

Neighbourhood Plan Feedback

PART II: SUPPORTIVE COMMENTS

What specific areas of the plan did you particularly like?

- ▶ The protection of green spaces and footpaths (including reinstatement) around the village, the countryside is why we live here and not in a town/city.
- ▶ The concept of protecting green spaces whilst positively assessing housing need.
- ▶ Everything on housing, green spaces, the protection of the environment generally. And the capture of the character of the village.
- ▶ The identifying of green spaces
- ▶ The sections on the environment, green spaces and the character of the village. The detailed housing needs assessment.
- ▶ The well articulated and consolidated views of the village on so many important matters that need to be covered particularly in this context of planning. Including - Identification of green spaces to be retained - Identification of very limited and specific housing needs
- ▶ The housing policy for affordable homes and respect of our wonderful green spaces
- ▶ Promotion of low-cost housing. Better sewage management & cleaner Evenlode. Preservation of character of village

What specific areas of the plan did you particularly like?

- ▶ SH11 is good. Affordable homes are important and small sites are manageable.
- ▶ The emphasis on the need for affordable new housing, especially for young people and the elder.
- ▶ The continued support for not having street lighting.
- ▶ The section about green spaces
- ▶ The support for solar and heat pumps for new developments is very sensible and much needed.
- ▶ All 'key issues identified by Stonefield residents' in Section 3 were addressed in the plan either through policies or aspirations
- ▶ Section 9
- ▶ Too many to mention, if I have to pick one Blue/Green Corridors

What specific areas of the plan did you particularly like?

- ▶ The Plan was very comprehensive and seems to very strongly represent the views of the village through the Survey. The housing section was well thought through and researched. I liked the ambition to do more to create additional and safer cycle and walking paths outside the village.
- ▶ Description of the village, landscape, housing, transport, activities and thorough coverage of housing need.
- ▶ Improve bus links to Witney and Oxford
- ▶ Housing, transport, water and sewerage
- ▶ Not expanding the village into the surrounding countryside. No more executive homes. Some provision of affordable homes for Stonesfielders no street lighting and dark skies
- ▶ Countryside and natural environment

What specific areas of the plan did you particularly like?

- ▶ I felt the plan was well presented in easily understood sections. I was particularly pleased to see clear statements about housing need and the read across to dependencies such as utility infrastructure, transport and health services. The emphasis on the need for more 'affordable' housing is important. The use of resident survey and presentation events will have generated buy-in from the community and assurances about the plans currency and relevance.
- ▶ I liked the way the plan delved deep into a wide range of possibilities and that it was realistic about the future. I like that it was not about conserving the past but about being open to future possibilities while still maintaining what is unique and special about Stonesfield. I liked all the areas of focus and I dream of people being able to cycle with ease and safety to, at least, Woodstock!
- ▶ Transport, Housing Shop facilities
- ▶ Planning and transport
- ▶ The Back the White Horse amazingly successful campaign highlights what this village is all about. It's these things which brings and unites communities.
- ▶ Housing was good. Transport good.

What specific areas of the plan did you particularly like?

- ▶ The attention given to protecting biodiversity. The attention given to protecting the character of the village.
- ▶ Analysis of Housing demand and sustainable solutions. - Emphasis on custodianship of the local environment including green areas, woodlands and water courses. - Inclusivity. Awareness of the needs of local residents, the young (school-age) and older population.
- ▶ The intention that new developments are well designed and respect Stonesfield's local character: the last developments have been particularly urban in design and not really in keeping with a village setting. The intention to only support housing developments that provide affordable and social housing, and smaller houses. The idea that developments should provide an off-road parking space for each bedroom. The draft plan is specific in the way housing development should take place in the village (if any) and there is more importance given to the wellbeing of the village by extending the walking and cycling activities.
- ▶ Clear guidance is given in the draft plan that any future development should be in keeping with the character of the village. The cycling and walking section is also relevant to the health and wellbeing of the residents in the village.

What specific areas of the plan did you particularly like?

- ▶ We believe that providing homes is key to the success of the future of the whole village community, and think that the following aims highlight this specifically. Aim 1 To ensure the implementation of planning policy is conducive to a thriving community Aim 3 To enable more people of working age to live in Stonesfield To provide housing that is affordable to households on or below median income level To ensure that affordable housing remains affordable for would-be future occupants, not only initial occupants Aim 5 To conserve the tranquillity and dark skies of the Cotswold AONB, especially in relation to new development Aim 6 To ensure any new developments are well designed and respect Stonesfield's local character Aim 7 To apply the highest standards of environmental building design wherever possible
- ▶ The need to keep local architecture and landscape as a priority. Dark skies are important too. Ensuring the infrastructure (sewage) is in place. Keeping all green spaces/corridors.
- ▶ Awareness of lack of affordable larger homes in the village and points to address limiting larger unaffordable houses to focus on affordable ones.
- ▶ The combination of description, analysis and policy proposals makes a compelling village plan for the Stonesfield Council and the WODC to accept.

