



SHERBORNE ST JOHN

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

2011-2029



Baseline Report

Baseline Report - Evidence paper: Introduction

This paper has been prepared as the link between the evidence assessed and gathered by the Steering Group as part of the Plan making process and the focused recommendations to be included within the Plan. It summarises the key aspects of a much wider suite of evidence that sits behind the Plan. The full library of evidence produced and used is set out at the end of this report and should be read in conjunction with the summary provided in the following sections:

1. Population / Demographics
2. Water Supply & Waste Management
3. Landscape Management
4. Community Infrastructure and Services
5. Local Green Space Policy
6. The Natural Environment
7. Transport Infrastructure
8. SSJ Village Design Statement
9. Cycleway Policy
10. Neighbourhood Plan Questionnaire Summary
11. Housing Needs Review
12. Proposed Sustainability Framework
13. Review of the Objectives set for the Neighbourhood Plan process
14. List of Supporting Reports and Appendices

Evidence paper - Topic by topic

1. Population / Demographics (see Appendix VII. SSJ Population Prediction R1)

Introduction

Recent population trends in the Parish of Sherborne St John are relatively difficult to follow due to the building works and parish boundary changes that have occurred over the last ten years. However, we are able to uncover a trend by looking at different information sources.

Trends from the 2001 and 2011 National Censuses

The 2013 Action with Communities in Rural England (ACRE) Rural Evidence Project Review of Sherborne St John was found to be of limited use since it still contained both Marnel Park (Phase I) and Merton Rise developments, which are no longer part of the Parish of Sherborne St John.

Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council (BDBC) however has looked at trends in the Borough Ward of Sherborne St John. This covers some 2,305 persons (versus the parish population of circa 1,200) living in Sherborne St John, Monk Sherborne, Ramsdell, Wootton St Lawrence and Charter Alley.

BDBC analysis shows:

- The population profile 'aged' between 2001 and 2011. Median age in 2011 was 47 (versus 39 for Basingstoke and 40 for SE England as a whole)
- Decline in the %age of persons working, and a corresponding increase in retirees
- Increase in the %age of persons working from home
- Increase in the %age of persons providing unpaid home care
- Small increase (0.8%) in the number of homes (for Sherborne St John this corresponds to ~5 new dwellings)
- Average household size decreased from 2.41 to 2.35 (persons)
- The number of Job Seekers Allowance claimants was 6 (August 2005), peaked at 20 (August 2009) and dropped to 8 (August 2013)

Population forecasts

The BDBC forecast for 2011-2019 shows:

- 60 fewer residents by 2019 (note – for the Ward of Sherborne St John)
- 1 new dwelling
- 45 more persons 65 years old or older

- Overall population will decline by 2.6%
- The %age of older people (65+) will increase by 11%

Whilst this Borough Ward information is not only for the Parish of Sherborne St John, it provides very useful guidance and ties in with Hampshire County Council predictions, which are for the period 2013 to 2020.

Hampshire County Council Environment Department's 2013-based Small Area Population Forecasts considers the Parish of Sherborne St John alone (ie as currently designated, excluding the completed Marnel Park (Phase I) development which is no longer part of the Parish) – identifying a 2013 population of 1,186 persons, living in 521 dwellings.

The data from this source has been used to generate the graphs that follow:

Figure 1B shows that for 2013 to 2015 there is only a relatively small change in population distribution during this period.

In 2016, predictions suggest a significant increase in the percentage of younger age groups, and a corresponding decrease in the percentage of middle and older age groups. This is further accentuated by 2020. The reason for this change can be seen in Fig 2 which shows the total number of population and houses to 2020. This remains constant to 2014, starts to increase in 2015 and then increases significantly up to 2020. This is the influence of the planned development of 450 houses at Land North of Popley (Marnel Park Phase II). The difference in the number of homes between 2014 and 2020 is 444.

Of limited value, the prediction shows an increase in average house occupancy from 2.22 in 2014 to 2.39 in 2020.

In conclusion, very limited population growth, if at all, is forecast for the village and countryside of Sherborne St John.

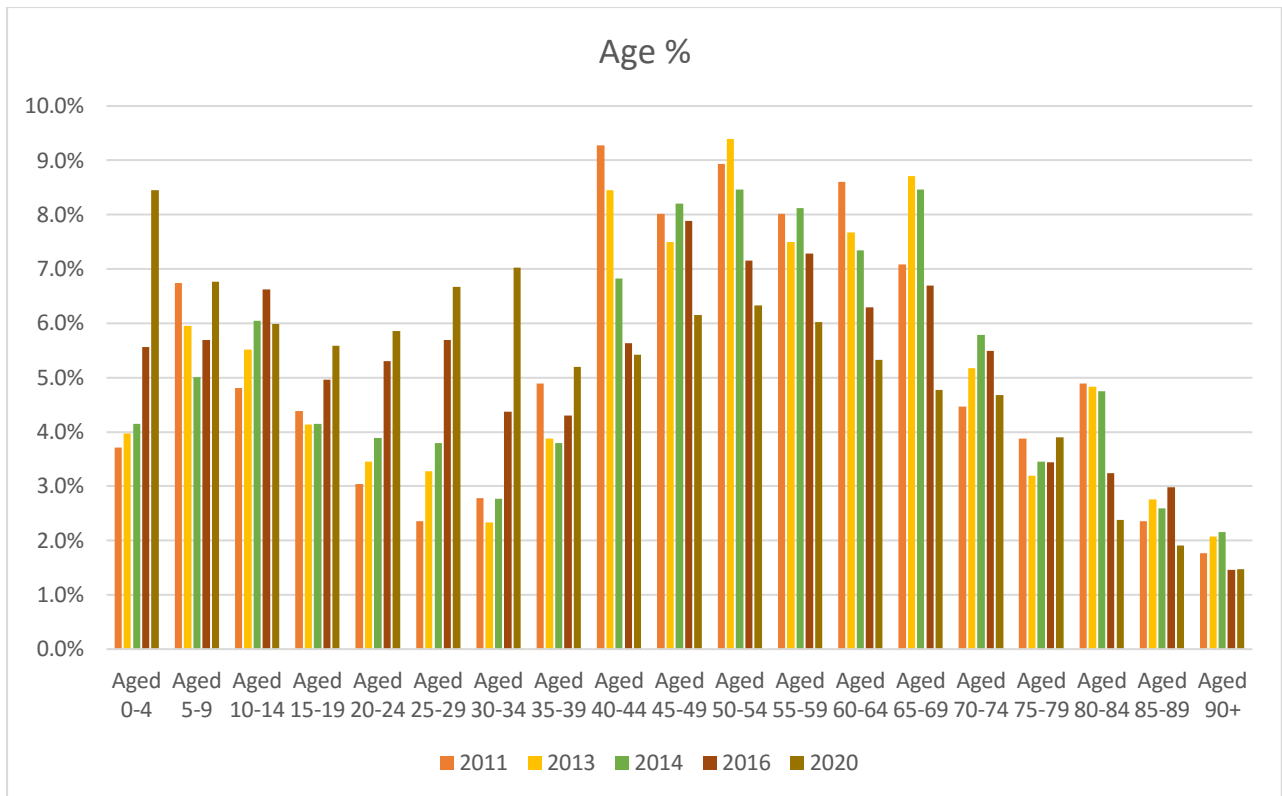


Fig 1B. Prediction of the %age of population at each age group for the years 2011 to 2020 for Sherborne St John - to show the change with time.

