development is proposed within an existing character area, its form and scale should reflect the characteristics and variety found in that area.
8.4.6	SMNP11	I think that it is unreasonable to legislate against modernist design...the worst examples of recent developments have been 'faux cottage' or fake half-timbered buildings which pander to poor taste. Design assessments are best handled by a team with some professional experience and an open view on what can be achieved with the best materialsbut without the garish or clumsy cosmetics often resorted to by builders in order to make their 'product' stand out to illiterate buyers. This is a very sensitive and subtle area and, although no two people will necessarily have the same taste, it should be	This is covered in the policy. Design Assessments will be considered by Dorset Council.

Para	Policy	Matters raised (summarised)	NP Group Response (<i>italics = action</i>)
		possible to form a team with combined expertise who can take a balanced view.	
9.3.1 & 9.3.3		All new building should be kept to a minimum and restricted to infill only	We are not allocating any large sites or the release of Green Belt land. Three areas of land in the village not covered by Green Belt restrictions are considered in 9.3.1 but not allocated.
9.2 8.4.18	SMNP14	Applications for housing developments that promise affordable housing should be viewed with scepticism. Too often planning permission is granted with an agreed percentage of affordable housing only for the developer to then claim it's not affordable, resubmitting plans for reduced affordable housing. Any new housing to include an EV charging point for electric vehicles.	See Policy SMNP14 which aims to provide affordable housing. EV charging points are covered in Building Regulations
Home and Businesses			
General		Agree = 2 responses	This is endorsement of the Neighbourhood Plan.
General		Too many homes to be built in the village without infrastructure to cope. Consider putting a limit on the overall number of new homes so village character is maintained. Difficult to build on surrounding areas due to fields flooding	We are not proposing any additional housing in the Neighbourhood Plan
9.1		Too much housing - I do not think that we have the infrastructure to support Is 425 the maximum build or will it increase>	We are not proposing any additional housing in the Neighbourhood Plan. This is the housing requirement in the Draft Dorset Local Plan Consultation, and we are awaiting the next revision.
9.2	SMNP14	More bungalows and level access flats for older people and people with mobility issues to allow downsizing. If it's possible these to be preserved by planning conditions to prevent building up to add extra stories.	See Policy SMNP14 that discusses house types and size mix.
9.2.3	SMNP14	Various comments ref affordable housing needs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Affordable housing is too wide a definition as this can result in houses being built beyond the what the average wage can afford. There is a need for at least 35% housing association property being built on estates. - The village would need affordable housing - smaller housing - bungalows for downsizing where needed - support percentage of new development for rented, Newstart and 4-bed dwellings - The idea of preference for users with a 'local connection' is admirable ...but I cannot envisage any practical way that it could be administered. 	Affordable housing is defined in National Planning Policy (NPPF glossary). Our document refers to recent evidence in guiding what types of affordable housing are most needed in our area. See also changes to SMNP14 under the above table. The affordable housing provision can be controlled through the use of legal agreements (S106)
9.3.3		Prefer brownfield sites redeveloped rather than removing farming and recreation areas.	We are not proposing any additional housing in the Neighbourhood Plan

Para	Policy	Matters raised (summarised)	NP Group Response (<i>italics = action</i>)
9.4.4	SMNP16	Various comments on expansion of Bailie Gate: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - this is not the answer to more employment. There are always empty units there now. - We do not believe that there should be further development of Bailie Gate. This feels very separate to the village - I do not see the point of expanding the industrial estate. It does not support the village and incurs excessive traffic and noise pollution. 	Expansion of the industrial estate was already allocated in the East Dorset Core Strategy. Dorset Council are expected to produce an updated employment land needs assessment very short.
9.4.7	SMNP16	The expanse of Bailie Gate should be dependent on a new service road away from the High Street onto the A31	SMNP16 refers to improved traffic management including, if feasible, the delivery of a new link road connecting onto the A350 in accordance with Policy SMNP21.
11.2	SMNP22 & 23	Ensuring that consideration of parked cars and more road users as more properties are built to ensure that there is not congestion/traffic especially as many village users walk to the first school and amenities. Currently we are lucky to feel so safe when allowing our children to play in the village but my concern is this will change with more traffic in the village.	We are not proposing any additional housing in the Neighbourhood Plan. Policies 22 and 23 deal with the type of concerns raised here.
Community Facilities			
General		Agree or broadly in agreement = 6 responses	This is endorsement of the Neighbourhood Plan.
General		Get full fibre broadband to homes, copper is very outdated and will continue to slow down growth.	This is outside the remit of the Neighbourhood Plan, but provision is being implemented
10.1	SMNP17	What community facilities?	These are listed and described in the Plan in section 10
10.1.2	SNMP17	Community facilities should be expanded and important to maintain a post office, pharmacy and local shop as part of the attraction of our village. If further significant development of housing were to happen then the current facilities and infrastructure would not cope with the new demand.	See Policies SMNP17 – 19 which support this.
10.1.3 & 10.2.1		The facilities are already in place in the Memorial Hall for youth activities but attempts to organise those have not been long-term successful. The needs of the 12-18 yr old group should be addressed by paid organisers on a county-wide basis, not being left to amateur volunteers. This might ameliorate the sense of rural isolation felt by those too young or unable to afford their own transport.	This is outside of the remit of the Neighbourhood Plan.
10.1.3	SMNP17	No mention of the memorial hall.	See 10.1.3
10.1.8	SMNP17	I thought Churchill Close covered 4 sports facilities	See Dorset Council's Playing Pitch Report, which references football and cricket (the latter as un-used).
10.1.9	SMNP17	A long golf course would be beyond my capabilities. Sturminster golf course plays a vital part in bringing on very young players and enabling older players to continue to play on and keep fit in later life. There are very few sports	The Neighbourhood Plan notes the importance of the Golf Course to the community. There are no proposals in the Neighbourhood Plan for development on the Golf Course, which is currently protected as

Para	Policy	Matters raised (summarised)	NP Group Response (italics = action)
		facilities for the older age group. Also it is somewhere for the villagers to meet and socialise after dropping off children at the village school.-Perhaps more emphasis could be placed on the Golf Course facilities available to all and to the attraction and reputation it brings to the village.	Green Belt. The bar and eating facilities are recognised as a facility used by the community (not restricted to members only). The facility has also been designated as an Asset of Community Value.
10.2	SMNP17	Creating a community hub, potentially from the memorial hall. Providing safe space for young adults, a cafe/tuck shop, ability for local producers/makers to have stalls. Providing a warm space in the winter for those struggling with heating costs.	This has not been raised as a need by many residents, but if there is a need then it is hoped that this is expressed in a future review.
10.2	SMNP19	Concerned about ability of amenities to cope with increases population (gas, water pressure, access to GP, schools etc)	The Neighbourhood Plan does not propose any additional development
10.2	SMNP17	Policy 17 should include the fishing lakes accessed via Moor Lane. These are rich in wildlife and their seclusion and tranquility contributes to this. They are worthy of special status. Development proposals should avoid both temporary and permanent disturbance to them.	Wording in Environment Section 7.5.5 to be changed to: <i>“Rivers and ponds provide important habitats for a wide range of species. Otter and kingfisher are among the more notable species found along the River Stour and there is evidence that beaver may also be present near the meeting of the Stour and Winterborne. Great crested newts are present in small ponds at the western end of the parish. Fishing lakes (which were formerly gravel pits) between Moor Lane and Dorset Springs consist of a mixture of grassland, scrub and open water, supporting a range of species including waterside birds.”</i>
10.2	SMNP17, 18 & 19	If new houses are added more facilities, particularly for young people, would be needed.	Noted – this will be a matter for the Local Plan, but section 10 looks to ensure that the need to retain and potentially expand facilities is covered.
10.2.1	SMNP18	Is a skate park still needed? Has enough research been done into the use of skate parks in other areas. There are very noisy so situation is important.	Further surveys and research will be carried out, but the need for a skate park is a continuing theme from local engagement.
10.2.3	SMNP18	Agree with recreation use for Arch Ground. Not sure about playing field etc. There will certainly be no money for this.	Noted. See table above for further discussion on need.
11.1	SMNP20	Concerns re development in village centre and impact on places to walk, linked to physical and mental wellbeing. Residents may need to drive out of village to better green open spaces impacting on pollution and time, quality of life.	The Neighbourhood Plan does not propose any additional development. Refer to Section 11 of the NP
11.2.4	SMNP22	Traffic is already at quite bad levels down Station Road and the High St. If a sports and recreation area were developed at the Station Road land, may need to include a small car park to help ease pressure and make the main through routes safer.	Noted. Feasibility of link road to be investigated (see table above).
11.2.7	SMNP22	The current access to SM First School is dangerous as children and parents have to walk out into the High St. because there is no pavement on the East	Noted.