What specific areas of the plan did you particularly like?

- ▶ All of it but particularly:- 1. The commitment to facilitate if possible a limited quantity of social housing for people who have a genuine connection with/reason to live in Stonesfield and would otherwise be unable to afford to do so. 2. The clearly sincere intention to protect Stonesfield's Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty context and stop purely profit-motivated mass housing developers spoiling the essence of what makes people want to live here. 3. The expressions of support for steps outside the ambit of the Plan which would foster the continuing social, economic and general vitality of Stonesfield and maintain it as a place in which young, old and middle-aged alike will continue to wish to live. Just a few of the ideas mentioned in the Plan which testify to this and which I recognise the Plan cannot provide for but can support are:-
 - a. facilities to work online remotely so some residents can work here without having to travel;
 - b. better public transport to enable working residents to travel to work but minimise pollution of the planet;
 - c. better cycle routes to enable working residents and school students to get to work and enjoy recreation and minimise pollution;
 - d. support for existing and new businesses compatible with the AONB context of the village;
 - e. green energy, e.g. a wind turbine, for which I note one at least of those providing comment has expressed enthusiasm. I understand the Plan's function is limited and it cannot initiate such steps but it is reassuring that it expresses support for them and a desire to facilitate them as far as NP planning policy can.

What specific areas of the plan did you particularly like?

- ▶ An impressive level of detail, analysis of the survey results and the way the policies in the plan relate directly to the views of village residents. It represents a huge amount of work and I am very grateful to everyone involved in its production.
- ▶ I agree with the emphasis on Affordable Housing for local people rather than building large 4/5 bedroom houses. Also I was pleased to see recognition of the importance of Blue/Green corridors which is well documented in the plan.
- ▶ Very good that it's standing up to big monster developments and encouraging affordable housing
- ▶ Housing needs analysis
- ▶ Careful attention given to need for infrastructure to be considered when planning any new build housing, eg need for provision for extra sewage, heavier congestion from cars; environmental (green) concerns
- ▶ Commitment to protecting the environment
- ▶ The plans involving outside space and the environment

What specific areas of the plan did you particularly like?

- ▶ Difficult to signal out but I particularly liked the clarity of the Aims & Objectives section. That's the kind of village and community I want to live in.
- ▶ Protection of the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and Countryside - Stonesfield is a truly unique landscape where rare birds, animals and plants flourish Protect the public transport from Stonesfield to local towns Highlighting the exceptional community spirit and commitment in the village
- ▶ The identification of the 15 Green Spaces and connectivity for protection from development; likewise the identification of local public rights of way; and identification of Stonesfield's unique historical character.
- ▶ I like that development proposals for lower-cost homes will be supported. Very sensible that new development proposals should provide for one off-street parking space for each bedroom. Also good that development proposals that would lead to the loss of existing community facilities will not be supported.
- ▶ Sections 5, 9 and 11.

What specific areas of the plan did you particularly like?

- ▶ This plan is very well researched and constructed so perfectly suiting the real needs of Stonesfield. Especially the profiling of the actual Stonesfield residents and housing stock proving severe lack of 1-2 bedroom properties for locals, but surplus of large expensive 3-5 bedroom executive properties for attracting outsiders solely to increase profit for greedy developers. The ageing population profile and underoccupancy does not need these properties and they just use up and waste finite resources that are needed by Stonesfield's residents and adding to infrastructure being severely stretched to breaking point.
- ▶ You have my full support.
- ▶ Well done to the team
- ▶ I hope it goes through; the village needs to be protected from greedy developers who want to build houses for wealthy people and ruin the AONB.

What specific areas of the plan did you particularly like?

- ▶ The Plan's function is to concentrate on focusing the mind on planning. I believe it does this whilst emphasising the fact that this village is in an AONB and that must be respected
- ▶ Attention to the housing needs (a few, affordable houses needed only), the importance of protecting our environment and landscape from further unnecessary development and the difficulties of balancing our need to travel by car as we are a rural village, with parking needs within the village.
- ▶ I think the plan is very comprehensive and appreciate a lot of work has been done to put the plan together. It covers all areas which are important to retain the character of the village especially the restriction of building more large houses.
- ▶ I felt it was very well laid out, especially at the exhibition, and all the relevant areas had been included. I particularly like the fact green spaces had been identified which felt in keeping for the village and surrounding countryside.
- ▶ Discussion of sustainable transport. Design guidelines to include EV charging points
- ▶ Economy and amenities

What specific areas of the plan did you particularly like?