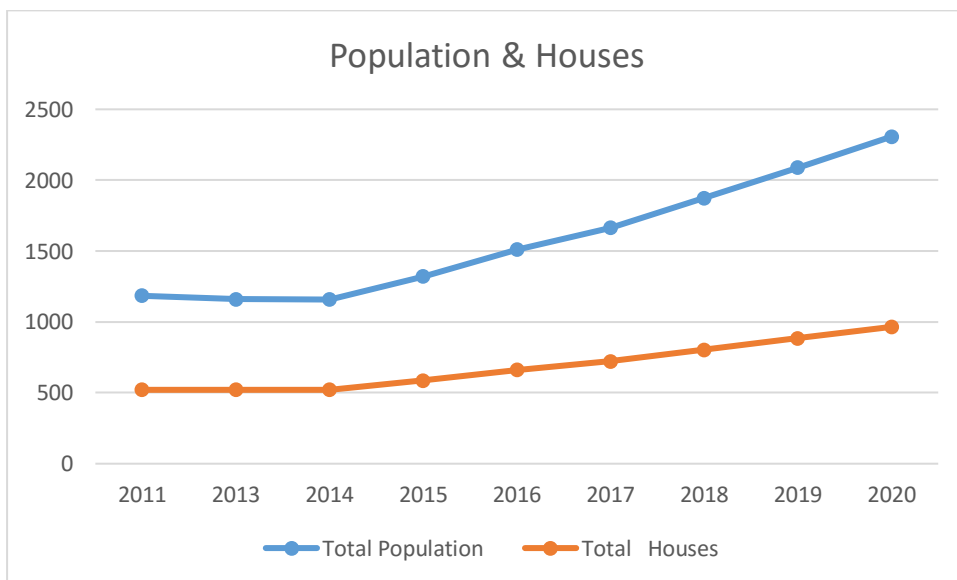


Fig 2. Prediction of Total Population and Number of Houses for the years 2011 to 2020 for Sherborne St John - showing the change with time. The increase reflects the Marnel Park Phase II development.

2. Water Supply and Waste Management (see Appendix VIII. SSJ Water Resources)

Introduction

Water is a finite resource that is already under pressure and will be further stressed in future as a result of climate change and increasing demand resulting from population growth and changing lifestyle. Careful strategic planning will be critical to ensure sustainable water provision for people, business, agriculture and the environment. The issue of the local availability of water is a microcosm of the world picture. Consequently there are many often conflicting and complex interactions between the expected need for growth in domestic housing development and sustainability issues associated with water companies' activities and the environment.

Groundwater

To the south of the village the gap between Basingstoke and the village of Sherborne St John lies on open chalk downland. To the north of the village lies an area of Reading Beds and London Clay deposits. The village is a spring line settlement, with numerous natural springs emerging from the chalk.

Groundwater flooding is regularly observed in Sherborne St John village. The Strategic Flood Risk Assessment 2012, which forms part of the Evidence Base supporting the Basingstoke and Deane Local Planⁱ, includes a report dated 12th April 2001, of a drive in Sherborne St John having been "flooded all winter (but now subsiding)". Most recently, over the 2013/14 winter period, during a period of record rainfall, groundwater flooding occurred around the village, persisting for several weeks in places such as at junction between Elm Road and Cranes Road, where groundwater could be seen gushing from the road surface.

The Water Cycle Study, commissioned by Basingstoke and Deane from consultants Halcrow to inform their 2011-2029 Local Plan, advises against residential development in Area 6 – which includes Sherborne St John, "due to the combination of groundwater and fluvial flood risk."

Water supply

Basingstoke and Deane lies in Zone 4 of the South East Water supply area and derives its water supply solely from the aquifer located below the underlying North Hampshire chalk. Historically resilient, this system is now at risk from increased abstraction associated with population growth, new development and rising personal consumption, changes to groundwater recharge and river flows caused by climate change and the environmental requirements of designated rivers and wetlands.

The use of nitrogenous fertilisers in agriculture carries the risk of nitrate contamination of aquifer water by the rainwater falling on the agricultural land leaching nitrates into the groundwater. Rising and worryingly high nitrate concentrations have recently been found in borehole samples of local aquifer water that has resulted in the Environment Agency declaring a new Nitrogen Vulnerable Zone, covering the area of Basingstoke and its environs from which rainwater permeates into the aquifer.

The West Ham Pumping Station that supplies water to urban Basingstoke operates at 97% of its licensed capacity in order to meet current demand. Even if *per capita* consumption were to be reduced, the planned population growth will soon outstrip the effects of the water company's demand management initiatives. Furthermore, the most recent guidance from the Environment Agency clearly indicates that no new abstraction licences will be issued in this part of the country and it is highly likely that limitations on abstraction under the "Restoring Sustainable Abstraction" initiative will result in a reduction of locally available groundwater for water supply.

Wastewater and sewerage

Thames Water provides wastewater and sewerage services for Sherborne St John. The intensive use of water resources in the South East is reflected in the (stringent) high standard of effluent treatment required in the freshwater catchments. Increasing quantities of water abstracted for supply lead to increased volumes of returned sewage, but the dilution by remaining fresh water is obviously reduced. The standards of this stringency are at the limits of conventional sewage treatment.

In the Thames area the problem is exacerbated by expanding towns tending to be at or near the headwaters of rivers; from a water resources point of view these are usually the last locations that should be recommended for development. Other considerations include the importance of local sewage disposal sites from which the effluent maintains flow in local brooks and ditches, possibly at the cost of poorer quality, and the importance of preventing eutrophication by reducing nutrients such as phosphates which are at unacceptably high levels in the Loddon Catchment.

These factors are of relevance to Sherborne St John because of the location of a sewage treatment works (STW) to the north of the village which operates at the limits of its capacity. Sherborne St John STW is unable to remove phosphates and is not suitable for modernization.

The location of Basingstoke and Deane is at the headwaters of the River Loddon and its tributaries that flow north to the River Thames, covered by the Thames River Basin Management Plan. The responsibility for the water supply lies with South East Water, while Thames Water has the responsibility for the disposal of sewage and wastewater. This divided responsibility may be a contributory factor to the apparently poor understanding by

the local authorities of the pressures facing the Water Companies. Both companies have recently published their water resources management plans 2015-2040; although both companies acknowledge that they operate in areas of serious water stress and high environmental sensitivity, there is little to suggest that there has been strategic thinking about water resources management in the South East as a whole. Thames Water is mentioned in the South East Water plan in the context of water transfer schemes and the Thames Water plan has omitted the River Loddon from the figure showing its water resources zones.

Experts from Thames Water set out the specific problems to be anticipated in Basingstoke in a paper, "Basingstoke Case Study", presented at the CIWEM Central Southern Branch Annual Seminar on South East Housing Development – the Quest for Sustainability on 18th October 2000. Time has shown that these experts were correct.

Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council's draft Local Plan does not make specific reference to the major issues surrounding the local water and sewerage infrastructure and developers have not been required either to demonstrate how proposed developments will impact on the water supply, water quality, sewerage and wastewater management and flood risk or how they would contribute to its mitigation.

3. Landscape Management (see Appendix IX. Landscape Capacity of SSJ)

Sherborne St John is a long established rural village which was mentioned in the Domesday Book. The area currently retains the character of a rural settlement, despite the encroachment of some modern building. It is located at the edge of the Hampshire Downs with the town of Basingstoke to the south and east of the village (largely hidden from view by the rising ground to the south). There is extensive woodland to the east and open farmland to the north, with an extensive network of footpaths linking them to the village.

The nature of Sherborne St John as a rural village is protected by various legislation and local and regional policies and by the fact it was designated as a Conservation Area in 1983. The Local Authority therefore has a statutory duty to ensure that its character and appearance are preserved or enhanced. It particularly refers to the heritage and character given by the many Listed Buildings and to important views of the village and the countryside beyond.

The Village Design Statement (VDS) that was produced by the Parish Council and residents of the village, was adopted by the Local Authority as Supplementary Planning Guidance in 2004. It places importance on the views in and out of the village and the visual isolation which arises naturally and is still valued, despite the erosion of this caused by the recent and continuing development north of Popley. The VDS consultation exercise concluded that large scale development would be inappropriate, in or close to the village, and it argued in favour of smaller scale developments and infill, as well as maintaining a clear separation between the village and Basingstoke.

