



BRATTON - YOUR SAY - OUR FUTURE

BRATTON NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

*** LATEST UPDATE ***

What's this all about ?

A Neighbourhood Plan is a community-led framework for guiding future development and growth. It has real influence in planning terms setting out a community's priorities on a variety of themes, including:

- **Housing**
- **Design and Environment**
- **Community Wellbeing**
- **Economy**
- **Getting Around**

The Neighbourhood Plan works alongside National and County planning policies so it cannot block strategic development such as housing, but it can influence how a community wants to shape its development.

What happens if we don't have a Neighbourhood Plan ?

If we don't formulate a plan where we have a say in our future, it's likely that more developments like the one on Westbury Road will appear across the village in future years and that these developments will be at a scale that suits developers while ignoring the needs and views of the local community. With a Neighbourhood Plan we can be proactive with a document that has real 'clout' in the Planning System.

Who's involved ?

Everyone!

Everyone who lives or works in the Parish will have the opportunity to a vote in a local referendum about whether to adopt the Neighbourhood Plan. This is currently being drafted by a voluntary group of interested villagers and parish councillors. Collectively this group is known as the **Bratton Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group**. Anyone is welcome to join this group and help shape the plan.

If approved in our referendum, the Bratton Neighbourhood Plan will form a part of the Development Plan that Wiltshire Council must use when determining planning applications in Bratton.

Can I be involved ?

Absolutely! The Neighbourhood Plan belongs to the Community of Bratton.

It is important that as many villagers as possible are involved in shaping the draft plan (and of course in the referendum later on to approve it!). We welcome everyone who wants to be involved. Meetings will be taking place monthly while activity ramps up. Keep an eye on the Neighbourhood Planning section on the Parish Council website:

<https://bratton-parish.co.uk> (Neighbourhood Plan Section)



What have we done so far ?

The results from the **Community Survey** (launched in March 2019) were shared at a **Public Meeting** in September 2021. The Survey covered a wide range of themes; the full results of which can be found on the Bratton Parish Council Website.

The Community was also given the opportunity to express their **Hopes and Fears** for the future of the village as part of the Platinum Jubilee Celebrations in June 2022.

These consultations established that there is wide consensus that development pressure in the village needs to be managed carefully to **preserve its character and village identity**.

What are we doing now ?

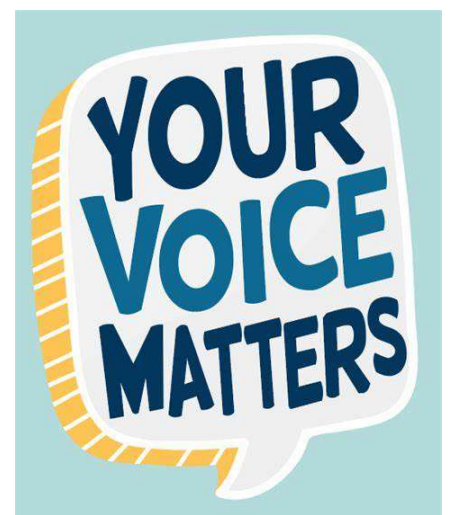
We have secured £10,000 of Government funding to work with consultants, **Place Studio** (who have worked successfully with many other communities, including Westbury and Seend) who will assist us with the technical aspects of the process needed to produce a successful Neighbourhood Plan.

Housing – Call for Sites

The majority of responses to the Community Survey cited the current planning application for 35 houses on the Westbury Road as an example of the kind of large-scale development inappropriate to a village setting.

However, many responses also cited a lack of small-scale affordable housing needed to secure a sustainable future for the village and its amenities.

To facilitate this, the Neighbourhood Plan needs to identify potential sites for such development over a period of 5 to 20 years. In the course of the next 2 months, we will be conducting a formal '**Call for Sites**' and asking the Community for views.



Your Suggestions Welcome

In the meantime, we will be working to identify how best to preserve our:

- Local Green Spaces
- Special Views

You can help us with this by looking at the criteria below and emailing your suggestion to neighbourhoodplan@bratton-parish.co.uk or drop details in to the Neighbourhood Plan **Suggestions Box** in the Village Shop.

by: **Friday 6 January 2023**



Local Green Space

Local communities can identify and protect green areas of particular importance to them by designating them as Local Green Space. Once a site is designated, it is protected against inappropriate development except in 'very special circumstances'.

What is a Local Green Space?

For a green space to be eligible for Local Green Space designation, it must satisfy the following criteria:

- In reasonably close proximity to the community it serves
- Local in character and not an extensive tract of land
- Demonstrably special to the community (for reasons of beauty, tranquillity, recreational use, historic significance, or wildlife value)

We will be looking at whether there are any spaces within the village that need this level of designation, and we are interested in hearing all your suggestions.

Please email your suggestions by 6 January to: neighbourhoodplan@bratton-parish.co.uk

Special Views

The Neighbourhood Plan also gives us the opportunity to identify and protect specific, **important and locally-valued views**. We would like your help to identify the views **into/within/out of** the village that you value and feel contribute significantly to its character.

To be identified as locally important and 'valued' they should satisfy at least some of the following criteria:

- Be visible from a publicly accessible location (including public rights of way or public highways)
A view from a footpath that is not a formal public right of way, can be included if you can demonstrate, with evidence, that it has been used by the public for a long time and is readily accessible.



- Be selected for a specific reason i.e. overreaching far view, view to an historical or public interest building/monument
- The quality and distinctiveness of the visual amenity
- Have a historic link to an important event or person
- Already include facilities for their enjoyment i.e. parking places and interpretive boards



You do not necessarily have to stay within our village boundary when identifying key views as they can include the view 'to' a place or building as well as the view 'from' that place or building.

For instance, Piquet Hill is outside the Parish Boundary but clearly visible from many places within it. Views are not just about the landscape - there can also be important and valued views *within* a settlement, for example, glimpses of a landmark building such as the church tower or distinctive building within the village.

We look forward to hearing your suggestions, including photographs if possible, by 6 January to: neighbourhoodplan@bratton-parish.co.uk

What about the other themes ?

We will be looking more closely at the themes, **Economy** and **Getting Around** next year, but if there is anyone who has a particular interest in this, please do come forward now. Email the chair, Eddie Cole on neighbourhoodplan@bratton-parish.co.uk

How do I find out more ?

- Come to one of our **Meetings** – they are open to all and take place monthly
The Next one is at 7.15pm on **Thursday 8th December** at the Bratton Church Institute
- Look out for updates on the **Jubilee Hall Notice Board** and in the **Bratton Parish Newsletter**
- Follow what is happening on the Parish Website
<https://bratton-parish.co.uk> (Neighbourhood Plan Section)
- Email questions to Cllr Eddie Cole, Chair of the Bratton Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group, on neighbourhoodplan@bratton-parish.co.uk
- Post suggestions in to the Neighbourhood Plan Suggestion Box in the **Village Shop**

“Bratton will continue to be a great place to live, grow-up and work, with excellent facilities and services all set within a beautiful landscape and historic village. Sensitive and responsive planning and development will ensure the future of our neighbourhood whilst protecting its heritage.”

Draft Vision Statement 2022: Bratton Neighbourhood Planning Steering Group