



Messages from Stonehouse initial survey for Neighbourhood Plan

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The survey consisted of 5 questions presented in an open question format. It was available online through Survey Monkey. The survey was available for ** weeks between ** and ** and was promoted through ** In addition to eliciting response through the survey ****

Questions:

1. What do you most like about Stonehouse?
2. What do you most dislike about Stonehouse?
3. What do you think are the most important assets in Stonehouse?
4. What additional facilities would you like to see?
5. What opportunities for improvements can you see? Please be as specific as possible

It was designed as a launch consultation- letting people know about the NP.

The table provides the analysis of information and relationship to evidence gathering and

- Key themes from the survey responses have been analysed and are summarised
- Column 4 suggests research required to provide additional evidence.
- Column 5 comments on the relevance of the issue to the NDP and considers policies developed in other plans. (It will be important non NP issues to be taken forward by the parish council and/or other organisations in the parish).

Commentary and recommendations for the next consultation stage

In the consultation- distinguish between what a NDP can and cannot address – showing other comments re litter etc as distinct and separate areas. It was interesting that there was little mention of industry, employment and housing when open questions were asked, suggesting they are not major concerns/ priorities to the majority of respondents. The next consultation will need to prompt that discussion through analysis of growth in the past, current situation and aspirations for the future.

- Housing growth and future growth- Current evidence – what is the current housing stock? How has it changed (growth and stock)? what type of mix and amount of housing development is needed in the future?
- Business and economy in Stonehouse – historical and current situation to show growth and location (farms?). A survey of current businesses- where do their employees travel from? Why are they located there? What are their future needs? (survey required – See Eastington survey). Prompts to ask people where future sites could be and what negative impacts they would like to avoid from any business growth (in some policies –eg Norland, they specify walking
- Design character- not mentioned- but there is an opportunity to check that the policies in the Design Statement are still valid and nothing has been missed.

Aspect/issue	Survey responses positive	Survey responses - negative	Evidence and action required	Relevance to a NDP
Shops- retail	Independent shops	No competition for main	Audit of shops and facilities- street survey –	Policies in other NDPs can encourage

offer	(some named) Variety/good selection of shops Chemist Post office Banks	supermarket Post office under threat Too many charity shops No bookshops Poor range of shops Loss of essential shops such as newsagent, stationers Too many gift shops Too many financial services shops	done by volunteers. Collate list, categorise and mark on a map so that the 'shape of the retail centre can be ascertained and commented on.	retail development but then tend to refer to an associated 'strategy' in relation to retail type. Maintenance of retail centre can be a plan policy- eg Broughton Astley S1 Site for additional specific facilities can be named- eg supermarket. If it is the feeling of the community that the spread of retail should be discouraged (to keep the centre compact) then this can be within a policy. Some policies refer to change of use (will need to be checked against new guidelines).
Restaurants/ pubs/ nightlife	One or two good eating places (some named)	Lack of quality pubs Too many cafes Poor quality cafes Not much nightlife		
Education	Children's centre Primary school		Research current and future capacity of the educational establishments. If there was growth- could they absorb it or would additional facilities be required?	Links to Section 106 requirements 'proposals that secure the vitality of ..'. Could be a site specific policy.
Other services/amenities	Dentist Doctor Churches library	No police station Library under threat Youth club and Sub Rooms have gone Under used Community Centre	Audit / map and present to see strength of feeling for these amenities.	
Town centre	Friendly town centre Shopping convenience Shopkeepers have smartened their shop fronts Good customer service Compact Improved	No central market square Feels cheap and scruffy (related to charity shops) The Youth Club building (an eyesore)		Links with retail offer.
Recreation facilities- play	Play spaces and games pitches available		Audit of current stock and location Stroud District Local Plan evidence documents	NDPs allow communities to identify local green spaces- specific sites. See



areas					Tattenhall Policy 6.	
	Town Greens					
Access to activities	Range of activities					
Traffic and transport - Parking Getting around	Lots of parking available Inexpensive	Parking in no parking areas High street parking – makes driving through difficult Parking – danger to pedestrians Lack of disabled parking	Audit of parking facilities and cost		Parking requirements for new developments are set in some NDPs Thame GA5 – protecting parking areas- no loss of parking	
		Shared space- cars starting to give way to pedestrians			Mainly relates to mitigation proposals being supported – eg Exeter St James T2+T3. Can also relate to requiring developers to put in traffic calming measures.	
	Access to local walks Cycle paths Flat/ on the level- easy for walking	Through traffic Volume of traffic in High Street Congestion Speed humps (hazard for cyclists; damage to cars) Shared space – does not work Shared space- missed opportunity/needs to extend People driving on pavements now lowered Electric buggies				NDPs have policies to extend cycle routes and ensure footpaths link new developments with amenities
	Services in walking distance Station/train line	Reopen Bristol train line				Walkable neighbourhoods are referred to in some NP-eg Norland N9 – and related to business development requirements.
Location /access	Local transport links Station Access to motorway	Congestion from M5 Factories traffic				
	Access to open countryside/ not too far from countryside Views	Becoming too industrial – loss of remaining greenfield sites	Audit of local green spaces. Map, photos. Presentation at consultation event-		Local green space designation can be for tranquility, heritage, sport and recreation.	



Heritage	Canal			
	Historic buildings			
	Interesting history			
Environment - Maintenance	Flowers in streets- appreciation of TC efforts High Street improvements- trees	Litter Dog mess Lack of trees in some areas Overgrown hedges Vandalism/graffiti (deters people from making improvements)		Town Council action Check for policies for planting
Community	Small, friendly, neighbourly People care Not too big Events Family orientated community Diverse community	Negative attitude of small minority People – parents Anti social behaviour		
	Feels like a village A working community (not a tourist town)	Not much for 25- 35 year olds		
Planning and development	Potential to be a Cotswold gem with considerable future planning Industry and business Factories for jobs	Getting too big Threats of large building schemes Ugly design (Dairy Crest) Eyesores Factories	How much growth is needed in Stonehouse- consultation	NPs can recommend site specific usage Some (Tattenhall) state maximum numbers of houses per development.
Industry				