Local authority Landscape Capacity Studies in 2008 and 2010, confirm that there is a little capacity to take development in all areas assessed close to the village. Whilst the area north of Popley has already been granted planning permission for 450 new homes, the remaining undeveloped areas maintain their Low Landscape Capacity status. Much of these areas are also included in the Strategic Gap that is proposed between Basingstoke and Sherborne St John, under policy EM2 of the Basingstoke and Deane Revised Local Plan 2011-2029, which is aimed at preventing coalescence and maintaining the separate identity of settlements. This should protect the area between Sherborne St John and Basingstoke from any developments.

The views in and out of Sherborne St John are rural and consultation for the Neighbourhood Plan has shown that they remain important to its residents. In addition they reinforce the visual isolation and sense of independent settlement, which helps to maintain the strong feeling of community so essential to Sherborne St John. The only logical conclusion is that there are no areas in or around Sherborne St John that could accommodate large scale

development. Only small scale development (maintaining the existing character, landscape and rural feel of the village) would be deemed appropriate.

4. Community Infrastructure and Services

Infrastructure

In common with most parts of SE England, housing development and car usage has escalated over the last few decades, running ahead of investment in infrastructure. Nevertheless aspects of the Parish's infrastructure have an effect on future development in and around Sherborne St John - even where new housing development is relatively modest, as is the case with this Plan. This includes increased demand for local amenities and increased pressure on public utilities, the road network and waste services. The current position in terms of Parish Infrastructure is summarised below:

The Village is located on the spring line, at the junction of the Chalk (to the south) and the Thames Valley sediments. This results in regular groundwater flooding in parts of the Village. Most recently over the 2013/14 winter period, during a period of record rainfall, groundwater flooding occurred around the Village and persisted for several weeks. At the junction between Elm Road and Cranes Road, groundwater could be seen gushing from the road surface. Surface water flooding also occurs in wet seasons. House names such as Ford House, Springfield and Spring Cottage are indicators of a high water table. The Water Cycle Study by Halcrow Group Ltd, commissioned by BDBC (as part of the evidence base in support of the Local Plan) advises against residential development in an area including SSJ, "due to the combination of groundwater and fluvial flood risk."

All properties in the Parish have mains water supply, which is provided by South East Water - from the Basingstoke Chalk aquifer. The Pumping Station that supplies water to SSJ and urban Basingstoke, operates at 97% of its licensed capacity in order to meet current demand, with little apparent scope for increasing abstraction levels (per recent Environment Agency guidance).

Mains sewerage is available to most properties in the Parish, although some outlying properties still rely on septic tank drainage. The SSJ Treatment Works operates at or close to the limits of its capacity - it is unable to remove phosphates and is not suitable for modernization. The Works discharge into the Vyne Stream and from there into the River Loddon catchment. The Halcrow Water Cycle Study concedes that water quality in the catchment already fails to meet 'good' status under the Water Framework Directive, principally because of high levels of phosphate pollution.

Refuse Collection is provided by Veolia Environmental Services, on behalf of BDBC. Services include weekly household waste collections, and fortnightly collections for recycling and

glass recycling. There is also a green waste collection scheme, available for an annual charge.

The increasingly busy A340 passes through the west side of Sherborne St John Village. Development at AWE Aldermaston, combined with recent housing development at Marnel Park, Merton Rise and Rooksdown, plus current development at Marnel Park and Merton Rise, and future development at the Aldermaston Triangle is causing a 'step-increase' in traffic levels. Long-running roadworks on the A340 in the vicinity of Basingstoke Hospital is adding yet further traffic lights to the A340. The impact on Sherborne St John is two-fold:

- Heavy traffic and increased journey times and delays on the A340
- Increased traffic through the Village, avoiding the traffic lights on the A340 and at the A340/A339 roundabout. Cranes Rd, Elm Rd, Sherborne Rd and Chineham Way is being targeted as a 'rat run'.

The Public Transport to the Parish is essentially the No.2 bus service from Basingstoke to Baughurst. There are 4 buses per hour during the day (3 on the A340 only, 1 diverts from the A340 and passes through SSJ Village), the service tails off after 6pm. Buses stop at the North Hampshire Hospital (conveniently just 1 mile from SSJ Village) and Basingstoke Rail Station. Rail services are excellent to London (Waterloo) as well as 'Cross-Country' to Reading, and the Midlands and North. Once CrossRail is complete, this latter will provide quick access to larger areas of London as well as London Airport (Heathrow).

There is currently no effective, dedicated cycleway network serving Sherborne St John.

Services / Parish Amenities

Sherborne St John is a vibrant Parish with many amenities for residents, and local clubs and groups operating within the Parish.

There are a number of amenities of primary importance to 'village life', which represent the very essence of a healthy, independent village community:

- a thriving Primary School
- a well-attended Parish Church (St Andrews)
- a popular pub/restaurant (The Swan)
- an impressive, widely-supported (central) Village Hall and Green. The Hall is heavily-booked; as a meeting room, venue for parties, weddings and the performing arts, dance classes, mother and toddler groups, senior coffee mornings (instigated and underwritten by the Parish Council) with chiropodist services, Women's Fellowship, Women's Institute, a monthly local produce market, and regular youth group meetings such as the guides, brownies and cubs.
- an imposing and well-used Sports Pavilion and recreation ground (The Chute) with 2 drained football pitches and 2 'all-weather' tennis courts. The Pavilion is also busy and provides a second excellent venue for parties and weddings, as well as being

used daily to provide a pre-school nursery, and weekly judo, short-mat bowls, yoga, karate and dance classes. Outside, the SSJ Football Club is very active in the local leagues, running adult and junior teams for all age groups; the tennis club provides league teams as well as a social playing rota. A number of holiday activities use the combined facilities each year.

- a number of important Green Spaces in the Parish - within and outside SSJ Village (see Baseline Evidence Report and Appendices). These Green Spaces are important for social, aesthetic / landscape, and environmental control reasons.

The Parish Council provides 3 fully-occupied allotment sites, and 2 children's play areas with swings and other equipment, which the Parish Council is in the process of extending.

There is a Social Club open to all.

The network of footpaths in the area is used by residents and visitors alike to explore the countryside, some of which lead to the historic Vyne House, with its attractive woodlands, which is also within the Parish boundary.

One area of immediate concern is the demise of the current Village Post Office and Shop – apparently no-longer viable at its current premises (due to the reduction in the available Post Office salary, coupled with a lack of space at the current location). The shop is due to close during the consideration of this Neighbourhood Plan, and highlights the importance of establishing a suitable alternative if possible.

5. Local Green Space Policy (see Appendix XVII. Local Green Space Policy Assessments and Appendix X Wildlife Map).

Sherborne St John is fortunate to include a number of important Local Green Spaces in the Parish - both within and outside SSJ Village. They add greatly to the quality and appearance of the local environment, they are important for social and recreation purposes, and provide strategic environmental protection to the Village. Whilst the public access green spaces are not currently under threat they require ongoing protection; the 2014 Questionnaire confirmed local residents' overwhelming desire to protect and enhance all existing green spaces. The Neighbourhood Plan Policies and Non Statutory Community Action Plan are designed to do just this. The Wildlife Map is an imaginative and comprehensive exercise based on a year-long and continuing process of observation and recording, to identify the flora and fauna present in the Parish.

