

Parish Plan 2 Update



Saturday 8 November

Introduction

The Parish Plan 2 (PP2) update questionnaire, which was completed in November 2013, provided a great deal of additional information. It highlighted the hopes and aspirations of the residents and informed the future requirements and needs of the Parish.

A number of the ideas and suggestions have already come to fruition others are on-going projects with more in the planning stage.

Village Confines

There was an overwhelming response to keep the village confines.

The original confines were drawn up about 40 years ago. Space to grow within the existing confines is very restricted, offering little or no scope for development.

The government expects all Councils and Parishes to provide more housing for the growing population. Whilst much future development will be in towns such as Brackley, Towcester and Daventry, villages will also have to provide additional homes. A broad range of house types and tenure is required to meet growing demand and ensure housing for our future generations.

Pattishall Parish is unique in having three distinct settlements with their own character together with the hamlets of Cornhill, Dalscote and Fosters Booth. The number of new dwellings required in this parish by the South Northants Council (SNC) Local Plan over the next 15 years is 50-60. The Parish Council's preferred option is to share the number of houses required throughout the three villages, rather than providing for one large development. Some flexing of the village confines is necessary if we are to accommodate the 60 additional homes required by the SNC Local Plan.

The plans displayed at the Open Day show the proposed revisions and extensions to the village confines.

While reviewing the village confines the project team have also highlighted important areas of local green space that may need additional protection from development including:

- The playing fields
- The existing village greens
- Play areas at Butchers Lane and Booth Close

Village Greens

Many respondents to the questionnaire were not aware of the village greens and most thought they were boring and uninteresting; few saw the greens as valuable green space.

However the vast majority of suggestions were positive and supportive of some level of improvement action. A scheme is moving forward to plant the greens and other areas with wild flowers. This will improve the environment and encourage wildlife.

We hope to provide these displays on Astcote and Pattishall greens and some verges in Eastcote. We will need to clear and prepare the ground over the coming months and tend to the flowers during the season. These improvements can only be achieved with a group of dedicated volunteers, as there will be a need for general up keep and on-going maintenance.

If you would like to help please get in touch with John Woollett -
01327 830470

Footpaths and Bridleways

Another suggestion is for a circular walk around the villages with stiles being replaced with kissing gates to make it easier for walkers and dogs. Some of the existing stiles are rather high and difficult to climb over. We hope to have an on-going replacement programme designed to ensure that a kissing gate is positioned at both ends of and along a footpath route. Any changes will require the consent of the landowner and the Council's Rights of Way team.

Achievements to date:

- **Parish Hall:** The five year re-development plan has recently been completed delivering much needed improvements to the parish hall. The next phase will be improvements to the car park, refurbishment of the main hall and a conferencing facility in the loft space.
- **School Pedestrian Crossing:** As with all schools, cars arrive in their droves at start and finishing times. The junction on the corner of Birds Hill and School road was becoming more and more dangerous; cars parking made it unsafe for the children to cross. The new crossing and parking restrictions have improved this situation.
- **Encourage Involvement/ Engagement with wider community:** The Music Festival (Picnic in the Park) and Produce Show were both a great success. The former helped by excellent weather and good organisation and the latter by bringing novice gardeners and bakers to have a go at exhibiting.
- **Faster Broadband:** BT has installed new high speed, fibre optic connectivity and is offering its Infinity service to Parish residents.
- **SNC Local Plan:** Views expressed in the questionnaire were used to support the Parish Council response to the Local Plan consultation process, which was submitted at the end of January 2014.

Possible Future Plans

- A Community Shop based in one of the pubs
- Coffee Shop Community Meeting Point
- Designated Bus stops and shelters
- Tackle speeding on Birds Hill, School Road, Astcote, Banbury Lane and A5.

Next Steps

The PP2 steering group will:

- Collate and analyse all the comments received at the open day, make any necessary changes to the Parish Plan
- Respond to the next phase of the SNC Local Plan consultation
- Action plans and monitor progress

However, it is considered vital that the community should continue to be engaged in the PP2 planning process and delivery of the action plan. A further update will be published in Spring 2015.

Parish Plan 2 Steering Group
November 2014

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