

Strete Parish Neighbourhood Plan

Community Comments

The following is a selection of comments made by members of the community in the Household Survey that forms part of the consultation process of our Neighbourhood Plan.

Trees / Protected Areas

1. This village needs more trees and wildlife. I will vigorously oppose any cutting just to improve views and to try to inflate house values by increasing sea views. A very greedy, selfish thing to do.
2. I suspect the real reason for tree removal would be to improve property value.
3. I feel that the village and the environment would benefit from more trees, also for a softer landscape and wind protection. More trees should be allowed to grow in hedges.
4. The village green and community woodland are both used primarily for dog toilets and are therefore both contaminated. Any possible new open space should be kept dog free and could then be used for children, adults to enjoy including village day, etc.
5. I strongly oppose any tree cutting to improve someone's view; I would fight this in court if necessary.

Housing

1. More time should have been given to reply to this questionnaire. I think the housing development should include both bought property and social housing. We need more young people in the village. Multi choice answers do not give a true opinion. There have been plans and consent for development in the land adjoining Crestway (sic?) for, to my knowledge, at least 25 years. The statement made in the brochure "no plans for development in Strete at present" is therefore incorrect.

Steering Group comment:

Dialogue with SHDC confirmed that, whilst Cox's Field has been considered for development in the past, no development plans exist at present.

2. We came to Strete 40 years ago when it was described as 70 years up! Start Bay Park was being built but most of the developments were quite a lot later.
3. Page 5 – no plans at present. Field next to pub car park has been designated before 1988 – this was put forward on documents when we bought in Start Bay Park.
4. Housing – mixed housing, 2 & 3 bedrooms for families.

5. First three questions in housing could be misleading – choosing one option as preferred, if remaining two were then opposed, the answers would be viewed by some as opposition to development per se, whereas it was the size being opposed not development in general.
6. I believe it is important to have and to build an affordable housing stock so our people who provide vital services have an affordable place to live. I don't believe just because a house is of more modest proportions that it still can't be of architectural interest.
7. I found some of the questions ambiguous. The brochure states "there are no plans for development in Strete at present". This is not true as there have been plans for development in the field adjoining the car park end Crestway (sic?) for at least 20 years.
8. Housing – Strete does not have the infrastructure for large housing developments.
9. I might be on my own but the reason I ticked 10 houses was I'm thinking of the future. It's really not about us. Probably about 95% of villages in the South Hams & Torbay area have some new housing we have none to help the community. Think ahead.
10. Any new housing should be built with restrictions akin to the Devon covenant – full time occupation only. Affordable housing is needed if Strete wishes to be a living village with a community spanning the generations
11. This is the only local village to have blocked plans for housing for local working families in recent years. For Strete to have future it must embrace more than just the well-off and second homes.
12. Keep the village without a great deal of development this will enhance its appeal in an ever changing world. Retirement support//help groups.
13. Look at ways of discouraging second homes. A village needs people of all ages.
14. Rented housing for the young as in Stoke Fleming would be an asset.
15. Form worded in a way for reason to go against housing in Plat area probably by certain individuals in that area who are not local and fairly new to this area.
16. A few new homes for first time Devonian locals only, not second homes for outsiders.
17. Housing to be mix of budget and value properties.

18. Any new housing should have Devon covenant for occupiers.
19. Need rented housing in Strete for locals.
20. The housing stock in the village is gradually increasing due to individual/small developments (2/3). A large development would probably ruin the present peaceful and quiet nature of the village, which would be a shame and most unwelcome.

Village Peace & Quiet

1. The village is fine as it is. This is why most people have moved here.
2. From the booklet provided, Strete is obviously a retirement type village. This heritage should be respected and its beauty enhanced. Please don't make it into something that it is not.
3. I do not want to see this lovely village spoilt.
4. Strete is a great place to live we are very lucky.
5. No building.
6. We have lived in the village for 22 years spent a great deal of money on our home to make it nice. We choose to live here for the peace and quiet and that is the way we wish it to remain.
7. Moved to the parish for quality of life. Work from home AND in Plymouth

Dog Bins

1. One thing needed in this village is more poo bins. The new bit of coastal path along the main road has several amounts of poo that hasn't been picked up. Stoke Fleming have at least 10 designated poo bins – we have one!!!
2. Provision of dog waste bins

Parish Hall

1. Upgrade to Village Hall e.g. projector for presentation in conjunction with BASH.
2. There used to be a weekly GP - No one used it - a waste of time.
3. The parish hall is a good space in the centre of the village. It could be marketed proactively to increase use. Hiring to groups outside the parish could increase revenue to support village activities.