Para	Policy	Matters raised (summarised)	NP Group Response (italics = action)
		side immediately outside the school just before the NISA Store. ANY improvements here to make it safer are supported, including a 20mph speed limit.	Better signage, enhanced speed restrictions and traffic calming measures can also be pursued, subject to sufficient funding and agree with Dorset Highways.
Traffic and Transport			
General		Agree or broadly in agreement = 4 responses	This is endorsement of the Neighbourhood Plan.
General		Attention needed to speed and quantity of traffic through the village. -20mph limit in the whole village. -How would a 20mph speed restriction be enforced. -Whilst there is a policy for reducing traffic speed within SM there should also be objective. -20 mph restriction would be wise but parking restrictions should be avoided other than outside the school and the current Spar shop	The Parish Council are working with Dorset Council on possibly introducing a 20mph zone in the village. Speed Watch checks are being arranged. Noted. Objectives to be amended accordingly. <i>Add 'and speeding' after "to avoid congestion"</i>
General		Newton Road / village is a 'rat run'. What will 1000 extra cars make it.	The Parish Council are working with DC on possibly introducing a 20mph zone in the village, and speed Watch checks are being arranged. The Neighbourhood Plan is not including site allocations and will continue to represent parishioners concerns regarding the Local Plan proposals.
General		As a dog walker it can often be somewhat tricky walking round the village. However further pavements or street lighting would change the rural atmosphere.	Noted. Local opinion on the need for further street lighting was split.
General		Favour benign neglect for the Moor Lane route to FP1. It will discourage unwanted interest/access to the Gladwish plots.	Noted. This is outside the remit of the Neighbourhood Plan to deliver.
General		Several comments on introducing double yellow line parking restrictions 20 metres either side of Townsend. Introduce Double yellow lines on left hand side of the road from the roundabout to the end of Churchill pub car park.	Noted. This is outside the remit of the Neighbourhood Plan to deliver, but could be raised with Dorset Council as Highways Authority.
11.1.2	SMNP20	General support for cycle route improvements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There are no cycle ways as such. A cycle route would be great. - Cycle paths and improved cycle/walking routes especially to Corfe Mullen would be greatly beneficial. A bridge over the river to the footpath to Shapwick by the church would be extremely useful to join the villages and enable those, especially with young children. This would make this instance shorter and encourage residents to more easily benefit from the services in both villages. - Would be great if a cycle/walk way could link up from white mill to Wimborne would mean contacting land owners etc. 	Refer to proposals in Table 11 and Trailway project. Unfortunately projects outside of the Parish cannot be included in the Neighbourhood Plan as it is outside of our area.

Para	Policy	Matters raised (summarised)	NP Group Response (<i>italics = action</i>)
11.1.2	SMNP20	Rights of way are poorly maintained.	Noted however this is outside the remit of the NP.
11.1.10		Concerned about traffic in high street and A350 (they are always digging that road up!) Pavement access to Golden Fox.	Noted. Refer to proposals in Table 11
11.1.12	SMNP20	A need to have safe footpaths along Newton Road and Mill Lane. The X8 and Wimborne bus are the only means of public transport.	Noted. The Parish Council are working with DC on possibly introducing a 20mph zone in the village. Speed Watch checks are being arranged on Newton Road but Mill Lane is a national speed limit road.
11.1.12	SMNP20	No real provision at all for walking or cycling. No speed reduction provisions in Plan. No change in public transport.	Refer to para 11.1.12 and Policy SMNP20. The Parish Council are working with DC on possibly introducing a 20mph zone in the village. Speed Watch checks are being arranged.
11.2	SMNP21	There is currently a very pleasant walking right of way through the golf course which would be lost if building takes place. Currently traffic going through Sturminster Marshall village gets very heavy at times. Parking for the local school, shops and chemist do make it quite dangerous. Extra housing would bring even more traffic into the mix.	Noted. No development is being proposed at the Golf Course in this Neighbourhood Plan.
11.2.1 & 11.2.3	SMNP21	Rights of way should be maintained and expanded to allow residents and locals to enjoy the beauty of the countryside. Transport and increased traffic would have a significant impact on the character and residents of the village and further major concrete/tarmac and traffic is not going to help the flooding issues which have not been addressed yet. We have one of the oldest bridges in Dorset which is beautiful but can only allow one vehicle to pass at a time and if more traffic were to flow through the village this could damage the bridge and effect a well known beautiful heritage piece of architecture.	Noted. However, the PRoW network is largely outside the remit of this NP. The Neighbourhood Plan is not including site allocations and will continue to represent parishioners concerns regarding the Local Plan proposals and traffic implications. Policy SMNP22 seeks to encourage better traffic management, and SMNP2 deals with flood risk and we have noted areas where flooding occurs across roads.
11.2.3	SMNP23	Rights of way more important for health benefits	Noted.
11.2.5	SMNP22	Several comments on parking issues, including on the High Street needs to be drastically reduced.	Noted. SMNP22 seeks to encourage measures to alleviate problems associated with on-street parking pressures.
11.2.5 11.2.7	SMNP22	Any expansion of Baillie Gate Estate must include an alternative access route directly to the A31 or A350 not impinging on the High Street. Through traffic to the North over 3 tons should be barred from High Street, Church Street, King Street and Mill Lane ...and directed towards Blandford via the A350 only. ...or Wimborne via the A31. Front Lane should be barred for all through traffic and only accessible for residents. This to avoid the regular blockages by large vehicles inc. articulated lorries directed by satnav.	Noted. SMNP22 refers to the need to consider the feasibility of providing a new link road connecting onto the A350. Traffic restrictions / signage are beyond the remit of the Neighbourhood Plan. Nonetheless, the Parish Council will seek to work with Dorset Council Highways to identify and implement better signage, enhanced speed restrictions and traffic calming measures subject to adequate funding.