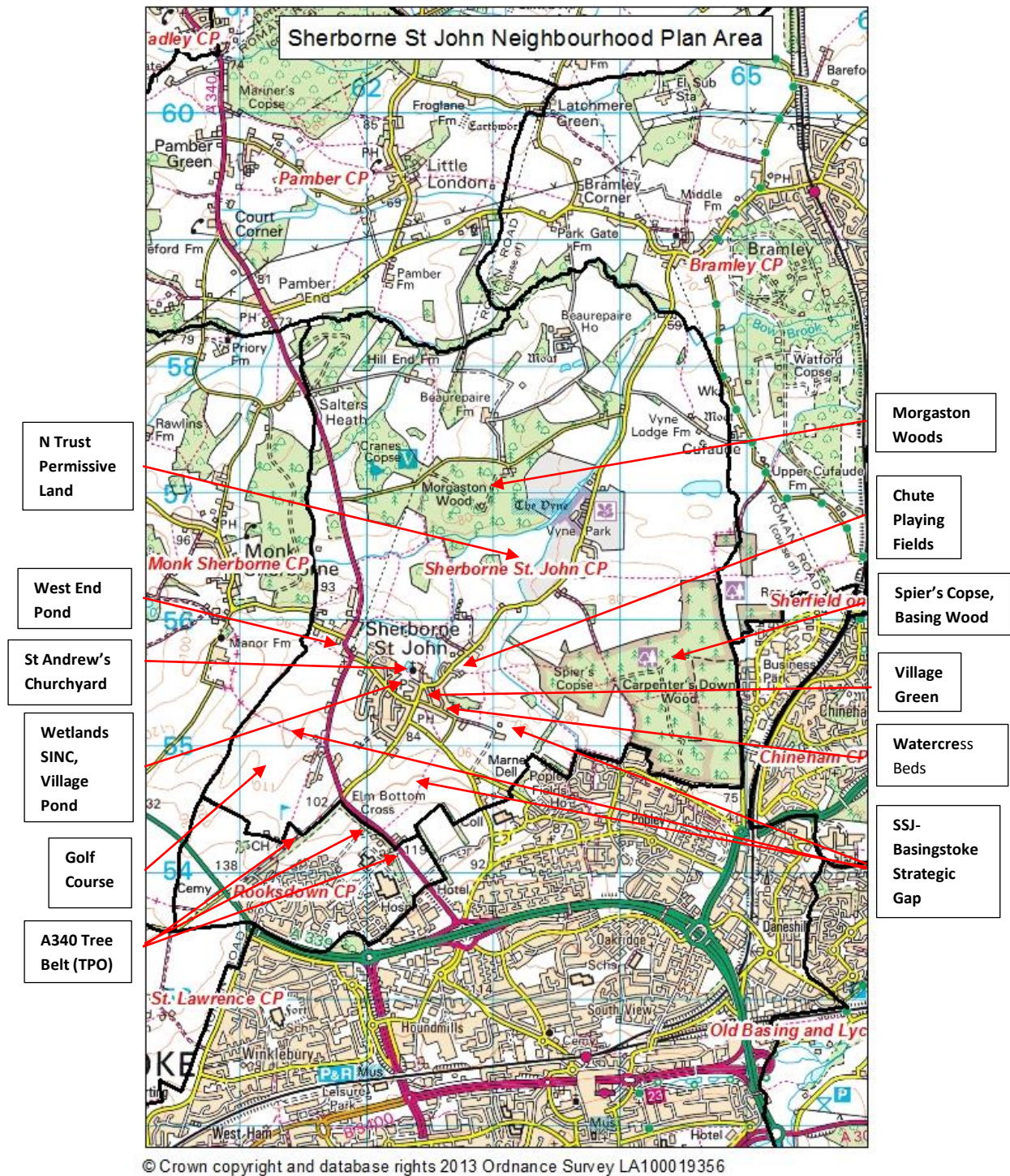
Important Local Green Spaces within the Parish of Sherborne St John

Within SSJ Village	
Village Green	Public access land in the middle of the Village, providing the 'green centre' of the community – bordered by the Village Hall, Swan Pub and Social Club. Used for Parish gatherings – fetes, picnics, parties

	and provides an outdoor 'extension' for Village Hall activities. Owned by the National Trust and leased to SSJ Parish Council.
Chute Playing Fields	Public access land used for recreation – football, tennis, running and general outdoor activities. Also used for Parish gatherings – fetes, picnics, parties and provides an outdoor 'extension' for Chute Pavilion activities including the pre-school nursery. Owned by SSJ Village via SSJ Parish Council.
St Andrews Churchyard	Public access land, maintained by BDBC. Owned by the Church Commissioners.
Wetlands SINC & Village Pond	Private land but with open views from Church path (public access) – especially Village Pond. Natural wetlands - an ecological resource with varied flora and fauna.
Kiln Rd Watercress Beds	Private land with limited views from Kiln Rd. A commercial watercress bed using clean groundwater run-off from the strategic gap to the south of Kiln Rd.
West End Pond	Private land with limited views from A340. DOES ANYONE HAVE ANYTHING MORE ON THIS?
Allotments	Limited access land administered and maintained by SSJ Parish Council. 3 separate pieces of allotment land leased to residents by SSJ Parish Council. Owned by the National Trust and leased to SSJ Parish Council.
Outside SSJ Village	
Farmland surrounding SSJ Village	Open land with some woodland providing the habitat for flora and fauna recorded in the SSJ Neighbourhood Plan Wildlife Map (including Great Crested Newts) . Crossed by a number of public footpaths.
SSJ-Basingstoke Strategic Gap	Open land to the South of SSJ Village, generally sloping northwards from the ridgeline to the spring-line in SSJ Village. Forms part of the farmland surrounding SSJ Village. This 'greenbelt' is the essence of the Strategic Gap that guarantees the integrity of SSJ as an independent community. In addition, it provides crucial environmental control by absorbing rainwater and discharging this as groundwater run-off via the drainage system into the Wey brook and subsidiary streams.
A340 Tree Shelter Belt	Public access land alongside the A340. The trees (protected by Tree Protection Order) provide a visual barrier between SSJ and Basingstoke (Rooksdown).
Weybrook Golf Course	Private golf club crossed by footpath(s) – a natural area and ecological resource with varied flora and fauna.
Morgaston Woods	Public access land providing extensive, outstanding natural woodland and some parkland, with numerous walks and with views over a natural wetland (natural bird reserve) and surrounding land. An ecological resource with varied flora and fauna. Owned by the National Trust.

National Trust Permissive Access Land	Public access land comprising extensive parkland and adjacent wetland (natural bird reserve), abutting Morgaston Woods. An ecological resource with varied flora and fauna. Owned by the National Trust.
Spiers Copse and Basing Wood Forestry Land	Private land with footpath access. An ecological resource (including natural wet woodland) with varied flora and fauna. Owned by the National Trust and leased to the Forestry Commission.
Particularly Important Footpaths	All footpaths in SSJ Parish are important components of the built and natural environment. The following footpaths are particularly important: • Wey Brook – from A340, east/west past the Wey Brook Meadows. • SSJ Village north/south to Morgaston Woods • Mill Lane east/west to Chute Playing Fields/ Spiers Copse or Marnel Park. • Kiln Road to rear of Chute Playing Fields • Church Path (in SSJ Village)

Important Local Green Spaces



6. The Natural Environment (see Appendix X. Wildlife Map - in preparation)

Introduction

Sherborne St. John Parish covers an area of around 14km² to the north of Basingstoke. The village itself is surrounded by a mix of arable land, grassland and woodland. There are two major areas of woodland in the parish: Morgaston Wood, part of the National Trust Vyne Estate, and Basing Forest, also National Trust owned but managed by the Forestry Commission. There is also a number of smaller plantations and copses in private ownership. Much of the woodland has been replanted, but there are some areas of semi-natural woodland, where oak predominates.

Local habitats

The Parish has no sites of European or national significance (e.g. Sites of Special Scientific Interest), although the Popley Ponds Local Nature Reserve, which supports a population of Great Crested Newts, lies just outside the Parish boundary, as currently drawn, with records of the species within the boundary. There are a number of Sites of Interest for Nature Conservation (SINCs) in the Parish and just outside its borders. The majority of these SINCs are woodland in nature, although there are also wetland areas, such as Sherborne St John Meadows in the centre of the village, and a portion of the Wey Brook near the Vyne. Environmental survey reports, which provide detailed information on the habitat and on the species present at the time the surveys were carried out, are available for the most of these SINCs, although some of these surveys were carried out some years ago.

