

Community Engagement and Consultation Workshop

Saturday 12th March 2016, 10am to 3pm, Market House

Objectives

- 1 To publicise the plan process
- 2 To consult, engage and inform parishioners about the Neighbourhood plan and the planning process.
- 3 To establish a Consultation Forum (fancy name for a group who would like to receive and comment on, plan elements as they develop)
- 4 To recruit more volunteers to the steering group

Workshop structure

There were no specific activities, the workshop took the form of a drop-in Open Day to give the opportunity for individuals to find out about the plan and to produce ideas that can inform the vision, aims and themes of the plan. There were seven stations devoted to the following themes

Station	Objectives
1 The purpose of the Neighbourhood Plan.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• find out more about the planning process• find out and what the NP is about• establish a Martock Plan consultation forum• learn about what has happened so far and who to contact for more details• provide ideas and observations through discussion and questionnaire• ensure everyone has NP contact details.
2 Theme - Jobs	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• identify main (spatial) concerns around job opportunities in the village• where should new commercial accommodation be located and what type is needed?
3 Theme - Local character	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• identify areas that people like and why• identify areas that people feel need improving and why• how can the environment be improved?• do we need more green space - where?• identify special buildings not listed
4 Theme - Facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identify gaps in retail needs.• Identify gaps in physical provision for services• How can physical provision of services and facilities be improved
5 Theme - Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• explain what an NP can and cannot do on housing demand• show proposed development areas and numbers and seek comments• identify problem issues associated with current housing provision
6 Theme - Getting around	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identify the main concerns around walking, cycling, buses,

	cars, parking <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify important and used footpaths and walking areas around the village. Comment on their state and how they can be improved
7 Sad, mad, glad	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete a form about what makes them sad, glad or mad about Martock

Workshop output

The output of the questionnaire in station 1 and the 'mad, glad and sad' discussion at station 7 are published separately. The feedback from stations 2 to 6 is summarised below

Station 2 - Jobs

- Move employment sites closer to the A303. . This will prevent an increase in traffic through the neighbouring parishes of Ash and Long Load
- Employment to be local if possible.
- Industrial units close to the A303 - particularly for businesses that have heavy traffic
- Incentives for more local small businesses to offer apprenticeships for young people
- Incentives to encourage potential employers of small businesses into the area
- Trading estate is in the wrong place; vacated and build housing on the brownfield site. Develop the trading estate on the A303 either at the Cartgate or the Stoke Road junction.
- Better access to the industrial Estate

Station 3 - Local character

Built environment

- Don't allow standard 'boxes' with plastic chimneys to be built
- Ensure good appropriate design of new houses to fit to the Martock style
- Joined up thinking about any new building projects – not a free for all
- Make the new buildings look more local - less generic designs
- Protect the historic character of our built environment
- Consider style and building materials
- Keep the debate of the buildings in the local stone for consistent look
- Preserve the field in Middle Street, Bower Hinton

Natural environment

- Plant new trees to replace damaged ones
- Plant more trees in open spaces
- Keep existing hedgerows and trees
- Conserve green spaces and trees
- Bower Hinton community space needed

Station 4 - Facilities

- What's happened to the new youth club?
- New supermarket needed
- Additional parking needed at the recreation ground
- Improved GP surgery

- Make sure we keep a post office
- Swimming pool and gym, sauna and spa
- Arts centre in the centre
- Ensure the medical and education services match the increasing population
- Improved shopping facilities in the north of the village
- Spaces and facilities for the younger generation
- Venue for live music
- Cafes and tea shops
- Interesting and useful shops to attract visitors to the village
- Turn Moorland House into shops
- Visitors (tourists) appear to be ignored

Station 5 - Housing

- Restore a ring boundary permitting development only within the ring
- Insist on a reasonable housing density by establishing a maximum number of units permitted per acre (five suggested)
- Compel builders to develop houses at a reasonable distances from each other (more than 8 feet apart)
- More affordable housing for first-time buyers who currently live in Martock but can't afford to buy and so will happen will have to leave (1 to 3 bedroom houses please) community funded
- More social housing one bed bungalows
- The 'strip' development around Martock, e.g. along Coat Road, is threatening the individual character of the surrounding villages. The nature of the roads leading into these villages cannot support an increased volume of traffic at their present width.
- Developments in the village are to large; the developer seems to aim for overload on every site.
- No more development along Foldhill Lane.
- Make sure that every new house has at least two parking spaces
- No development on Stapleton Road
- New housing should be own, not buy to let
- Slowdown new building until the next 10 year plan
- Build on brownfield sites and not greenfield sites
- Consider a greater mix of housing to suit all needs
- If we build more houses where are the jobs coming from?
- Ensure good appropriate design of new houses to fit to the Martock style
- Joined up thinking about any new building projects – not a free for all
- More sustainable housing
- Develop east-west and not north-south
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Station 6 - Getting Around

Bus services

- A dedicated Martock bus that runs all day (and evenings and weekends) and goes to every corner of the village.
- Support bus services with more services

Cycling

- Provide better cycling parking in the centre

- Create cycle lanes and dedicated cycle paths that are well thought out and are safe and separate from roads by mini curbs. Develop old Bridle Paths
- Restore old disused footpaths such as the footpath between Bower Hinton in the school
- create Off-road cycle track to Stoke sub Hamdon to link with the national grid

Footpaths

- The provision of footpaths would help movement through the village especially for parents with children.
- Footpath needed for people getting off public transport on Stoke Road cutting across the recreation ground. The path is needed beside the rugby pitch alongside the Rose and Crown.
- Better way markers to indicate the footpath routes through the village.
- Footpath from Gaston's Lane to Coat road by the parish church.
- Footpath from Broadway, by Hinton, down the lane known as the 'half acre' to the Petherton Road.
- Footbridge over the Petherton Road and pick up the footpath on the other side of the road.
- Volunteer footpath group to maintain footpaths every few weeks
- Footpath needed on the west side of the Long Load Road at Stapleton

Roads and Parking

- Mixed reports about the new roundabout by Brooks garage
- Restrict HGV access to Martock and create weight limit though Hurst and Bower Hinton
- Upgrade the Stoke Road junction with the A303
- Link road along the track of the old railway from the A33 at Cartgate
- Foldhill Lane is a race track due to the removal of the railway bridge and junction with East St is dangerous. Limit further development around Foldhill lane
- Something to help the crossing of the road near the parish hall and the chemist
- Enforced double yellow and single yellow restrictions in Martock
- Parking at the school drop-off/collection is dangerous for all children walking to school. 20mph speed limit needed.
- Improved access road to Great Western Road Business Park
- Communal parking needed for houses to take cars off the street, especially in Bower Hinton
- Signage - welcome to our village - please drive carefully
- Larger central off-street car park
- Redevelop the old garages in Bower Hinton to provide more off road parking
- Communal residential parking for people who park on North Street

Wheelchair access

- Getting from Coat Road end to the shops is a challenge. Potholes, and even pavements in the Precinct and dropped curbs are difficult to negotiate.