Para	Policy	Matters raised (summarised)	NP Group Response (italics = action)
11.2.6	SMNP23	New housing should wherever possible have a minimum of 2 off road parking spaces. No one uses garages for their intended purpose and park on the road. All residents should be encouraged to park within their boundaries, only using public roads as a last resort.	Dorset Council parking standards generally requires at least 1 parking space (plus visitor spaces) for 1 and 2 bedroom homes, and at least 2 parking spaces (plus visitor spaces) for larger, family homes, with additional provision for visitors or where parking is provided in garages (as these tend to get used for storage). The Neighbourhood Plan cannot enforce the use of parking spaces.
Other comments			
General		Agree or broadly in agreement with the NP as drafted = 11 responses	This is endorsement of the plan.
General		Would like compensation in full for any fall out from this development.	This is beyond the remit of the Neighbourhood Plan.
General		More houses means more people, more cars and increased pressure on infrastructure. Building must be kept to a minimum.	The plan does not allocate sites for development
General		Affordable housing is a good idea but it rarely continues to be when houses change hands.	Affordable housing, as per national planning criteria, is expected to remain affordable in perpetuity, and this can be achieved through appropriate legal agreements.
General		All seems sensible but lack of what this may mean in practice makes further comments difficult.	Noted.
3.2.1		Whilst archaeology shows that people have lived in this area since Mesolithic times, the village of Sturminster Marshall is first mentioned in the Anglo-Saxon charter of 880AD. St Mary's Church dates from 1103. White Mill Bridge was built around 1175 and became a very important crossing point of the River Stour. For centuries the village was a farming community but in 1860 the Somerset and Dorset Railway arrived and the village extended along Station Road, diversifying its economic base. A milk processing factory and later a cheese factory were built close to the station, bringing industry to the area. On nearby low lying land, a watercress farm was established. With the closure of the railway in 1966, Sturminster Marshall's economy declined. The watercress farm ceased to operate shortly after, becoming a trout farm and then a site for gravel extraction. Milk processing ceased in 1978 and the cheese packing factory closed in 1989. The railway station and milk factory site is now the Bailie Gate Industrial Estate, and the watercress farm is now fishing lakes. Today the village is more of a dormitory settlement for people who work elsewhere	Update NP section 3.2.1 by addition of: <i>The name 'Sturminster' refers to minster (i.e. large church) on the River Stour. The 'Marshall' of the village name was William Marshall (1146-1219), the first Earl of Pembroke, who was one of the witnesses to Magna Carta. St Mary's Church dates from 1103.</i>
6.3 8.4.2	SMNP2 SMNP10	Building on Arch Ground (opposite the Co Op) will cause more floods as there are springs all around it except for a few yards in from the road. Any new development needs trees and shrubs for the environment.	Noted. Policy SMNP2 attempts to highlight the many springs in the area that need to be taken into account when assessing flood risk. Noted. Policy SMNP10 seeks the inclusion of street trees where feasible, and the retention of existing mature trees, and SMNP12

Para	Policy	Matters raised (summarised)	NP Group Response (italics = action)
			encourages the use of verges and native hedgerows as boundary treatments,
7.2 7.5	SMNP4 SMNP7	I believe as a resident we should be able to have a greater say in future development as it affects the character, beauty and essence of our village. If not handled correctly and thoughtfully we would loose all of that, which could never be regained. History has taught us that often we take for granted what we have and sweep away the old to bring in new but in the process ruin the very thing that makes a place special. A rural village should be allowed to maintain its rural character and charm.	Noted. This is the intent of the design policies in section 8.
7.4	SMNP6	Barton’s Ground is registered as a Village Asset. Eton College nearly sold that without any reference to the village whatsoever. Can we start a Go Fund Me campaign to actually buy it for the village?	Bartons Ground is designated as a “Local Green Space”. The purchase of the land is outside the remit of the Neighbourhood Plan.
8.1.1		People have lived in an around Sturminster Marshall for thousands of years. The name ‘Sturminster’ refers to minster (i.e. large church) on the River Stour – and one of the most notable buildings in the area is the Church of St Mary, which stands on the site of earlier Saxon buildings. The current building is grade 2* and dates from 1103 with later additions in the 12th, 13th, 14th and some rebuilding in the 15th century followed by a major restoration in 1859. The ‘Marshall’ of the village name was William Marshall (1146-1219), the first Earl of Pembroke, who was one of the witnesses to Magna Carta.	Update NP section 8.1.1 to: <i>8.1.1 People have lived in and around Sturminster Marshall for thousands of years, though the earliest written records date from the Anglo-Saxon period. One of the most notable buildings in the area is the Church of St Mary, which stands on the site of earlier Saxon buildings. The current building is grade 2* listed and dates from 1103 with later additions in the 12th, 13th and 14th centuries, some rebuilding in the 15th century and a major restoration in 1859 following collapse of the tower. Henry IV gave the income from the parish (which had previously gone to the abbey and leper colony at Pont Audemar) to Eton College, which he had founded. Between 1457 and 1857 the parish was a “Royal Peculiar,” meaning it was not subject to the jurisdiction of the bishop: the seal is still present, embedded in a pillar in the church.</i>
9.1.4 & 9.3.3		Please would you state that the green belt must be maintained. Maybe include somethings that we do want and some that we don’t want so showing leadership guidance.	This is a matter for the Dorset Council Local Plan and the Parish Council will be representing the views of the local residents in comments that it makes on any changes to the Green Belt.
9.2	SMNP14	While there are no sites identified for housing we agree that the village needs more affordable small homes for young families and for 'downsizers'. Large homes are under occupied as people like it here.	Noted.
9.2 11.1.10 11.2.7	SMNP14 SMNP20 SMNP22	Affordable housing. Traffic speed limits need to reduce to 20mph. Public transport in the evening to Blandford/Wimborne/Poole. Be able to walk to Vines Farm/Coventry Arms safely	Noted. The Parish Council are arranging traffic surveys to gather data. Public transport is beyond the remit of the Neighbourhood Plan.

Para	Policy	Matters raised (summarised)	NP Group Response (italics = action)
9.3.1 & 9.3.3	SMNP15	Any future development should take place on brownfield sites if possible, or on sites without a site that does not provide outdoor, recreational facilities for the local community as well as visitors to the area.	There are very few brownfield sites in this area.
10.1.5		St Marys Church, Sturminster Marshall holds two Church Services every week in addition to festival services, school end of term services and those for baptisms, weddings and funerals. St. Mary's is an active church holding an annual church fete, monthly market stall, a winter season of concerts and many other social and fundraising activities. St Marys Church, Almer is a 13th Century Church which holds monthly services and is used as a meeting place.	Noted. <i>Update NP section 10.1.5 as suggested</i>
11.1.2	SMNP20	Swift bricks should be stipulated in all new buildings. - I'm not sure the plan is the right place for this, but if possible I would further emphasize the need for improved cycle and public transport connectivity with other local communities and especially improving direct access to Corfe Mullen, Broadstone and onwards to Poole.	Noted – at the moment the plan refers to bird boxes. <i>Amend SMNP7 to reference bird bricks.</i> The Plan can only directly influence connections within the Parish.
11.2.7	SMNP22	Speeding is also of concern. Perhaps the speed limit reduced to 30 as village is entered by Golden Fox. Also more traffic controls ie. chicane in Newton Road and other areas to slow traffic. Traffic lights on White Mill bridge etc	Noted. The Parish Council are arranging traffic surveys to gather data.

Appendices:

Appendix A- September 2019 consultation material

Appendix B - Household Survey (August 2020)

Appendix C – Business Survey

Appendix D – Community Group Questionnaire

APPENDIX A – SEPTEMBER 2019 CONSULTATION MATERIAL

WHAT IS A NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN?

A Neighbourhood Plan is a document that sets out planning policies for a local area.

It is used to decide whether to approve planning applications for new buildings (including housing, industrial development and community facilities) or changes to existing buildings.

It is written by the local community, the people who know and love the area, to ensure the community gets the right types of development, in the right places.

Neighbourhood planning is supported by central government through [the Localism Act](#).

Neighbourhood Plans are based on the results of consultations with parish residents and businesses on local issues such as:

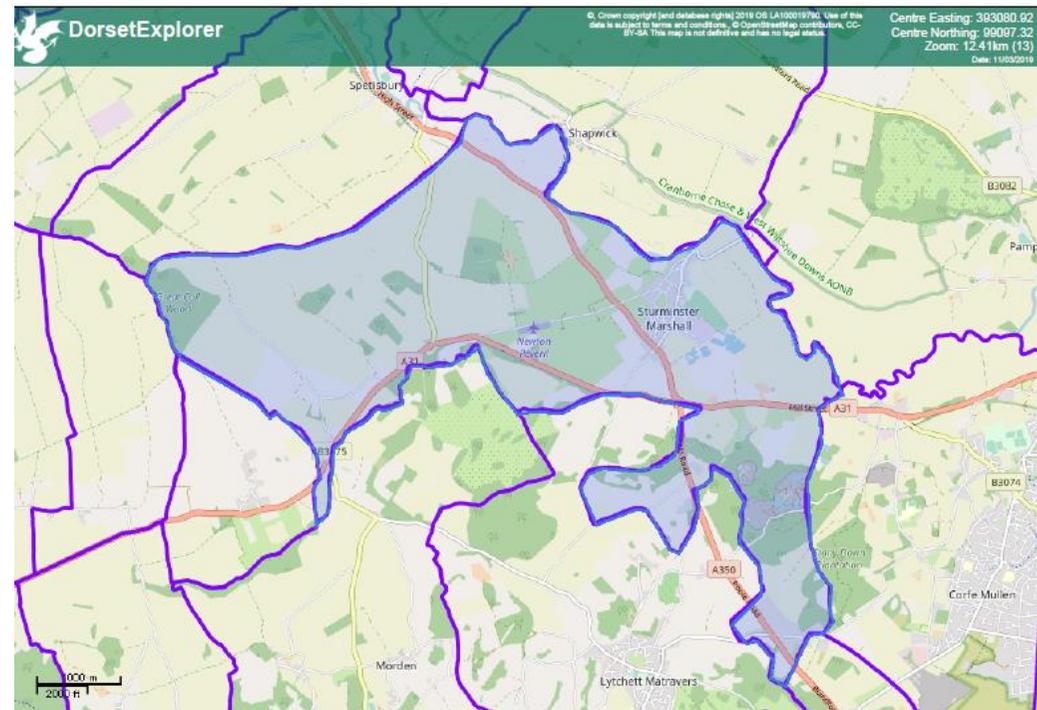
- where new housing should be located
- how much industrial development is desirable
- what social amenities are needed
- how we maintain or improve our local environment
- how we should deal with traffic in our area
- how we meet recreational needs
- what we can do for young people

WHAT AREA DOES THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN COVER?

The Neighbourhood Plan covers the whole Parish of Sturminster Marshall

WHO IS PREPARING THE PLAN?

The Plan is being prepared by a Steering Group of members of the public alongside Parish Councillors.



WHEN WILL THE PLAN BE FINISHED?

There are 3 main stages to preparing a Neighbourhood Plan:

Stage 1: Getting established

- Designation of the neighbourhood area
- Building an evidence base
- Publicity and engagement



Stage 2: Preparing the Plan

- Drafting the plan
- Meeting the basic conditions
- Pre-submission consultation

Stage 3: Bringing the Plan into force.

- Submission
- Publicity
- Independent examination
- Referendum

The Sturminster Marshall Neighbourhood Plan is currently in Stage 1 of the process and the intention is to have the plan adopted by 2023. Ultimately the decision to adopt the Neighbourhood Plan will be down to the community, through a referendum.

HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

If you have skills to offer the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group we would love to hear from you! Please leave your contact details before you leave and we will be in touch.

OUTLYING AREAS OF THE PARISH

INTRODUCTION

Three outlying parts of the parish have characters of their own, which separate them from the main village of Sturminster Marshall. They form distinct communities so that, although included in the Neighbourhood Plan area, special consideration will need to be given to issues which are particular to them.

JUBILEE CROSS

The area of Jubilee Cross straddles the A350 and centres on the cross roads where Wimborne Road, Poole Road and Rushall Lane meet the A350. There are 88 houses including 15 in Crumpets Drive. Most of the properties are post WW2, detached and individual in style with private drives and large rear gardens. The residential area is surrounded by Green Belt. There are some businesses which operate within the residential area, but it is considered to be one of rural retirement.

HENBURY/HENBURY PLANTATION

Henbury is a hamlet which is on both sides of the A31 from Roundhouse Roundabout to the Parish boundary with Corfe Mullen. There are 55 houses listed, one of which is Henbury Manor. This was a listed building, but was destroyed by fire in 1990. Henbury Hall is a grade 2 listed building. In the late 1980's, the walled garden was sold off to allow the owners to renovate Henbury Hall. The new development was called Henbury House Gardens. This was predominately an area for agriculture in the past. Now Henbury Farm buildings are an area for employment. Vines Close Farm has a farm shop, butchers and café. Henbury Stud Farm building are used commercially. Henbury Plantation which used to be the extensive gardens of Henbury Hall is now a site for mineral extraction.

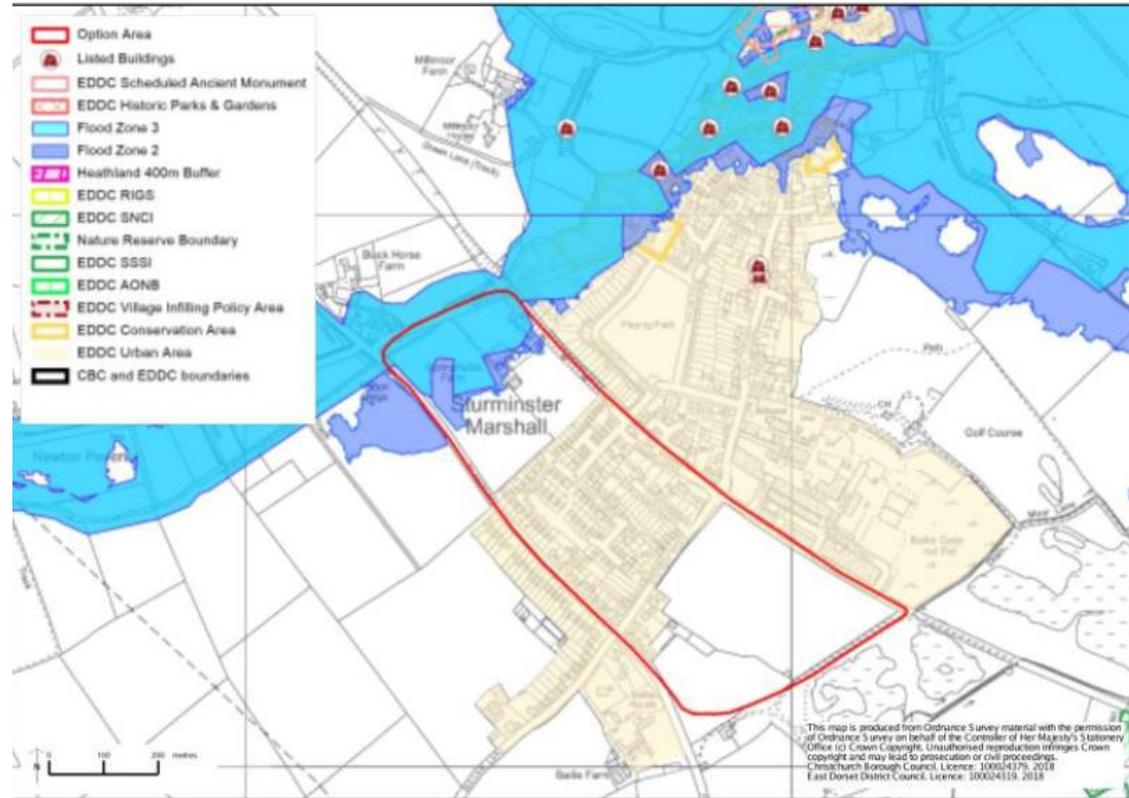
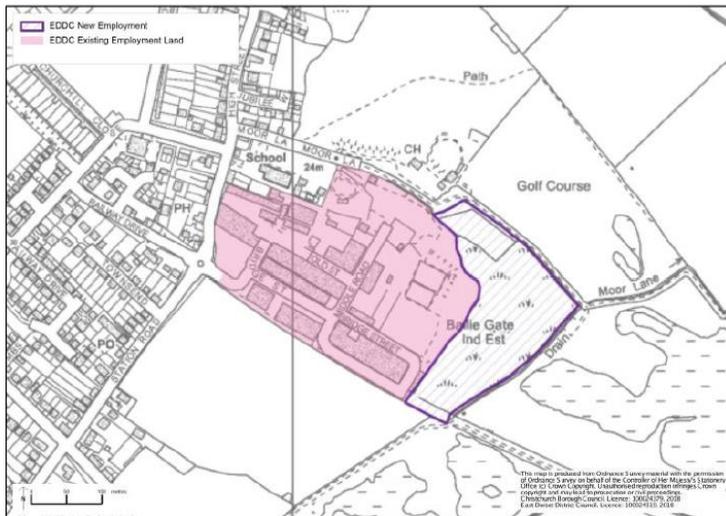
ALMER, MAPPERTON AND MOORCOURT

Almer is a village on the A31 in the Winterborne valley, in the South West of the parish. It was originally a parish in its own right and included the hamlet of Mapperton and West Almer. Today, East Almer is also considered to be part of this area. There are 30 properties including farms. All except two of these

properties in Mapperton are owned by the Drax Estate. One being a Grade 2 listed Rectory and an unlisted cottage. In Almer there is a grade 2 listed Manor House, Grade 1 listed church, and an old school house. Mapperton has issues with groundwater flooding when the water table is high. 6 properties including Moorcourt Farm (Drax Estate) a working farm and Field Dairy Farm, with associated buildings, which are now used for employment, are in the North Western part of the parish and lie nearer to the River Stour. In this area close to the Parish boundary are 4 cottages called New Buildings.