Existing data

Taking a baseline of early 2015, there is a considerable amount of existing information on wildlife found within the Parish. Most of the records relate to flowering plants, birds, butterflies and moths, with reasonable numbers of records for mammals, reptiles and amphibians. There are, however, major gaps in this information with some species groups, particularly invertebrates other than moths and butterflies, and some parts of the Parish are clearly under-represented in the records.

Wildlife map

At the Launch Event for the Neighbourhood Plan, residents expressed their concerns for the environment of the Parish, which they considered to be an important part of what makes Sherborne St John a good place to live. This was reiterated in the Neighbourhood Plan Questionnaire response, when 96% of respondents opted to protect wildlife habitats.

As a result, it has been decided to produce a Parish Wildlife Map in support of the Neighbourhood Plan. This will provide a way to identify and record the places that local people feel are important for wildlife. This information can then be used to contribute to

future decisions and produce options for improvement of the local environment. It will also provide information on which to base future plans for the establishment and maintenance of green corridors within the parish, contributing to the aims stated in the National Planning Policy Framework to halt overall biodiversity loss, to support healthy well-functioning ecosystems and to establish coherent and resilient ecological networks, with more and better places for nature for the benefit of wildlife and people.

Extracts from the National Planning Policy Framework 2012

The following relevant sections are quoted directly from the Government's NPPF document.

11. Conserving and enhancing the natural environment

109. The planning system should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by:

- *protecting and enhancing valued landscapes, geological conservation interests and soils;*
- *recognising the wider benefits of ecosystem services;*
- *minimising impacts on biodiversity and providing net gains in biodiversity where possible, contributing to the Government's commitment to halt the overall decline in biodiversity, including by establishing coherent ecological networks that are more resilient to current and future pressures;*

117. To minimise impacts on biodiversity and geodiversity, planning policies should:

- *plan for biodiversity at a landscape-scale across local authority boundaries;*
- *identify and map components of the local ecological networks, including the hierarchy of international, national and locally designated sites of importance for biodiversity, wildlife corridors and stepping stones that connect them and areas identified by local partnerships for habitat restoration or creation;*
- *promote the preservation, restoration and re-creation of priority habitats, ecological networks and the protection and recovery of priority species populations, linked to national and local targets, and identify suitable indicators for monitoring biodiversity in the plan.*

7. Transport Infrastructure (see Appendix XI. SSJ Roads & Traffic Analysis)

Overview

As noted earlier, the Parish of Sherborne St John has a population of approximately 1,200 living in 525 homes, which vary in type from flats to larger houses (5 or 6 bedrooms) - with the majority being located in the village itself. Nearly all the larger homes have off-street parking. The Parish is situated predominantly east of the A340, immediately to the north of Basingstoke and about 5 miles south of Tadley. The A340 and other local roads link to the M3, M4, A33 and A34, giving good access to London, the South Coast, Reading and the Midlands.

The environs of the village are under constant threat of large scale development, due to the requirement for Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council (BDBC) to deliver its target of at least 748 new homes per annum until 2029 - an increase from the previous target of 594. The draft BDBC Local Plan also outlines proposals to build 3,800 homes on an extensive area of land just to the west of Sherborne St John called Manydown.

The demographics of the village show an ageing population, with a balance between those with a day-to-day focus around the village and those commuting to Reading, Basingstoke and London. There are also some businesses on the periphery of the village that employ a number of village residents.

Development must be seen as being sustainable. The impact on Sherborne St John's infrastructure of the volumes of traffic running through the village must be considered as an issue of concern with regards to any future development.

Current traffic issues

The following are considerations:

- Elm Bottom (the junction of Elm Road/A340) is one of the most frequently-used ingress/egress routes to the village and involves a dangerous right turn across the oncoming traffic.
- Dixons Corner (the junction of Cranes Rd/A340) is similarly dangerous with limited sight lines on the A340 (due to the north-bound 'S' bend). There have been a number of 'near misses'.
- Cranes Road/Elm Road/Sherborne Road/Chineham Lane are used as a convenient cut-through for AWE Aldermaston/Tadley to Basingstoke traffic wishing to avoid the A340/Priestley Road junction and the A339/A340 Aldermaston roundabout.

- Exiting the village from Cranes Road, turning right onto the A340 towards Tadley/Aldermaston during busy times is difficult. The Marnel Park Phase II development of 450 homes will make this increasingly difficult.
- The entry/exit of the Sherborne Fields (formerly Merton Rise) development is also situated at the A340/Priestley Road junction; when fully occupied there will be an additional traffic light sequence at this junction, further increasing the traffic queue backing up on the A340 towards Tadley.
- The location of the primary school in the centre of the village leads to a significant traffic build up in the middle of the village during school term.
- With the Village Hall being a popular venue for both village events and events booked by people from the surrounding area, the roads in the centre of the village are occasionally impacted by over-spill parking from the Village Hall.
- The Chute Pavilion also has limited parking that can spill out onto the Vyne Road.
- Access to The Grange is from the Vyne Road - additional traffic calming measures are being considered.
- Enforcing the 30 mph speed limit within Sherborne St John and particularly on the following main entries into the village are key concerns:
 - o Vyne Road, southbound from Bramley;
 - o The A340/Cranes Road junction, southbound from Tadley;
 - o The A340 northbound, from Basingstoke.

With the recent decision in favour of a large scale development of 450 houses (Marnel Park Phase II) and the anticipated 3,800 homes at Manydown, the issues highlighted above can only increase in both regularity and severity.

Policy considerations

Documentation: the following documents are relevant to any future development within the bounds of the Sherborne St. John Parish as covered by the Neighbourhood Plan:

- National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF);
- Basingstoke Town Access Plan;
- Basingstoke and Deane Borough Adopted Local Plan 1996-2011 (to be superseded by the emerging Local Plan 2011-2029);
- Hampshire Local Transport Plan.

National Policy - National Planning Policy Framework

The key objectives outlined within the NPPF with regards to transport are:

- The use of sustainable modes of transport should be optimised;
- Access to new development should be safe and suitable;
- Impacts from development should be minimised wherever possible.

All developments that generate significant amounts of movement should be supported by a Transport Statement or Transport Assessment. A key tool to facilitate sustainable travel will be a Travel Plan.

Local Policy – Basingstoke Town Access Plan, BDBC Local Plan and Hampshire Local Transport Plan

- Basingstoke Town Access Plan: developed by Hampshire County Council and BDBC, it was formally adopted by the County Council in January 2012. This sets out a strategy to improve access to facilities and services within Basingstoke by all transport modes;
- Policy C1 of the Basingstoke and Deane Borough Adopted Local Plan 1996-2011 states that: “Development will be permitted only where there are, or will be, adequate infrastructure and community facilities. Where provision is inadequate, developers will be required to provide the infrastructure and community facilities necessary to allow the development to proceed”;
- Policy A1 of the Basingstoke and Deane Borough Adopted Local Plan 1996-2011 states that: “Travel Plans will be required for all development, other than residential, which is above 500 square metres”;
- Policy A2 states that: “The Borough Council will only grant planning permission for developments with vehicular and pedestrian generation implications where: cycling and walking infrastructure are integrated with the development and linked with surrounding networks; and development takes account of the needs of public transport”;
- Hampshire County Council Local Transport Plan (LTP): this sets out Hampshire’s transport strategy to 2031: “developing and supporting stronger safer communities, maximising well-being and enhancing quality of place” – leading to a Sustainable Community Strategy. There are 5 main themes and 15 policy objectives of the LTP.

The community action plan within the Sherborne St John Neighbourhood Plan deals with infrastructure – traffic and other local services. There is a need for an over-reaching review of traffic and traffic flows through the Parish, which is expected to increase with time. This should also look to minimise noise and light pollution (including the large amount of unwelcome noise from heavy traffic on the A339 Ring Road and A340 Aldermaston Rd) to enhance the local environment.

