



Our Vision for Stonehouse

Over the next 20 years the strong, friendly community of Stonehouse will continue to develop as a distinctive, thriving town set in beautiful countryside with excellent transport links and employment opportunities.

Objectives:

Theme 1: Amenities and facilities

Aim 1: To meet the recreational aspirations, the health and wellbeing and the practical needs of the community, whilst retaining the distinctive character of Stonehouse.

Objectives:

- 1.1 Continue to grow as a thriving and diverse town centre with independent traders and businesses.
- 1.2 Increase the range and improve the quality of meeting spaces and sporting facilities to meet the needs of all age groups.
- 1.3 Increase the opportunities for formal and informal play and indoor and outdoor recreation within the town.
- 1.4 Support the retention and improvement of services that people rely on, for example: library, doctor, dentist, post office, banks, youth club, and opticians.
- 1.5 Support the development of the night-time economy of Stonehouse to offer a range of social activities.

Theme 2: Travel and transport

Aim 2: To ensure Stonehouse is accessible and people can get around easily and conveniently by foot, mobility scooter, bicycle, public transport and private motorised transport, encouraging more sustainable travel and a consequent reduction in traffic congestion.

Objectives:

- 2.1 Support safe and convenient routes for pedestrians (including for the less able bodied), wheelchairs, pushchairs and mobility scooters.
- 2.1 Support the extension of the network of safe and convenient cycle routes for all abilities.
- 2.3 Support improved bus services.
- 2.4 Protect and improve the current railway station and support the re-opening of Bristol Road station.
- 2.5 Only support major development where it is, or will be made, accessible to the town centre on foot and by cycle.
- 2.6 Support improvements to on-street parking in Stonehouse, creating a safer environment for all road users.
- 2.7 Increase the number of conveniently placed cycle racks as the opportunity arises.
- 2.8 Support improvements to the links between the town and the canal.



Theme 3: Housing

Aim 3: To retain strong family and community ties, a mix of housing types will be supported to meet future requirements and the needs of all ages, income and varied needs.

Objectives:

- 3.1 Housing appropriate for older people and those with accessibility issues.
- 3.2 Smaller units – catering for single people, single parents and those wishing to downsize.
- 3.3 Housing that is less expensive to buy/rent and to run.
- 3.4 Energy efficient buildings.

Theme 4: Employment

Aim 4: To support employment opportunities and secure a prosperous economic future for Stonehouse.

Objectives:

- 4.1 Protect, support and improve existing employment sites.
- 4.2 Support improvements to the relationship and links between existing employment sites and the town centre.
- 4.3 Support more high quality jobs accessible to Stonehouse residents.
- 4.4 Seek new employment sites that support small and medium-sized businesses.

Theme 5: Environment

Aim 5: To protect and enhance access to green spaces both within the town and the surrounding countryside.

Objectives:

- 5.1 Minimise the visual impact of new development on views out of and views into the Stonehouse settlement.
- 5.2 Support improvements to the links between the canal and Stonehouse town centre.
- 5.3 Protect and enhance green spaces and support their recreational use.
- 5.4 Protect and enhance the heritage and wildlife assets of Stonehouse, allowing them to be appreciated by residents and visitors.
- 5.5 Move toward a greener Stonehouse.