WHAT WAS PROPOSED BY THE EAST DORSET LOCAL PLAN OPTIONS CONSULTATION?

In 2018 East Dorset District Council consulted on a Local Plan options document. This contained policies covering a wide range of topics including design, employment, community facilities and housing. It also provided a range of sites where new development could be located. Two of these sites were located in Sturminster Marshall and were identified for around 250 new homes. One site is also allocated for employment land



WHAT HAS HAPPENED TO THIS PLAN?

Following the merger of East Dorset, Purbeck, West Dorset, Weymouth and Portland, North Dorset and Dorset County Council to form 'Dorset Council', the latest East Dorset Local Plan Review has been abandoned. Dorset Council is preparing one Local Plan for the whole area with the view to adopting this in 2023. As the Plan is in the early stages of preparation, it is not known what it will contain and whether it will still allocate housing in Sturminster Marshall. However, it is still reasonable to assume that, given the housing target remains the same, the allocations may be similar to the ones already suggested.

The timetable for the new plan is set out in the Local Development Scheme. The key stages and likely timescales are:

- Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report: July 2019
- Options Consultation: September 2020
- Publication: September 2021
- Submission: March 2022
- Examination: Summer 2022
- Adoption: Spring 2023

CAN THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN INFLUENCE THE ALLOCATION OF 250 NEW HOMES?

No, it cannot. The Local Plan allocates strategic housing growth and the Neighbourhood Plan cannot supersede this. What it can do is influence what the housing will look like, the size and type of the homes and the facilities provided with them.

CAN THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN LOOK AT OTHER HOUSING SITES?

Yes, it can. The Neighbourhood Plan can allocate sites for housing so if there are additional sites to be looked at you can suggest them to the Steering Group.

ENVIRONMENT

INTRODUCTION

A healthy environment, either natural or man-made, is an essential contributor to the wellbeing of a community. Our parish lies in a predominantly agricultural landscape and retaining the feeling of a rural setting is seen as an important consideration for the future. Retaining some historical features of the built environment and open spaces within them will also help retain the character of both the main village and the outlying areas.

Within the overall scope of environment, there are a number of different features that need to be considered.

LANDSCAPE

The Parish sits mainly in the valleys of the Stour and Winterborne and these contribute to the particular character of the area, together with small areas of semi-natural habitats and with patterns of land management.

- How important is landscape to you?

FLOODING

Flooding, by river and ground water, has impacted this Parish quite a bit over the past few years as well as historically. Improving drainage does help but it may be necessary to plan strategically to avoid increasing flood risk in the future, especially as housing development may add to the risk of flooding.

- How can we mitigate against future flooding?

THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

As well as the two rivers, the parish has a number of small areas of semi-natural habitats and although none of these is afforded protection through national designation, they are nonetheless important locally as contributors to biodiversity. Of special value is the network of hedges and small woodlands.

- How can we best protect our natural environment?

GREEN BELT AND GREEN SPACES

The Green Belt is now coming under threat from the need for more housing and this makes the green spaces in the Parish even more important.

- How strongly should we resist development in the Green Belt?
- Which green spaces do you value most?
- How should these be managed?

FOOTPATHS

Footpaths can be a big asset to any community, providing opportunities for quiet recreation and safe connections between different parts of the parish.

- How can we best retain and maintain our existing footpaths?
- Is there scope to extend the footpath network?

CONSERVATION IN THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Conservation and Preservation affect not just our green environment, it is also very important to protect our historic bridges and buildings. The street scene is important to the community feel.

- Should older structures be preserved?
- How do we plan future development to maintain the parish character?

HOUSING

INTRODUCTION

Development must follow government and local council policies (National Planning Policy Framework and Local Plan)

Constraints are also imposed by the need to avoid, as far as possible, building in the Green Belt and flood plain or compromising wildlife sites (e.g. SSSIs and areas of heathland) or designated conservation areas within village centres.

LOCAL PLAN REVIEW

The East Dorset Local Plan Options Consultation proposed building at least 250 new homes in Sturminster Marshall and identified two locations where these could be built. We expect the new Dorset Council Local Plan will set a similar target for the parish.

PARISH PLAN

The 2004 Parish Plan and its review identified a number of priorities for housing and patterns of domestic and commercial development.

- The need for affordable housing
- The need for sheltered housing
- The allocation of over-60s housing for over-60s
- To prevent gravel extraction
- To place restrictions on Bailie Gate Industrial Estate, including full screening and alternative access

THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

The Neighbourhood Plan will have considerable influence on where development might take place and how it is carried out. In developing policies within the plan, we need to ask a number of questions:

- Should the Green Belt be protected?
- Where might future housing be located?
- What types of housing are needed (affordable, sheltered, shared ownership, rented, social)?
- What types of buildings should be built (bungalows, flats, detached houses)?
- What design constraints should be put on development?
- Does development need to be eco-friendly?
- How can we protect the village character and listed buildings?
- Is there a need for a Community Land Trust?
- How will development affect traffic?
- How much do services need to be upgraded?

As well as housing, we need to consider our approach to further commercial and industrial development.

- How much further industrial development is desirable?
- What sort of development should be allowed?
- Where should it be?
- What infrastructure changes are needed?

EMPLOYMENT

INTRODUCTION

As recognised in the Local Plan Review, Bailie Gate Industrial Estate is the main employment site in Sturminster Marshall. The Plan also recommended allowing expansion of this site by 3.3 hectares to accommodate office and light industry, general industry, and warehousing and distribution.

Smaller commercial units are located at Henbury Farm, Vines Close Farm and Field Dairy Farm. Employment is also provided by two shops, three public houses, the gravel pits at Henbury and Lytchett Motors at Jubilee Cross.

PARISH PLAN

In the 2004 Parish Plan, concern was expressed about expansion at Bailie Gate Industrial Estate because of visual impact, noise and the growth in road traffic along Station Road. In the review of this plan in 2011, there was little support from either the industrial estate owners or East Dorset District Council for alternative access

- What do you think about the need for future employment opportunities and industrial development within the parish?
- Should conditions be placed on future commercial development?
- Are measures needed to mitigate any potential impacts?

AMENITIES

INTRODUCTION

The presence of community facilities and amenities make a significant contribution to the wellbeing and community spirit of Sturminster Marshall. They have a positive impact of the sustainability of the Parish, providing focal points for social interaction.

There are a wide range of facilities in the Parish. These include pubs; a first school, shops, a village hall, churches, a playgroup, a play area with village green and equipment and a sports field.

However, in recent years Sturminster Marshall has suffered the loss of some amenities such as a doctor's surgery and some public transport routes. These have not been replaced, although there is the use of the community bus which is operated and run by a local charity.

PARISH PLAN

In the 2004 Parish Plan and the 2011 revision, a number of suggestions were made about improvements to amenities in the parish though, with a few exceptions, there was no great need seen for many additional facilities or amenities.