8. SSJ Village Design Statement (see Appendix XII. SSJ Village Design Study 2004)

The Sherborne St John Village Design Statement was produced by the residents of the Parish, under the auspices of the Parish Council. The process involved a series of public

meetings, workshops and a Questionnaire. It was formally adopted by Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council (BDBC) as Supplementary Planning Guidance on 19th Feb. 2004.

The key information in the VDS was a description of the features that constitute the “look and feel” of the village of Sherborne St John. Its key purpose was to provide a guide to all stakeholders, informing them about development decisions, so that changes in the built environment could be planned and implemented in ways that respected the character and distinctiveness of the Village. The document concentrated particularly on landscape issues and views in and out of the Village, and the character of housing in the different parts of the Village.

The Design Statement can (still) be referred to by all those involved in drawing up, making and considering planning applications. It also provides guidance on changes, large and small, that owners and tenants may wish to make, even where planning permission may not be required. It should be consulted in conjunction with the SSJ Conservation Area Appraisal, produced by BDBC.

9. Cycleway Policy

The SSJ Neighbourhood Plan favours the provision of effective cycleways in the Parish, connected to a comprehensive (safe) BDBC Network. This latter is very much at a developmental stage. Specifically, SSJ Neighbourhood Plan supports the establishment of:

- a. BDBC Cycleway No.7 (see attached extract from BDBC 2015 Emerging Plan Draft Proposed Strategic Cycleway Network). This is currently closed where it crosses Everest Academy land



- b. A safe, effective cycleway alongside the A340 to Basingstoke via the NH Hospital.

10. Neighbourhood Plan Questionnaire Summary (see Appendix III&IV. SSJ NP Questionnaire)

	Questionnaire Results / Feedback	Comments
	Housing	
Q1 -	20% REPORT PROBLEM FINDING SUITABLE ACCOMMODATION	
Q2 -WHY	SPREAD. DOMINANT 50% TOO EXPENSIVE +LACK OF SMALL HOMES	

Q3 – NUMBER NEW HOMES	0-10 AND 10-20 35% AND 43% RESP = 78%	UP TO 12/15 HOUSES APPEARS TO BE THE CORRECT NUMBER
Q4 - COMMENT	190 COMMENTS 85%. SOME AGAINST ANY DEVELOPMENT BUT MOST IN FAVOUR OF MODEST NEW HOUSING AS LONG AS IT DOESN'T COMPROMISE THE VILLAGE/ RURAL NATURE OF SSJ	
Q5 – IMPORTANCE OF NEW HOUSING	RANGE OF ANSWERS – DOMINANT: FOR LOCAL YOUNG PEOPLE AND OLD PEOPLE 'DOWNSIZING'	We can specify mix for both social and market housing. Such policies may benefit from further review of census data, delivery rates, household profile to identify gaps in provision.
Q6 – CONCERNS RE NEW DEVELOPMENT	IMPACT ON ENVIRONMENT 97%, TRAFFIC & PARKING 94%, CHARACTER OF SSJ 90%, LIGHT POLLUTION 75% 43 COMMENTS. LACK OF AMENITIES/ INFRASTRUCTURE	
Q7 – HOUSE TYPES	1-2 AND 2-3 BEDS 109% / SHELTERED 50%, BUNGALOWS 46%	AS Q5
Q7A - TENURE	EQUAL VOTES PRIVATE & AFFORDABLE (SOCIAL)	This may be dictated by the viability of the preferred site. If there is a remaining requirement for social housing then exception sites are a possibility.
Q7B – AVAILABLE NON LOCALS	YES 60%	
Q8 – SITE TYPES / SIZE	BROWNFIELD 93% / CONVERSIONS OR DERELICT 93% / INFILL 20% / GREENFIELD 5% 3 HOUSES OR LESS 60% / 4 OR MORE 4%	5 OR MORE FOR N PLAN PURPOSES. POTENTIAL CONFLICT (EG LARGER BROWNFIELD SITES) NB DERELICT / OLD FARM BUILDINGS NOT CLASSIFIED AS BROWNFIELD SITES
Q9 – IMPORTANT FEATURES	FIT IN 96% / ENERGY EFFICIENT & LOW ENV IMPACT 96% / OFF ROAD PARKING 95% / GARDENS 88% / LOW COST 75%	LOW COST SLIGHTLY AT ODDS WITH EARLIER ANSWERS
Q10 – ANYTHING ELSE?	88 COMMENTS. KEY – VISUAL FIT WITH EXISTING VILLAGE NOT IN CONSERVATION AREA MIXED STYLE / SIZE	Policy can deal with design, layout, materials, scale, density etc. This may benefit from a light touch analysis of the character of the village (looking at character areas, best examples of design, standard densities etc).
	Business	
OWN BUSINESS	YES 23% MAIN IMPROVEMENT – BETTER BROADBAND AND MOBILE PHONE SERVICE	THERE ARE NO BURNING ISSUES IN THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY
Q10 – TYPE THAT SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED	AGRICULTURE/ RETAIL/ OFFICES / PUBS & CAFES 40 COMMENTS – 30 REFER TO SHOP/PO	
	Environment	
Q1 - IMPROVMENTS	LANDSCAPING 68% / WOODLAND TREES 57% / CREATE WILDLIFE MEADOWS 57% / PUBLIC SEATING 41% (AT VILLAGE POND)	Depending on what we want to achieve, we can require landscaping and communal space as part of any larger development proposal. We may also seek to investigate ways in which

		wildlife areas / designations can be protected and enhanced.
Q2 – PROTECT OPEN SPACES	PARTICULARLY STRONG SUPPORT FOR GREEN, CHUTE, PATH TO VYNE, CRANESFIELD DUCK POND, ALLOTMENTS 59 COMMENTS – THESE MAKE SSJ A VILLAGE	See Local Green Space designation (ref Paragraphs 76-78 of the NPPF. We will need to justify each space against the criteria set out in Para 77 prior to designating them.
Q3 – STRATEGIC GAP	MAINTAIN AS AGRICULTURAL 95% / MORE TREES (SCREENING) 90%	This is likely to be part of a general policy protecting the character of SSJ as a rural village.
Q4 – LONG TERM ENHANCEMENT	MINIMISE NOISE 97%/ LIGHT POLLUTION 90%, PROTECT WILDLIFE HABITATS 96% MORE FOOT & CYCLE PATHS 93% SUSTAINABLE WATER MANAGEMENT 85%	Similar to Q1 environment. BDBC Local Plan will already have policies covering this.
Q5 – ENERGY	81% SUPPORT SOLAR	
	Community Services	
Q1 – USAGE	MOST USED FACILITIES ON WEEKLY BASIS VILLAGE SHOP 74% / PUBLIC FOOTPATHS 68%	What do we want to achieve? A new one - if so, where? We can have a policy that seeks to ensure all new development preserves and where possible enhances, as well as linking in with, the existing footpaths.
Q2 – IMPROVEMENTS	165 COMMENTS - 73 VILLAGE SHOP/PO, 29 FOOTPATHS, PLAYGROUNDS, SWAN PUB, MEDICAL, V HALL	
Q3 – WHY NOT USE PLAYING GROUNDS	DOMINANT – CHILDREN TOO OLD	NEED OLDER FACILITIES?
Q4 - HEALTHCARE	GENERALLY EASY TO OBTAIN	ISSUE FOR OLDER GENERATION WITHOUT CARS?
Q5 – HEALTHCARE IMPROVEMENTS?	104 COMMENTS – 41 DOCTORS SURGERY, PHARMACY, SHOP, OTHER HEALTHCARE	Not too sure what we can achieve around this?
	Children & Youth	
Q1 – IMPORTANCE OF (PRE) SCHOOLS	OVERWHELMING SUPPORT 91%	
Q2 – HOW MANY ATTENDING SSJ (PRE) SCHOOLS	PRE SCHOOL – 3 SCHOOL – 24	? ONLY 20% OF SCHOOL NUMBERS
Q3 – RELATED SAFETY	TRAFFIC SLOWING 68%/ MAINTENANCE FOOTPATHS 53%/IMPROVED PARKING NEAR SCHOOL 51%/ CONTROLLED ROAD CROSSING(S) 47% LOCATIONS - A340 / CENTRE OF VILLAGE	
Q4 – FACILITIES TO BE PROVIDED	84 COMMENTS – YOUTH CLUB 46	
	Transport	
Q1 – MEANS	CAR OVERWHELMING MEANS OF TRANSPORT / 2 ND WALKING	
Q2 – PARKING	MAINLY OFFROAD / GARAGE 84%	
Q3 – ENOUGH PARKING SPACES?	NO 47%, YES 39% 99 COMMENTS - REQUIRED IN CENTRE OF VILLAGE ESPECIALLY FOR SCHOOL	This may be something that we can action through non-statutory action (PC working to find space for additional parking)

