

## Agenda Item 8

Development Control Committee

20 November 2007



### Ottery St Mary Parish Plan

#### Summary

A Parish Plan has been produced under the guidance of the Town Council for Ottery St Mary. The report explains the position with regard to this Community Planning Initiative, and recommends that it be formally endorsed by the District Council.

#### Recommendations

- 1. That the Ottery St Mary Parish Plan be endorsed (subject to any minor amendments arising from the printing process) and used to inform decision making in the District and the production of the Local Development Framework.**
- 2. That the Ottery St Mary Parish Plan Group be congratulated on their work.**

#### a) Reasons for Recommendations

To ensure that the views of the Ottery St Mary community are taken into account in decision making.

#### b) Alternative Options

That the Ottery St Mary Parish Plan not be endorsed.

#### c) Risk Considerations

If the District Council does not endorse 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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- 1.1 The Ottery St Mary Parish Plan Group has produced the attached Parish Plan which consists of two elements:

**A 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.

- 1.2 The Parish Plan provides 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 Town Council and other local bodies.

## **2 Consultation and Distribution**

- 2.1 Ottery St Mary Parish Plan Group have undertaken extensive consultation through a questionnaire circulated to all households through the local newspaper (print run of 3,500). The results of this survey were collated and analysed and the Actions in the Action Plan have been derived from this.

- 2.2 Following the survey, the District Council has been involved at all stages and has been extensively consulted through meetings and letters. The Town Council and local Ward Members support the process.

- 2.3 Ottery St Mary Town Council approved the Town Plan at a meeting on the 15th October 2007 and copies have been distributed to the Tourist Information Centre, Library and local organisations, as well as being available at their offices and on their Website. A public meeting was arranged for Saturday 27th October at The Old Boys School in Yonder Street, allowing the public almost a fortnight's notice of it.

- 2.4 Resources will not permit a copy of the Plan to be sent to every household but the key actions will be published in the local press and distributed to all homes. Copies of the full document will be available to view upon request at the Council Offices, through the Town Council and in the local library and Tourist Information Centre. The Town Plan will also be available to download, free of charge from the Town and District Council websites.

- 2.5 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 Once endorsed the Plan will be taken into account when making decisions and when considering allocation of resources. It is envisaged that the actions will form standing items on the Town Council agenda and the Action Plan will be regularly reviewed to ensure it remains current.

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Legal Implications

No further comments from Legal Services.

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications

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Background Papers

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

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