

Agenda Item

Development Control Committee

2nd August 2005



All Saints Parish Plan and Village Design Statement

Summary

A Parish Plan, consisting of an appraisal, action plan and Village Design Statement, has been produced by local residents for All Saints. The report explains the position with regard to this Community Planning Initiative, and recommends that it be formally adopted by the District Council.

Recommendations

- 1. That the All Saints Parish Plan be endorsed and account be taken of it when decision making**
- 2. That the Village Design Statement section of the All Saints Parish Plan be adopted as interim Supplementary Planning Guidance to the emerging Local Plan**
- 3. That the All Saints Parish Plan Group be congratulated on their Parish Plan**

a) **Reasons for Recommendations**

To ensure that the views of the community of All Saints are taken into account in decision making.

b) **Alternative Options**

That the All Saints Parish Plan not be endorsed and the Village Design Statement not be adopted.

c) **Risk Considerations**

If the District Council does not adopt the Parish Plan, decisions will be taken at District Council level without the benefit of the extensive public consultation which has been undertaken. The local community will feel disenfranchised and are unlikely to want to work in partnership with the District Council on future initiatives.

d) **Policy and Budgetary Considerations**

None

e) **Date for Review of Decision**

Not applicable, although the Parish Plan may be updated in accordance with the Local Development Framework timetable.

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- The All Saints Parish Plan Group have produced the attached Parish Plan which consists of three elements:
detailed report explaining how information was collected and analysed and setting out the statistics/results
a succinct action plan stating objectives, partner bodies responsible for achieving these objectives, predicted costs and target dates.

a Village Design Statement describing the character of the village in terms of landscape, history and built environment, with design guidelines intended to ensure that new development is in keeping with the village.

- 1.1 The Parish Plan will provide a very useful insight into the community's views, resulting from an extensive impartial public consultation. This will ensure that decisions taken by the District Council will take these views into account and will assist in prioritisation and working in partnership with the Parish council and other local bodies. The Village Design Statement identifies the features of the environment which the community considers locally distinctive and/or particularly important. If the Statement is adopted as Supplementary Planning Guidance it will influence the determination of planning applications and will be used to support the Council's position at appeal.
- 1.2 Approximately 300 copies of the Parish Plan will be produced with 230 copies being distributed by volunteers to every household in the Parish, 25 copies being supplied to the District Council and the remainder retained for new residents, local organisations and, potentially, for use in external funding bids. The document will also be available to download from the District Council's webpage.

2 Consultation

- 2.1 The Parish Plan Group have consulted local residents through a questionnaire/appraisal which resulted in an 80% response, and a number of exhibitions and meetings. Progress reports were also provided through the Parish Newsletter. Devon County Council Corporate Consultative Services carried out an independent statistical analysis of the questionnaire to ensure transparency. The draft report was made available to all interested parties for comment with a 14 day public consultation period. All responses have been carefully considered and, wherever possible the Action Plan and Design Statement have accommodated them. The District Council have been consulted through a number of meetings and the submission and revision of drafts at regular intervals throughout the production process. The Sub-Committee also consulted other parish councils which had undertaken similar work, the Primary School and local clergy, together with the Community Council of Devon.
- 2.2 Following consideration of the Parish Plan by the Development Control Committee, a statement of consultation will be produced.

3 Implementation of the Parish Plan

- 3.1 The **detailed report** is for information purposes and, whilst it supports the Action Plan and Village Design Statement it will not require implementation by the District Council.
- 3.2 The Parish Plan Group will be encouraged to take ownership of the **action plan** and take responsibility for implementing the actions contained within it, in partnership with the bodies identified in it, to improve the quality of life in the parish. The District Council should continue to support communities by assisting implementation of the Action Plan, where relevant, and providing feedback to the Parish Council.
- 3.3 Once adopted the **Village Design Statement will form Supplementary Planning Guidance** and the Council will take it into account when considering planning applications.

Legal Implications

No legal implications to report

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications

Background Papers

The file containing all documents, Parish Plans, V.D.S's and previous correspondence.

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