Q4 – CONCESSIONARY PASS	YES 37%, NO 35%	BUS SERVICE IMPORTANT – CURRENT FREQUENCY ACCEPTABLE
Q5 – DIFFICULTY TRAVELLING	17 COMMENTS – 4 DOCTOR (BRAMLEY)	
Q6 (1)– ENTRY/EXIT ROUTE	MOSTLY CRANES RD 54% / ELM RD 48%	
Q6 (2) – SAFETY / ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS	TRAFFIC SPEED 96%/ VAN & LORRIES THROUGH VILLAGE 78%/ LACK OR NARROW PAVEMENTS 75%/ CHILGREN GOING FROM&TO SCHOOL 68% 186 COMMENTS - TRAFFIC CONTROL ELM BOTTOM /TRAFFIC SLOWING / ADDITIONAL FOOTPATHS / CYCLEPATHS	Possibly a non-statutory action, working with highways officers to ensure a safer road environment. (Plan policies cannot retrofit, only plan for the future).
Q6 (3)– FURTHER TRAFFIC CONCERNS	60 COMMENTS – SPEED ONLY COMMON POINT	
Q7 – FUTURE IMPROVEMENTS	ELM BOTTOM 74%/ MORE & BETTER PAVEMENTS 65%/ CYCLEPATHS 64%/ MORE CHICANES 60%/ A340 BYPASS 58%/ CONTROLLED CROSSING 51%	COMMON FACTOR – ‘SLOW TRAFFIC’
Best 3 Things	100%/88%/76% RESPONSE – COMMUNITY VILLAGE ATMOSPHERE RURAL SETTING	
Worst 3 Things	100%/72%/49% RESPONSE – TRAFFIC VOLUMES /SPEED LOSS OF IDENTITY (ENCROACHMENT OF BASINGSTOKE) LOSS OF SHOP/PO	
Main Hope	211RESPONSES SSJ RETAINS VILLAGE IDENTITY	
Main Fear	208 RESPONSES SSJ SUBSUMED BY BASINGSTOKE	
	Demographics	
Q1 – HOUSEHOLD MAKE-UP	COUPLES 48% / FAMILIES 32% / SINGLE 19%	
Q2 – AGE OF RESPONDENT	77% OVER 50, 42% OVER 65	AGEING POPULATION!
Q3 – EMPLOYMENT STATUS	EMPLOYED 51%, RETIRED 45%	
Q4 – TIME RESIDENT	69% OVER 10 YEARS, 34% OVER 25 YEARS	
POST CODE	NOT ANALYSED	
NAME	99 RESPONDENTS PROVIDED NAME	

11. Housing Needs Review (see SSJ N Plan Housing Needs Review R2 & Appendix II. Action Hampshire SSJ Housing Needs Survey Report).

Objective and background

The objective of the review process was to establish the actual requirement for new housing in Sherborne St John (if any) and to reach a consensus as to where any housing should be located.

Further detail of the process gone through to select and allocate an appropriate site for housing development can be found in the document called 'SSJ Neighbourhood Plan Housing Needs Review'. This includes an assessment of the different site options.

As noted earlier in this document:

- Much of the village is designated as a Conservation Area, where any development should, not only not detract from the existing settlement, but should positively enhance it;
- The Parish has a population of around 1,200 in slightly over 500 homes, the vast majority of which are located in the village. County and District Council figures indicate NIL population growth over coming years;
- Construction of a further 450 houses agricultural land known as 'Land north of Popley Fields' commenced in early 2015. The site is wholly within the Parish boundary;
- Current infrastructure is under stress and would not support significant further development.

BDBC Local Plan

BDBC has provided an initial indication in Policy SS5 of the number of houses that Sherborne St John should be provided through the Neighbourhood Plan process; as one of 10 - 15 villages required to deliver 150 new homes, this could imply a contribution from SSJ Neighbourhood Plan of 15-10 dwellings. It is important to note that at this stage Policy SS5 is not adopted and may be subject to change. However, aspects of the evidence base supporting the policy will be relevant.

Further guidance is provided by Policy SS6 with respect to 'New Housing in the Countryside'. Of particular relevance:

"Development proposals for new housing outside of Settlement Policy Boundaries will only be permitted where they are (inter alia):

e) Residential proposals that have the support of the local parish council/town councils/parish meetings, provided that:

ix) They do not result in an isolated form of development;

x) The scale is appropriate to the site and location;

xi) The development will respect the local environment and amenities of neighbouring properties; and

xii) The development is well related to the existing settlement; ...”

National Planning Policy Framework

Central Government’s National Policy Planning Framework states that any development should meet specified sustainability criteria. Sustainability assessment requires consideration under three headings; social, environmental and economic.

Housing Needs Survey (HNS)

The Sherborne St John housing need survey was carried out by Community Action Hampshire using a tested and widely used methodology. It was conducted in July 2014 (prior to the Neighbourhood Plan Questionnaire). 523 survey forms were sent out to all households in the Parish; of these 220 were returned, a 42% response rate. This is a good response rate. The results are summarised below (with further comment) – they were accepted by the Neighbourhood Plan, but with some interpretation and qualification.

Support for an affordable (social) housing scheme

74% of survey respondents said they would support a small affordable housing scheme for local people in the parish, should one be needed. 26% would not support a scheme. Other key results were:

- The overall findings of the survey showed that whilst 22 households completed Part 2 of the survey, stating they were in need of affordable housing, only 17 households were interested in either an affordable rented home or shared ownership home within the Parish. Some of these may be willing to move to affordable homes nearby to the Parish, if that were an alternative option. The remaining 5 were only interested in owner occupation.
- Only 2 households in the survey mentioned that they were currently registered on the local housing registers maintained by Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council’s ‘Homebid’ for affordable rented housing or ‘Help to Buy South’ shared ownership register. The ‘Homebid’ register has currently 24 households stating a connection to the parish and 5 households are registered with ‘Help to Buy South’.
- The majority of households in need stated a local connection to the Parish of more than 10 years.
- Housing need may arise for a number of reasons, but in the majority of cases within the Parish, it is because individuals cannot afford the high cost of mortgage and rent levels locally. Other respondents stated they wished family members to return to the Parish for support or to be supported by families currently living there. Setting up a first home and

divorce and separation were also given as reasons.

- Survey respondents identified affordable housing for local people, housing for older people to downsize and homes for first time buyers as priority housing groups for the Parish.

So a maximum (possible) further 15 households have expressed a need for affordable rented housing or shared ownership and are not currently listed on either Housing Register.

With the demographic trend moving towards smaller households, a lack of 1 and 2 bedroom homes will make it difficult for many groups, such as single people and couples, first time buyers and those on low income to enter the local housing market.

Survey recommendations

The HNS survey indicated that a mix of new homes is needed by local residents of the Parish.

Further investigation with Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council is recommended to confirm whether this identified need can be met through the new homes currently being planned and developed within or close to the Parish boundary. (Marnell Park Phase II is wholly located within the Parish of Sherborne St John.)

A Rural Exception Site policy for affordable housing for local people should only be considered for the Parish if the housing need identified cannot be met through the new planned housing developments being built close to or within the its boundary.

