

# Bratton Neighbourhood Planning

## Consultation | 28<sup>th</sup> June 'drop-in' Event - SUMMARY FEEDBACK

Thank you to all those who were able to make it along to the open 'drop-in' event the Bratton Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group held at the end of June, as part of Bratton Week. It was a lively session where those who popped in were treated to delicious cakes and refreshing tea – many thanks to the WI! This is a summary note of the feedback we got at the event plus a few general reflections. The Full Report, with every single comment noted, together with further information, is available on our website.

- Between 2.30pm - 8pm on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> June, people were invited to 'drop-in' to the Village Hall to find out more about how the Plan is shaping up.
- The aim of the event was to share a draft vision and objectives for the plan, together with working draft information on different topics of the Plan, including protecting Green Spaces\*, local heritage, and views as well as thinking about getting around the parish. Very early emerging technical assessment of potential development sites in the Parish was also shared.
- 110 people called in through the day
- The Steering Group estimate that the average time spend at the event was around 30 minutes. There was a lot of information to look at and members of the Steering Group, as well our Planning consultant there to talk to.
- The information shared at the event was also posted online and comments invited by 31<sup>st</sup> July for those who either could not make it along or had more to contribute.
- A lot of information was captured that is already helping to shape the content and direction of the Plan. Below are some of the 'Key Points of Feedback' on what was shared.



\*Local Green Space is a term used for a designation that can be used to protect valued green spaces.

### KEY POINTS of FEEDBACK

- People appreciate the green spaces in and around the village and feel that as many of these should be protected as possible
- The nominated areas are all well used by villagers for exercise and relaxation, with some noting that it helps their mental health
- The green spaces maintain the boundary and character of the village
- There were a number of comments on the lack of/poorly sited/unemptied dog poo bins
- There was very strong support for a footpath to the facilities at Fitzroy Farm and strong support for a cycleway to Westbury Station
- There was also strong support for the impressive footpath network in the village with some concern about surfaces and keeping them clear
- The speed of traffic through the village is a continuing concern and the use of Court Lane by HGV's
- Parking in Stradbrook was also raised as a concern
- The strongest theme emerging on the potential development sites was that they are not supported
- There was, however, significant support for additional housing although concerns were raised regarding increased traffic, pressure on services and merging with Westbury
- Support for the nominated heritage assets was overwhelming with a number of new suggestions put forward

- There was strong support for the village character and concern that it could be devalued by modern buildings. A number of suggestions were made for specific projects to improve appearance and support for a 'Village Trail'
- There was strong support for all of the nominated Cherished Views and a few new suggestions were put forward
- In the general feedback comments there was strong support for the work being carried out by the Steering Group and for the Neighbourhood Plan
- One comment is worth repeating here in full *"Need to ensure the village continues to thrive & grow, providing entry level housing as well as suitable retirement homes. We need a multi-generational community – not a Privileged enclave or affluent retirees"*

## AND WHAT NEXT?

### The all-important evidence collection continues...

- The Plan needs to be based on evidence to be strong. The feedback and opinions of the community are a key part of the evidence base which this 'drop-in' event helped to gather. We also need to continue to build a technical evidence base. This will enable our community to reach an informed decision about how the Neighbourhood Plan can shape the future development of the village - what we want to see protected and how we want to shape development.
- A key part of this is information we are gathering on the potential development sites. As set out above, this is a key concern. Understanding as much as possible about these sites puts us in a strong position to decide if allocation would be appropriate, or if our Plan would seek to shape future development through policies that set out standards that any development proposals must meet.
- Allocation of a housing site in the Neighbourhood Plan will only take place if there is clear support from the community.
- There is no requirement for a Neighbourhood Plan to allocate – that will only happen if there is local support for the benefits that an allocation will bring. We will publish the Technical Site Assessment when the Steering Group have reviewed it and any errors or omissions addressed. A further consultation event will also be held in the Autumn to discuss the question of housing in more detail.

And finally, thanks again to those who were able to come along and to any taking the time to read this summary. We really appreciate your time and input in the Plan which we are hoping can play a strong and positive role in the future of our parish. If you'd like to read the full report on this 'drop-in' event you'll find this on our website <https://brattonparishcouncil.gov.uk> under Neighbourhood Plan/public consultations

***This is YOUR Plan! We always welcome new Steering Group members whose role is to guide and shape the content of our Neighbourhood Plan. If you are interested, please get in touch, mail to:***

**[neighbourhoodplan@brattonparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:neighbourhoodplan@brattonparishcouncil.gov.uk)**