- ▶ Housing needs
- ▶ I think it is great and especially meets the needs of the village regarding the protected green spaces around our village, we don't need another ugly building eyesore
- ▶ The Plan is well designed, easy to navigate, clear and thorough. It says it is creating policies in response to the survey, so it is a democratic statement of what people want. I particularly like S5 Housing, for its emphasis on meeting the local need for low cost housing while protecting the rural beauty of the village; S9 for its LLCAs, LGS's and Dark Sky policy and SEL2 and SEL7; ST2 on pavements, and how they cannot be inserted into the narrow streets: they would ruin the character of the village.
- ▶ Focus on active transport, especially cycling.
- ▶ An excellent, comprehensive plan, clearly identifying aims and objectives and offering insight into the needs of the village through easily understood statistics and diagrams. Written with an unusual degree of clarity - thank you!

What specific areas of the plan did you particularly like?

- ▶ I liked the emphasis on protecting our green spaces, the importance of our community assets, preserving and improving green transport links and most importantly no large build housing. Agree if and when evidence is provided only affordable small houses could potentially be built.
- ▶ The section on housing needs
- ▶ The Plan addresses the key areas that were highlighted in the village surveys. Housing and the environment/countryside being the key issues of concern. There are now clear, well argued and evidenced policies to direct our Parish Council and District Council's development decision making. Well done to the NP Steering Group for all the hard work they have put into it.
- ▶ The detail/ Amazing amount of details and this helped me focus on the plan. Some good maps and picture too which aid understanding
- ▶ The focus on community and the resources we have here. What an amazing place to live!
- ▶ Environmental issues; Protection of Green areas, concerns over water pollution

What specific areas of the plan did you particularly like?

- ▶ The references to promoting safe cycling and walking options as part of Aim 7. This not only supports slowing the climate emergency but has direct links to elements of Aims 3 & 4 of supporting villagers health and reducing the current pavement parking issues in the village. I also really support the mention of social housing in Aim 3.
- ▶ Conservation of the natural environment of Stonesfield, and striving to retain its historic character
- ▶ That at last the plan has looked at the demographics and realised that homes for younger generations are required. Also the protection of countryside and keeping future developments in character with the rest of the village
- ▶ The clear information on the housing need - no more big houses and only a few smaller houses. The need to address climate change. The need to protect our natural surroundings and biodiversity
- ▶ Identifying key spaces to be protected
- ▶ The emphasis on low-cost housing for village residents

What specific areas of the plan did you particularly like?

- ▶ To ensure water and sewage infrastructure. Retain, extend & enhance public transport. To enhance road user & pedestrian safety (speeding drivers)
- ▶ Appreciate the obvious time and effort that has been put into compiling and writing the plan. Great that it recognises that maintaining our community and rural identity is very important to the future of the village.
- ▶ I have some concerns about the restriction on development affecting opportunities to change the age range demographic of the village so was encouraged to read that exceptions can be made to respond to future need.
- ▶ Largely support the aspirations of the plan particularly no street lighting.
- ▶ Section 1 was clear and easy to understand. With such a long and detailed document it is essential that the summary is clear. I thought that the Plan was well designed and composed of the right subject matter. I could readily recognise Stonesfield's character and the issues it faces. The whole thing is a very comprehensive, well designed and constructed undertaking which has drawn on a wide variety of inputs and supporting studies and I commend the team responsible for this. Thank You!

What specific areas of the plan did you particularly like?

- ▶ Housing, transport, countryside & conservation. The development of cycle routes to Woodstock, Blenheim & Charlbury in particular. I like the data led approach (inc survey) to understand housing needs + other needs vs loudest / most engaged members. Accessing + protecting green spaces was a valuable goal. I like how problems were identified + solutions that would be supported made clear, where possible.
- ▶ Clearly a lot of time and effort had gone into the plan and I applaud all those that give their time.
- ▶ The plan has been well prepared and presented. Thank you to the committee for undertaking the work.
- ▶ Balanced approach to proposed housing development. Focus on maintaining character of the village
- ▶ All good - brilliant
- ▶ I thought it was very comprehensive & thorough. I liked it

What specific areas of the plan did you particularly like?

