

Note of Meeting of Neighbourhood Plan Steering group - Communications and Consultative Sub Group held on February 11<sup>th</sup> 2014.

Present - Sophie, David, Sarah & Colin

1. Vision Statement – All the comments made on the Vision Statement were generally positive in both the Adult and Youth Surveys. One doubted the possibility of expanded employment prospects given the continuing trend to increasing mechanisation in farming.
2. Other Comments – all the comments made in Question 23 were reviewed and the following were particularly helpful in terms of the development of the NP:-
  - Impact of new development on drainage and potential flooding
  - Importance of maintenance of roads and ditches.
  - Problems for young people in obtaining new housing
  - Importance of improving broadband and mobile phone reception
  - Getting the community to grow to bring in a variety of people – young families, working professionals as well as elderly people.
  - Getting rid of “orange” public lighting.
  - Problem of muddy roads in the Village area.
  - The “heart of the village” – the green/hall and pub is preserved.
  - Issue of allowing people to build on their own land outside the village area – which could become too cramped if building only restricted to the centre of the village area
  - Restoration and replacement of empty buildings e.g. old reading room.
  - Further speed limits through the Village – 20mph? Traffic calming by Playing fields?
  - Flexible use of housing stock to keep young and old alike in the parish – allowing changes in the current use and structure of domestic buildings,
3. Response Rate and Census Information – Response rate in terms of age distribution fairly reflected the age distribution as contained in the 2011 Census. Also a similar correlation in terms of the length of time people had lived in the Parish. Further details on response rates to be included in the draft plan.
4. Youth Results - generally the views of the Youth Questionnaire reflected the adult results. There were concerns amongst the Youth respondents over a lack of activities. They were more enthusiastic about renewable energy than the adults. Individual comments were largely very positive about living in Dorstone.
5. Employment of a Consultant – agreed that there was a need to employ a consultant but their remit should be carefully drawn up. The Plan needed to be prepared and owned by the Steering Group, whilst recognising that there may be specific issues particularly relating to Planning matters where advice and input would be needed. The Parish Council to consider possible candidates.

6. Outline of Neighbourhood Plan – agreed that the Plan needed to be clear and concise and avoid too much jargon. Possible outline might be:-

- Description of Dorstone using various matrixes.- using previous material from the Parish Plan
- Outline of Consultative process including results of Questionnaire.
- Vision Statement and broad objectives.
- Individual policy areas – stating relevance to Vision – objectives – community views - policies and action and who would be responsible for taking action..
- Appendices setting out evidence base

Agreed different approach was needed in terms of consultation on the draft plan – more visual and inter-active and not just usual PowerPoint. Presentation.

Report back to Steering Group on March 3<sup>rd</sup> – 7.30 Village Hall.