Traffic Speed & Parking

1. The speed of traffic needs reducing on the A379.
2. Totnes Road and A379 needs to be clear for access for emergency vehicles! From experience the gaps in parked traffic is often not enough.
3. As I live on the main road and have no parking I would require an alternative for myself and B&B guests if parking banned along road in centre of village. People speed along stretch of road in centre and parked cars act as traffic calming. Flashing speed indicator lights in village would help lower speed. (in Norfolk every village seems to have them).
4. I would prefer a widespread consideration for parking outside the shop as opposed for formal restrictions.
5. Does need traffic calming bumps urgently on road coming into village down Church Road before someone is seriously injured or killed especially leaving Church and Churchyard.
6. No yellow lines in Parish.
7. Strete needs to be kept as a village – unnecessary urbanisation through road calming measures/ signs etc., will destroy this.
8. Traffic Calming – unless carefully sited, speed bumps are distracting for drivers and unsuitable for roads with limited forward visibility.
9. Speed in between Strete and Blackpool Sands is out of control. A highly dangerous situation and needs immediate attention. Especially bad at night and all weekend.
10. Three mile lane? Strete village to Oldstone.
11. Could visitors use the Kings Arms car park but have a pay and display. Extra coffers for the pub perhaps.
12. Any widening of roads/lanes would just increase speed of through traffic. Enforcement of existing regulations should be paramount e.g. 20mph.
13. Under no circumstances do we want speed bumps or speed painting signs on roads around the village.
14. Temporary parking on main road for shop only.
15. Road bumps should be a priority through the village to prevent a fatal accident due to speeding cars.

Environment

1. Telephone masts must not be erected near human habitation. Clear evidence of higher numbers of people with cancer in areas of such masts. Crediton in mid-Devon is a good example.
2. Do not want a phone mast on the church.
3. Environment – partial screening from road only.
4. Mobile phone signal to be improved for safety / business / family reasons.
5. Certainly we do not want allotments and the vermin they bring with them.
6. I also very strongly oppose a mobile phone mast on the church, again I would go to court for this.
7. Greater effort should be made to maintain appearance of paper and bottle banks.
8. No interest in mobile phone masts, want it to remain a rural village.

Playpark

1. Playpark is already a generous size and safe away from the main road.
2. As a child growing up in the village the playpark was perfectly sufficient.

Footpaths

1. Footpaths – the opinions of householders in The Plat should be given preference for a footpath.
2. Prideaux Lane to Southwood footpath (proposed) where? Has the landowner / farmer been approached?
3. Safer off road foot paths are needed.
4. The Prideaux road Southwood lane link path is urgently needed by Dalag. We have been approached by rambling groups regarding this very dangerous bend from Seven cottages turn off A379 to opposite Landcombe Barns. A path inside the wall was agreed by Sir Geoffrey Newman about 6 -7 years ago but the highways department DCC objected to walkers exiting opposite the barns to walk up straight stretch of road to Southwood Lane, as this is on the top of the rise BUT they walk up there anyway! Sir Geoffrey's proposal would at least get people off the blind bend.

Bus

1. Evening bus would be good in the summer months.
2. Buses are nearly always empty.

Commercial

1. Commercial – farm buildings are unlikely to be economic for development as modern commercial units.
2. Small industrial units for things like curtain making, ironwork, carpentry.
3. A small industrial unit site, screened would give opportunity for locals to stay in the area e.g. Farrier, woodworking, fencing etc.; on the edge of the village.

Verge Maintenance

1. It could be difficult for more elderly residents to upkeep their hedges both physically and money-wise, but kerbside maintenance should be OK.
2. Residents need to be encouraged to take pride in their village. Increase precept needs to be carefully considered as council tax is already high.
3. Kerbside – delegation is likely to lead to uneven maintenance in a village with a high proportion of elderly residents.

General Comments

1. The options have been worded to get the results certain people want!
2. Local facilities – pub and restaurant used occasionally.
3. Keep Post Office – very, very important.
4. I am opposed to “don’t care” wording used!
5. A good survey.
6. Should be a core of volunteers for Parishto give advice....
7. What a load of rubbish, good idea but not well planned.
8. This is a very well thought out prospectus. I am impressed. My family will support all that it can.
9. I think many residents in Strete should look beyond the confines of this village and put any intelligence/time/energy they may have to worthwhile causes rather than the silliness of this survey.

10. It is a pity you did not live in Strete in the 1980's and 1990's - a number of services you are suggesting were in place and then came out one cut after another.
11. Too many questions are ambiguous and leading.
12. I feel there are questions in this that are very leading and have not been written impartially.
13. As many of the village children go to a variety of local schools it would be a good idea to get families together to meet.
14. A delightful place to live but need to encourage more young people into the village to support the shop, pub, buses and help we oldies maintain the village so it is more pleasant for us all.
15. I would support many of the suggestions on the community support groups and activities list but I am not in Strete on a regular basis and would be unable to offer my services.
16. Most of this survey is a waste of time.
17. Cleverly worded questions to get the outcome certain people want!!!