- ▶ I think the plan is right to push back on large new homes. 4 and 5 bedroom homes generate the largest margins for the developers so they will always try and maximise the numbers of these despite the real needs of the community. It is important that the plan is robust defending against this. However, I do not think that the housing needs assessment is robust and it underestimates a genuine need for more smaller affordable housing. One rural exception site is simply not enough and it feels like the plan is just trying to prevent any further building. This misses the point of how a community works and the need for housing for young people growing up in the village as well as more young families who bring the vibrancy to the village. Yes there is an aging population but unless we provide housing that young families can afford we will exacerbate the issue rather than help keep the community alive.
- ▶ There policies to protect our lovely countryside
- ▶ I support the plan's stated desire to favour affordable housing, but am not sure that it will achieve this aim. I also support the intention to facilitate cycling to Woodstock (subject to the cooperation of Blenheim) and other villages.

What specific areas of the plan did you particularly like?

- ▶ Beautifully written and covers everything clearly
- ▶ All of it
- ▶ All of it. A very clear, concise document reflecting a comprehensive appraisal of what is right for Stonesfield going forward. Thank you all.
- ▶ The whole thing put together was very impressive thank you
- ▶ It is incredibly well researched and written. The graphs and statistics clearly identified the issues and the recommendations were well thought out. Beautifully illustrated.
- ▶ I can see a huge amount of work has gone into the plan and it is very detailed. I would like to thank those who have worked on this for the huge amount of work that must have gone in to producing it.
- ▶ Good overall view of the village as it is & how it evolved.

What specific areas of the plan did you particularly like?

- ▶ No particular area, but was impressed by its thoroughness. A lot of hard work has been put into it.
- ▶ All
- ▶ It is very comprehensive and covers every aspect of our village's life and working.
- ▶ Congratulations to all who helped to produce the Draft Plan, which is an extraordinary achievement.
- ▶ Fluently and clearly written with all key areas addressed with a balanced and thoughtful approach.
- ▶ I was very impressed that it provided such a comprehensive overview of the entire village. It was written clearly and with great attention to detail.
- ▶ It was clear, easy and interesting to read, the accompanying photos, charts, etc. were engaging and helpful. It clearly is based on the survey results done at the beginning of this process.

What specific areas of the plan did you particularly like?

- ▶ All of it.
- ▶ It looks professional
- ▶ Everything is very well written and thoroughly researched. The whole document is testament to the hard work, enthusiasm and commitment to the village of a very impressive team. If there is a chance to update on the danger of potential development of the Manor field, I think that could be helpful. The whole character ion that area of the village could be affected by development of that crucial open space.
- ▶ Thank you to the committee and everyone involved - very well constructed
- ▶ The Plan is comprehensive and robust in providing evidence based proposals. I appreciate the hard work and professional approach of the authors in drafting the Plan.
- ▶ This is an epic piece of work, congratulations to everyone involved.

What specific areas of the plan did you particularly like?

- ▶ The plan is an excellent document, extremely detailed and well considered.
- ▶ Only to register my thanks to all concerned for their ongoing monumental efforts devoted to all aspects of the plan. I very much hope it will be finalised and can adopted as soon as possible.
- ▶ I'm very satisfied with the Plan. However, there will always be ways in which the Plan can be improved but we don't need to get distracted by minor details trying to get it to be absolutely perfect for everybody. That's not possible. It is important that the Plan moves forward swiftly as changes in Local Government pose a real threat. Now see Q8 answer.
- ▶ I did not feel anything had been omitted.
- ▶ I'm not sure what could be improved. You have done such a thorough piece of work and imagined all the possibilities it seems to me.
- ▶ I'm perfectly happy with it as it is.

What specific areas of the plan did you particularly like?

- ▶ I think it is brilliant. What an enormous effort has gone into this. I hope it will be taken notice of by villagers for the future of Stonesfield. Selfless Act
- ▶ All aspects of the village plan are covered comprehensively.
- ▶ I am struggling to find anything. This is an incredibly detailed and well constructed draft Plan.
- ▶ just thank you to everyone for their time and effort in developing it. hopefully Stonesfield will be better protected and developed in the future as a result
- ▶ The draft plan takes into consideration how the future of the village can be established by keeping the character of the village intact and improving community health and wellbeing.
- ▶ The draft plan takes into consideration the health and wellbeing of the village and its residents. It is succinct in its ambition and is future-proofing the village character and community.
- ▶ It is very clear and well presented. There has obviously been a huge effort to bring it all together and represent our views and present them in a concise and readable format. I'm very happy to support it.