- At the time of the Parish Plan, the doctor's surgery was operating at the Memorial Hall and it was thought that this could be expanded to provide additional health and social services. A need was seen for a pharmacy and we now have this.
- Additional indoor and outdoor recreational facilities were thought desirable, including a possible skate park and tennis courts. Such facilities were seen as especially important for young people, with the additional benefit of providing an antidote to boredom and anti-social behaviour.
- A village hub was suggested that might cater for a range of activities aimed largely at older members of the community, but the need for this remained to be assessed.
- The servicing of extra facilities was seen to be dependent on finding suitable commercial partners or volunteers and the right location, and also on the provision of financial support.
- Support was expressed for expansion of the cycle network and the Trailway project would appear to meet many of the wishes of respondents asking to open up this route.

WHAT AMENITIES/FACILITIES IN THE VILLAGE DO YOU VALUE?

- Memorial Hall

- Old School Hall
- Shops
- Church
- Pubs
- First School
- Recreation Ground
- Golf Club
- Other (please state)

- What amenities/facilities would you like to see improve?
- Should existing amenities/facilities be protected from change of use?
- Are there any new amenities or facilities you would like to see?
- Where could these go?

YOUTH AND RECREATION

INTRODUCTION

In planning for the future, the views and needs of the younger generation must be taken into consideration. However, due to the wide range of activities undertaken, it is unrealistic to expect that all relevant amenities can be provided in the Parish: some may be available in nearby towns.

LOCAL PLAN REVIEW

East Dorset Local Plan Review - Options Consultation 2018 does not specifically refer to the needs for Youth & Recreation. It mentions a possible new area of open space (off Station Road) and two existing areas of public open space; one at Churchill Close (2.4 ha), which provides sports pitches and a children's play area, and the other in Walnut Tree Field (1.3 ha), which provides an informal riverside open space.

Other facilities include The Memorial Hall, The Old School, the golf course and the school swimming pool.



East Dorset Local Plan Review - Options Consultation 2018

PARISH PLAN

The 2004 Parish Plan identified a number of issues that mainly affect young people, and these were confirmed in the 2011 revision of the Plan.

- Lack of adequate transport provision affects the young disproportionately
- There was a perceived lack of some facilities used predominantly by young people, with suggestions for a skate park, and netball & tennis courts.
- The need for safe cycleways
- The provision of a safe environment for youngsters
- Vandalism and anti-social behaviour
- The value of a Youth Club
- The need to consult young people, possibly through a Youth Forum

- Are these still the main issues?
- What else is needed?
- How can we involve young people more effectively?
- What effect will extra housing have on existing facilities, amenities and organisations – more youngsters to cater for?
- Whilst the parish may be able to provide some additional facilities, the success of Youth & Recreation initiatives is dependent on the level of parental support and supervision. How can we involve more parents?

TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT

INTRODUCTION

The Parish stands at the intersection of two major roads and these are main routes to and from work or other activities and so have high traffic volumes at peak times. Limited bus services mean that many residents are dependent on motor vehicles.

Within Sturminster Marshall itself, there are areas subject to congestion, especially around shops and the school and in older parts of the village developed before mass car ownership.

PARISH PLAN

The Parish Plan and its review showed concerns mainly about parking, speeding, heavy traffic using White Mill Bridge and the provision of bus services.

LOCAL PLAN REVIEW

Before it was abandoned, the East Dorset Local Plan Review was awaiting results from a modelling exercise to examine the impact of potential new development in our area and its possible use in refining housing options.

Any development arising from expansion of Bailie Gate Industrial Estate by the release of 3.3 hectares of land from the Green Belt would require the agreement of a comprehensive travel plan. This would include support of regular bus services and scope to provide footway/cycleway links towards village facilities.

In the plan there is a proposal to build a minimum of 250 houses, of which 50% would be affordable, on two sites in the village. These developments would require a contribution to the transport infrastructure and the provision of open space.

WHAT ARE THE MAJOR ISSUES?

Walking/ pavements Roads Cycle ways Public transport

- Are 20 mph zones needed in some parts of the village – for example Front Lane, in front of the school, Churchill Close?
- Can we improve pedestrian access to the Vines Close shops from the village?
- Do we need more pavements, for example, from the Trailway and along Newton Road and from the A350 to Maggs Bridge?
- How can we improve access onto the A31 for residents in Henbury?
- How can we improve access onto the A350 for the residents of Jubilee Cross? Is there a need for traffic lights?
- Should the X8 bus service along the A350 be more frequent to integrate the parish and link it more closely to Poole?
- Should we retain the bus service to Wimborne?
- How can we better manage parking and congestion around the Nisa and Co-op shops? Can we reduce on- street parking?
- As the industrial estate expands, can we improve public transport to the village for the workers to reduce traffic flow?
- How do we best manage traffic flow onto the A350 from Station road and Newton road? Does it need traffic lights or roundabouts?
- How do we incorporate cycle ways and pedestrian access into the village, to make it a safer place?

Sturminster Marshall Parish Council

Neighbourhood Plan – Residents’ Questionnaire

08/2020

Privacy: The information you provide will be held and used by the Parish Council for research relating to the preparation of the neighbourhood plan and related planning policies. It will not be used or published in a manner which would allow identification of your individual responses or kept for more than 6 months following the completion of the Neighbourhood Plan.

Please give your consent as otherwise we will not be able to use the data you have supplied.

Yes; I consent to you using the data provided on this form in the way described above. (If you don't tick this box we cannot use your data so please tick if you intend to carry on.)

If you wish to make any public comments in your own name you are welcome to on our Facebook page or by emailing: sturminstermarshall@dorset-aptc.gov.uk

A. General

1. Please tell us your postcode:

2. How many years has your household lived in Sturminster Marshall parish?

- Less than 5 years 5 to 15 years More than 15 years

3. What made you choose to live in this area? Please tick up to three points.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Born here / family connection | <input type="checkbox"/> Convenient for workplace / jobs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cost of housing | <input type="checkbox"/> Catchment area for good schools |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Local facilities generally (pubs, shops, etc.) | <input type="checkbox"/> Sense of community |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of crime | <input type="checkbox"/> Character of the housing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Character of the countryside | <input type="checkbox"/> Good public transport links |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Good road links | <input type="checkbox"/> Nothing in particular |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Please specify.) | |
| | |

4. And now you are here, what is it about the area that you enjoy or value most?

Please tick up to five points.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Born here / family connection | <input type="checkbox"/> Convenient for workplace / jobs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cost of housing | <input type="checkbox"/> Catchment area for good schools |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Local facilities generally (pubs, shops, etc.) | <input type="checkbox"/> Sense of community |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of crime | <input type="checkbox"/> Character of the housing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Character of the countryside | <input type="checkbox"/> Good public transport links |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Good road links | <input type="checkbox"/> Nothing in particular |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Please specify.) | |
| | |

5. Thinking about the issues above (and any other points), what is the main thing you might want to change to improve this area?

B. Housing: *The 2017 East Dorset District Council draft plan indicated at least 250 new homes to be built in the parish by 2033. We need to find out about any housing needs you may have and your thoughts on how much and where development should happen across the parish.*

6. Please enter the number in your household in the following age ranges (including yourself)

0 – 4 (__) 5 – 14 (__) 15 – 19 (__) 20 – 34 (__)

35 - 49 (__) 50 – 64 (__) 65 – 79 (__) 80 years+ (__)

7. What type of house do you currently live in?

- Detached house Semi-detached house Terraced house
 Bungalow Flat / apartment
 Other (Please specify.)

8. How many bedrooms does your home have? Please include all spare rooms that could be used as bedrooms for example currently used as study / office: (__)

9. Do you:

- Rent from a Housing Association / Trust (affordable rented)
 Rent from a private landlord Own the home (with or without a mortgage)
 Other (Please specify.)

10. Thinking about the next 5 – 10 years, please indicate which statement below best describes what the situation of your household is most likely to be.

- Where I / we live now may still suit my / our needs.
 We may need an additional home (for example adult children may move out).
 I / We may need to move to a bigger home.
 I / We may need to move to a smaller home.
 Other (Please specify.)

If you are not likely to need a new home in the parish, please skip to Q14.

11. If you will require a different home, would this be in the parish?

- Yes; somewhere in the Sturminster Marshall parish.
 No; I / we will be moving away from the parish.
 Not sure. Not applicable.