What specific areas of the plan did you particularly like?

- ▶ I feel no additions are needed. You have covered everything.
- ▶ It strikes a well thought out balance for sensible development and preserving the essential qualities for a village
- ▶ Thank you for delivering a thoroughly professional plan
- ▶ thank you for very well presented piece of work. Let's hope someone takes notice of it
- ▶ Well balanced approach to future development of village
- ▶ I would like to extend my thanks to all who obviously worked extremely hard to provide this plan
- ▶ I would like to thank everyone who has worked on the draft plan and produced such an impressive document. Thank you
- ▶ It's a very thorough document. Very professional.

What specific areas of the plan did you particularly like?

- ▶ Full disclosure-that mine was a skim read so probably has not done justice to much detail. However very impressed and very grateful for all the hard work that has gone into producing this excellent draft Plan. Much hope that the Plan will effectively help to provide for the future wellbeing of Stonesfield residents, while protecting the precious character and heritage of the village.
- ▶ Really pleased with how the plan reads.
- ▶ Sincere hanks those who invested so much time to prepare this plan
- ▶ The authors seem to have carefully considered and thoroughly researched all the areas relevant to a Neighbourhood Plan. The result is a document that should serve the village well in future dealings with local government planning authorities.
- ▶ congratulations to all who have done such a document
- ▶ none - an extremely professional detailed plan. A massive big thanks to all the volunteers
- ▶ None - I think it's fairly balanced.

What specific areas of the plan did you particularly like?

- ▶ No. The document is so thorough that everything is covered in admirable detail.
- ▶ No, the Plan and the presentation of it at the Exhibition and online have been extremely clear. The steering group were also able to answer questions at the Exhibition.
- ▶ The Plan is an enormously well researched, and highly comprehensive report, reflecting the whole nature of the village. It provides a positive and analytical view of this special place, as well as making very relevant and practical suggestions as to how to retain and develop it further.
- ▶ It's very impressive.
- ▶ Excellent
- ▶ It is excellent
- ▶ I am grateful to all those who have given so generously and freely of their time and expertise in producing the Plan proposal.

What specific areas of the plan did you particularly like?

- ▶ Thank you for all your hard work!
- ▶ In my professional opinion as a professor of Human Geography, this village plan for Stonesfield will be regarded as a model synthesis for socio-environmental planning in a rural community in the UK.
- ▶ I wholeheartedly support the draft plan.
- ▶ Overall a well written document comprehensively covering a wide range of topics. Congratulations and thanks to the team for their hard work and expertise.
- ▶ Thank you. This has taken a lot of time and effort which is much appreciated.
- ▶ Congratulations to all involved on producing such a thorough and excellent plan, and thanks very much for your hard work from those of us in the community who (like me) weren't involved.

What specific areas of the plan did you particularly like?

- ▶ It was obvious that a great deal and time and effort has been given by team and I feel they are to be congratulated for their extreme hard work. It felt as if no stone has been left unturned and let's hope it will be adopted soon.
- ▶ My thanks to the compiling team, who have obviously worked very hard to do their research and produce it. I hope the authorities will decide it is an acceptable Plan, and authorise a referendum for the village.
- ▶ Great work
- ▶ The plan was clearly written & illustrated. Local views have been taken into consideration in writing the plan.
- ▶ It's a very comprehensive and professionally compiled document.
- ▶ I was very impressed with the organisation of the various sections and the helpful descriptions. The exhibition gave a very clear exp of the consultation and needs of the village. Thank you.

What specific areas of the plan did you particularly like?

- ▶ If all the ideas in the Plan came true and were fulfilled as it seems too good to come true!
- ▶ I would like to put on record my thanks to those who have worked so hard to generate this important document
- ▶ This a massively complicated Plan which I congratulate everyone who contributed
- ▶ When will we hear what's happened with the draft plan and it's outcome
- ▶ It's all very clear
- ▶ I could not see any area that could be improved
- ▶ I think it is good
- ▶ Thanks to all who completed it. I appreciate it will have been a lot of work.

What specific areas of the plan did you particularly like?

- ▶ I grew up in Stonesfield, and had to leave to buy my own property. I returned later in life, being now in a position to afford housing in the village. Your plan addresses this dilemma well. I'd like to thank everyone who contributed to such a brilliant and comprehensive document.
- ▶ An impressive document.
- ▶ Thanks To all who have worked hard in putting this together
- ▶ I would like to give my thanks to all who have given up their time to produce this. Well done.
- ▶ I really appreciate all that hard work that has clearly gone into the forming and presentation of the plan and would like to thank the whole team.