12. If you answered 'Yes' to Q11, what size or type of house would best fit your

needs? Only tick more than one box if your household will be needing more than one home in the local area.

- 3–4 bedroom house 3-4 bedroom bungalow
 1 - 2 bedroom bungalow 2 bedroom terraced / semi-detached house
 2 bedroom flat / apartment 1 bedroom flat / apartment
 Shared accommodation with care facilities Adapted housing e.g., for a disabled person

- Live-work unit (with a large dedicated workspace)
- Other (Please specify.)

13. And will you be looking to: (Please indicate all that would apply.)

- Rent from a Housing Association / Trust (affordable rented)?
- Rent from a private landlord / letting agent (at market rent)?
- Part buy / part rent from a Housing Association / Trust (shared equity)?
- Buy at a discounted rate (affordable home ownership)?
- Buy on the open market (with a mortgage or outright)?
- Self-build (plot of land)?
- Other (Please specify.)

.....

14. Do you know anyone living outside of the parish who is looking to move into the parish in the near future?

- No
- Yes; they are already on the housing register
- Yes; they will be applying for social housing on the housing register. (In this case, please indicate what size and type of housing they would require.)
- Yes; they will be looking to purchase on the open market. (In this case, please indicate what size and type of housing they would require.

15. The 2011 Census recorded 747 homes in the area. In the last 15 years, we have seen an average growth rate of just over 5 houses per year. The proposals in the draft East Dorset Local Plan were suggesting a higher rate of around 15 houses per year in the future. Looking ahead over the next 15 years, what level of growth do you consider about right, if we can identify acceptable sites?

- up to 5 homes a year on average (up to 75 homes in total)
- 5 - 10 homes a year on average (75 - 150 homes in total)
- 10 - 15 homes a year on average (150 - 225 homes in total)
- 15 - 20 homes a year on average (225 - 300 homes in total)

16. And, subject to finding acceptable sites, where do you think the housing should be built?

- Within Sturminster Marshall village (denser development using gardens etc.)
- Adjoining Sturminster Marshall village (in the Green Belt)
- Some limited development in the smaller settlements such as Jubilee Cross (Lyttchett Matravers) and/or Almer area
- Brownfield sites (such as vacant employment land)

17. Are there any particular sites that you think would be suitable for over 5 homes (Please specify)

.....

C. Employment: *If any of your household runs her / his own business from home or from other premises in the parish a separate more detailed business survey will be issued shortly. If you would like to receive a copy of the Business Survey please email: sturminstermarshall@dorset-aptc.gov.uk*

18. Prior to the coronavirus lockdown, please enter the number of people in your household that fall within each category (including yourself):

- Employed / Self Employed (__) Retired (__)
- Unpaid carer in your own home (__) Housewife /househusband (__)
- Working from home (eg home office) (__)
- Mobile working (no main work base) but live in Sturminster Marshall parish (__)
- Working in Sturminster Marshall parish, in other premises (__)
- Travel to main work base outside the Parish
- In pre-school or primary school education (__) In secondary school /higher education (__)
- Unable to work due to ill health / disability (__) Currently unemployed seeking work (__)
- Other:

19. Is anyone in your household looking to buy or rent business premises in the parish in the foreseeable future? Only tick more than one box if your household has more than two businesses needing premises locally.

- No, - you can jump to **question 24.**
- Yes; to start a new business in the area.
- Yes; to expand or relocate a business that is already based in the parish.
- Yes; to expand or relocate a business that is based outside of the parish.
- Other (Please specify.)

20. If you answered 'Yes' to the previous question, please tell us the type of business and the size of premises you hope to acquire.

The type of business

The size of premises you hope to acquire square metres.

21. Can you tell us how important it is that the premises is located in the parish?

- Very important; it wouldn't work in another location.
- Reasonably important; it would make sense but it would depend on other factors.
- Not that important; it could just as easily work in other locations.

22. If you answered 'Yes' to question 19, would premises in Bailie Gate Industrial Estate or one of the smaller industrial elsewhere in the parish be a possible option for you?

- Yes No Don't know

23. And finally, please tell us how many people you are likely to employ:

- 0 - 1 employees 2 - 9 employees 10 or more employees

D. Traffic and transport:

24. How many vehicles used by members of your household (including works vehicles) are normally kept overnight at your home? (__)

25. How many off-road parking spaces (garaging and on driveways) does your home have? (__)

26. Does any member of your household have mobility difficulties, for example, a blue badge holder? Yes No

27. Do any of the following traffic related issues within the parish cause you direct concern?

	Yes, a lot	Yes, a little	Not really
Road safety -speeding traffic	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
On-street parking in unsafe locations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Road safety -other (e.g., dangerous junctions)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Any other traffic related concerns (Please specify.)

.....

If you answered "Yes, a lot" to any of the above, please give details of what the issue is, and where in the parish you have had the most concern

.....

.....

28. If you think there is a need for any new walking / cycle routes in the parish, please say where these should go (to / from)

.....

.....

29. Does anyone in your household regularly use the local bus services and / or the Dorset Community Transport service?

No. Yes; for work journeys.

Yes; for shopping trips. Yes; for getting to school / college.

Yes; for other trips. (Please specify.)

.....

30. Are there any changes to the bus routes or timings that would encourage you to use the services more?

No Yes (Please specify.)

.....

31. Street Lighting – which statement below reflects your views

In future developments:

There should be street lighting (but using low energy / timed lights)

There should not be any street lighting (to minimise light pollution)

Do you think the level of street lighting in existing areas is:

about right – no change is needed

about right – but more could be done to reduce the amount of energy used eg through more efficient technologies

not enough (there should be more street lights)

too much (there should be fewer street lights)

32. Additional roads – it has been suggested that another road could be built between the Bailie Gate industrial estate and the A31 or A350, to relieve Station Road traffic. Do you support this idea?

- No Yes

33. Where do you see problems with road safety issues, and what measures would you like to see implemented to resolve them, for example traffic calming?

.....

E. Community facilities:

34. How important do you consider the following local facilities to be:

Very important - Reasonably important - Not important - No opinion

First School	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pre-school	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Memorial Hall	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The Old School Hall	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The churches	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The footpaths & bridleways	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Co-op store	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
NISA store / Post Office	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wellbeing pharmacy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Vines Farm Shop	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Red Lion pub	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Golden Fox pub	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
World's End pub	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Golf Club	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Churchill Arms pub	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Play park	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Churchill Close sports pitches	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

35. What are your top priorities for improvements to our facilities, or new facilities? The following have been previously raised, but you may have other ideas. Please tick up to three boxes.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Skate Park | <input type="checkbox"/> All weather sports pitch |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other open spaces for sports and leisure | <input type="checkbox"/> More footpaths / bridleway |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Health centre <input type="checkbox"/> Allotments | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Please specify.) |

.....

If you have any other ideas or thoughts on parish facilities please note them briefly here.

.....

F. Character and Environment: *The rural character of the parish is important to many local residents. It would be useful to understand what specific features you value.*

36. What local green spaces do you value, for example Churchill Close Green and Charborough Green?

.....
.....
.....
.....

37. Are there any walks or views within the area that you think should be protected, reinstated or created? If so, please describe the location and route / what the view is:

.....
.....
.....
.....

38. Please identify below any features or characteristics of the parish environment that are important to you.

.....
.....
.....
.....

39. Are there any recent housing or other building developments in the local area (or close to the parish):

That you think are particularly GOOD?

That you think are particularly BAD?

1.

1.

2.

2.

3.

3.

4.

4.

40. What concerns you the most about new housing and areas of developments?

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

41. Climate change - do you agree that Climate Change is important and should be reflected in the draft Plan's policies?

No

Yes

And would you be interested in a community scale energy conservation or generation project such as solar panels?

No

Yes

G. Questions for our younger residents (aged 16 and under)

42. How do you rate living here on a scale of 1 to 5?

Write a number between 1 and 5 in the box.

(1 = really don't like living here to 5 = really like living here)

43. What places or activities do you like going to in the parish?

.....

44. Is there anything about the local parish that you would like to see changed, and if so, in what way?

- I like the area just how it is now. I can't think of anything.
 I would like to see. (Write your ideas here.)

.....

Thank you for completing this questionnaire. We will be consulting everyone further as we progress the Neighbourhood Plan, but if there is anything else you want to raise now, please do so here.

.....

Please return your completed questionnaire to one of the following collection points no later than Friday 21st August in the envelope provided:

<i>Co-op Store, Station Road, Sturminster Marshall</i>	<i>NISA Store, High Street, Sturminster Marshall</i>
<i>Mapperton Farm, Mapperton</i>	<i>Lytchett Motors reception at Jubilee Cross.</i>

Sturminster Marshall Parish Council Neighbourhood Plan

Business Survey – October 2020

This survey is directed at local businesses operating in the Sturminster Marshall Neighbourhood Plan area, to understand current and future business and service provision needs. It will provide important evidence to help shape future development in the Parish, so thank you for taking part.

Completing the survey should take no more than a few minutes. If you are unable to answer a question, please move onto the next. In terms of questions about your typical customers and customer profile, please base responses on your pre-Covid19 experiences.

It would help us if you can complete and return the survey before the end of October 2020.

If you wish to make any public comments in your own name you are welcome to on our Facebook page (*Facebook: SturminsterMarshallNeighbourhoodPlan*) or by emailing: sturminstermarshall@dorset-aptc.gov.uk

Name:

Organisation:

Q1 Please classify the type of business that you run.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Manufacturing | <input type="checkbox"/> Transport / Storage |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hospitality / Leisure | <input type="checkbox"/> Wholesale / retail |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Services |

Other – please specify:

.....

Q2 What are the main services provided by your organisation?

.....

Q3 Please confirm the address of the unit(s) you use in the Sturminster Marshall Parish area and their approximate size.

Unit address	Size (m ²)

Q4 How long has your business been running?

- Less than a year
- 1 – 2 years
- 3 – 5 years
- 6 – 10 years
- 11 - 20 years
- over 20 years

Q5 Where do most of your “customers” come from (approximate estimates including deliveries and collections)?

- % from Sturminster Marshall Parish Council area.
- % outside of the area but within 10 miles of Sturminster Marshall
- % from more than 10 miles away from Sturminster Marshall
- % from internet based business transactions.

Q6 How many vehicle movements (staff & customers) do you have each day On and Off of your premises

Number of Vehicles	HGVs	Lorry (not HGV) / Van	Car
1 - 5			
5 - 10			
Over 10			

Q7 Please tell us whether the use of your facilities at the current time are:

- under capacity (there is considerable under use)
- broadly at capacity
- over capacity (you are turning away customers)

Please give more detail here if you can:

.....

.....

Q8 Can you tell us whether the premises you use at the current time have issues with:

- Vehicle access for customers / deliveries
 - Parking for customers / staff
 - Causing noise or disturbance
 - Causing light pollution
 - Other (please describe)
-

Q9 On a scale of 1 – 5, where 1 is not important and 5 is extremely important, how essential is access to the internet and a mobile phone network at your premises?

	Not Important		Very Important		
	1	2	3	4	5
Good Internet access / speed	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Good Mobile phone access / speed	<input type="checkbox"/>				

Q10 How would you rate current Internet provision to your premises?

- Good – More than enough capacity and speed (usually over 60Mbps)
- Average - Broadly capacity and speed are just about adequate (around 40Mbps)
- Poor – Insufficient capacity and speed (usually less than 10Mbps)

And how would you rate current mobile phone provision to your premises?

- Good – Strong 4G signal coverage
- Average - Average 4G signal coverage
- Poor – Weak or no 4G signal coverage

Q11 Would an increase in the local population be likely to benefit your service / business?

- yes – it would enable us to broaden our services and grow our business
- slightly – it would help us to maintain our existing services
- no – it could cause a decline in the services we offer and threaten our business
- other (please explain below)

.....

.....

Q12 Are you looking to extend or relocate your services in the next 5-10 years?

- Yes – regardless of population change
- Possibly if required through population increase
- No - unlikely to change
- No - likely to close

If yes / possibly, please tell us whether this would be:

- Within the existing site
- Requiring a larger site in the local area (Sturminster Marshall parish)

Re-locating outside the area (Sturminster Marshall parish)

If you would need to extend your site or find another site locally, please tell us the type and size of site that would be needed:

.....

Q13 Approximately how many people do you employ / work from your site?

Full-time employees

Part-time employees

Q14 Where do your staff travel from?

Number living in Sturminster Parish Council area

Number living outside of the area but within 10 miles

Number living more than 10 miles away

Q15 Do you have difficulty recruiting staff due to the lack of affordable housing in the local area?

Yes

Only sometimes

Rarely / never

Q16 In light of the Covid19 pandemic, do you expect that your business is likely to return to 'normal' in the future, or, if not, please describe what change you anticipate:

return to 'normal'

likely to be different

Please give more detail here if you can:

.....

And finally...

Q17 Is there any other information about your business experiences that may be useful for us to consider in preparing our neighbourhood plan?

.....

.....

Thank you for your help. –To find out more about our Neighbourhood Plan, please visit our website <https://www.sturminstermarshall-pc.gov.uk>

STURMINSTER MARSHALL NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN COMMUNITIES FACILITIES SURVEY – AUTUMN 2020

This survey is directed at local service providers operating in the Sturminster Marshall Neighbourhood Plan area, to understand current and future service provision needs. It will provide important evidence to help shape future development in the Parish, so thank you for taking part.

Completing the survey should take no more than a few minutes. If you are unable to answer a question, please move onto the next. In terms of questions about your typical customer usage and customer profile, please base this on your pre-Covid19 experiences.

You can either complete this paper survey, or complete the online survey here: - it would help us if you can complete and return the form as soon as possible, and before the end of November.

ABOUT YOU

Your name:

Organisation:.....

Your position in the organisation:

ABOUT YOUR COMMUNITY FACILITY

Q1: What are the main services / facilities provided by your organisation?

.....
.....

Q2: Where do most of your members come from (approximate estimates)? *(before Covid-19)*

	% from the Sturminster Marshall area
	% outside of the area but within 5 miles
	% from further away

Q3: What is the typical age profile of your members (either estimate % or tick all boxes that generally apply)? *(before Covid-19)*

	up to 19 years of age		50 - 64 years of age
	20 – 34 years of age		65 - 79 years of age
	35 – 49 years of age		80 years and older

Q4: Please tell us whether the levels of use of your facilities (*before Covid-19*) were:

- under capacity (there is considerable under use)
- broadly at capacity
- over capacity (you are turning away members)

Q5: Approximately how many people use your services (weekly average)? (*before Covid-19*)

Q6: In light of the Covid19 pandemic, do you expect that levels of use are likely to return to 'normal' in the future, or, if not, please describe what change you anticipate:

- return to 'normal'
- likely to be different

Please give more detail here if you can:

Q7: Can you tell us whether the premises you use at the current time have issues with (please describe briefly):

- Parking
- Causing noise or disturbance
- Causing light pollution
- Poor broadband speeds
- Poor mobile phone reception
- Other

Q8: Are you looking to extend or relocate your services in the next 15 years?

- Yes
- Possibly if required through a growth in the local population
- No - unlikely to change
- No - likely to close

If yes / possibly, please tell us whether this would be:

- Within your existing site
- Requiring a larger site
- Re-locating outside the area

Q9: Are there any specific improvements to community facilities or services that you think are much needed in the area?

Please give your thoughts here – it can be about the facilities / services you provide, or other facilities that may help local people and the area in general:

AND FINALLY...

Q10: Is there any other information about your experiences that may be useful for us to consider in preparing our neighbourhood plan?

Thank you for your help. Please return this form to the Parish Clerk at: sturminstermarshall@dorset-aptc.gov.uk

To find out more, please visit our website <https://www.sturminstermarshall-pc.gov.uk>