Neighbourhood Plan Process/ Questionnaire Feedback/ 'Call for Sites'

The Neighbourhood Plan has a duty to review the availability of potential development sites. A number of responses from landowners or site promoters were received; the 'long-list' of them was included in the Neighbourhood Plan Questionnaire sent to every house in the Parish in late September 2014.

The first section of the Questionnaire considered possible development. In summary, the responses showed:

- 78% responded that they were in favour of modest new development (between 0-10 and 10-20 houses) as long as it would not compromise the village or rural nature of Sherborne St John.
- A large majority thought that the new housing was most important for local young people or old people "downsizing". A proportion of the housing should be affordable (social).
- The results indicated that the housing should be of mixed style and size, with 1 to 3 bedrooms.

The Questionnaire responses gave the Neighbourhood Plan a strong mandate to deliver a limited number of houses (between 0-10 and 10-20 houses).

Some of the 'Call for Sites' options directly contradicted two fundamental 'no-go' rules identified by the Questionnaire, being:

- No development on greenfield sites (94% support)
- No development in the Basingstoke – Sherborne St John Strategic Gap (95%)

Following analysis of the results of the Housing Needs Survey and Neighbourhood Plan Questionnaire, and taking into account the requirements of the NPPF, plus BDBC and HCC policies, the long list was reduced to a short-list of six potential sites. Meetings were held with land owners / developers and the short-listed sites were visited (in the presence of the land owners / developers where possible). Site assessments were completed for each site (see Appendix X).

The Short List of potential sites was presented at a NP Consultation Feedback Event held on 14th March 2015. As part of this event, attendees were invited to vote for their preferred development option. Votes were cast – either for their preferred sites or for all sites in order of preference (or a mixture of both). The results are summarised below:

Option	Total Votes		1st Choice	
	No	%	No.	%
Site 2 Bob's Farm	622	38%	79	61%
Site 3 Aldermaston Rd	359	22%	26	20%
Site 4 Hilltop	198	12%	4	3%
Site 5 Kiln Rd	166	10%	8	6%
Site 6 Aubrey Place	158	10%	1	1%
Site 1 Cranesfield	151	9%	11	9%

Based on this feedback, the SSJ Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group resolved to support a development of ~15 houses at Bob's Farm.

Subsequently, Bob's Farm was withdrawn from the Neighbourhood Plan process by the developer. Availability of the second choice site was also still in question. A '2nd Consultation' process was therefore required and duly completed. Only a single site was consulted upon – A340/Cranes Rd (see Site Assessment, Appendix X) – which was one half of the original Site 1 Option above. The developer there was by now proposing a smaller site for 18 homes. Even though this was an edge-of-settlement greenfield site, located at the edge of the Strategic Gap, residents decided the site was suitable and voted in favour of its allocation.

A340/Cranes Rd voting was:

- In Favour - 134 (of which 90 were in favour irrespective of whether the scheme provides a shop or not, and 40 were in favour only if a proposed shop is provided (+ 4 undefined)).

- Against - 65.

The SSJ Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group resolved to support a development of 18 houses at A340/Cranes Rd.

12. Proposed Policies - Application of the Sustainability Assessment (SA) Framework

This Sustainability Assessment (SA) framework is based upon the framework used by Basingstoke and Dean Borough Council for its emerging Local Plan, having the same SA objectives. However, the SA indicators have been chosen to be appropriate to local circumstances in the Parish.

The Borough Council has concluded that Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) is not required for this Neighbourhood Plan. It can be said that SA is not, therefore, technically required. Nonetheless, it has been decided to complete a light touch (non-SEA compliant) SA as a matter of good practice.

This SA considers the four policies that are being proposed for the Sherborne St John Neighbourhood Plan against the SA indicators. Where policies would appear to have an obviously positive impact (relative to having no policy) they are marked green. Where they would appear to have an obviously negative impact (relative to having no policy) they are marked red. In other cases they are not colour coded. Making comparison between having a policy and not having policy has been established as an approach that is suitable and proportionate for Neighbourhood Plans. In some instances it is simply not possible to reach any meaningful conclusion about impact and the appropriate comment is then either 'not applicable' or 'neutral'.

SOCIAL (S) ENVIRONMENTAL (En) ECONOMIC (Ec)	SA OBJECTIVE	PARISH SPECIFIC SA INDICATOR	Policy 1: Housing mix to meet local needs	Policy 2: Avoiding built area coalescence	Policy 3: Rural character of the Parish	Policy 4: Allocated site for housing development
S, Ec	1. To provide all residents with the opportunity to live in a	Ability to meet local housing needs Ability to provide a range of high quality homes that focusses on smaller units,	++ The policy specifically seeks to deliver smaller units in line with the	= The policy defines that new housing should not compromise	+ The policy defines that new housing should not compromise	++The policy specifically targets a mix of smaller market

	sustainable, decent home	some of which will help to make larger units in SSJ Village available.	assessed local housing need	the strategic gap.	the rural character of the Parish	housing + affordable units
En	2. To reduce and minimise emissions of greenhouse gases and manage the impact of climate change	as BDBC: Ability to deliver low carbon and sustainable development Ability to promote energy efficiency and use of small scale renewables	Neutral	+ Optimises existing natural environment	+ Optimises existing natural environment	+ Housing numbers kept to minimum – to be built to suitable environmental specification
En	3. To protect and enhance local biodiversity, flora and fauna	Impact on wildlife sites or habitats in the Parish – established through production of an SSJ Wildlife Map	= Not applicable (policy does not relate to housing location).	++Optimises existing natural environment	++Optimises existing natural environment	= Chosen site has low impact
En	4. To protect and enhance the distinctiveness and quality of the local landscape, soils, geological and geomorphological interests	Ability to support the Basingstoke – Sherborne St John Strategic Gap Impact of development on local sensitivities (by way of setting) Impact of development on any local sensitivities	Not applicable	++Optimises existing natural environment	+Optimises existing natural environment	= Chosen site has low impact
En	5. To maintain and improve the quality of	Ability to guide development away from	Not applicable	+Optimises natural drainage	+Optimises natural drainage	= Minimal impact

	water sources in the Parish	areas of groundwater vulnerability /spring line				
En	6. To reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to the local community, environment and economy	Promotion of appropriate flood mitigation and sustainable drainage Ability to guide development away from areas of groundwater vulnerability / spring line	Neutral and not applicable	+ Optimises natural drainage	+ Optimises natural drainage	= Requires proper design / management – this will ensure minimal impact
S, Ec	7. To improve accessibility to all services and facilities	Ability to oversee provision of a replacement Village Shop Ability to support or enhance other community facilities eg. Village Hall	= By meeting <u>local</u> housing needs there could be some benefit in terms of use of local facilities.	Neutral	Neutral	+ Chosen sight can provide all local service and facilities and may provide (replacement) shop.
S, En	8. To improve choice and access to sustainable transport options	Ability to maintain SSJ Village bus services Ability to promote sustainable modes of transport and lessen the reliance on car borne travel	= By meeting <u>local</u> housing needs there could be some benefit in terms of bus service patronage.	Neutral	Neutral	+ Located on the bus route
S, Ec	9. To improve educational attainment and increase	Ability to support the Village School	= School support is hard to assess.	+ Provides a positive sense of	+Positive psychological impact on	+ Will provide more students

	opportunities for new skills and learning to support the economic competitiveness of the Parish and personal development	Ability to both nurture and then retain a range of skills and industries within the parish	Meeting <u>local</u> housing needs for smaller units should enable a wider cross-section of households with a range of skills to live in the Parish.	<u>community and identity, improves behaviours and should enhance personal attainment.</u>	<u>individuals, a direct connection to and understanding of nature.</u>	<u>to support the local school(s)</u>
S, Ec	10. To develop a diverse and knowledge based economy	As BDBC Ability for development to retain and enhance the local mix of skills and job opportunities available locally	<u>+ Retaining a good housing mix should promote a local workforce with a mix of skills.</u>	<u>+ Improves diversity and knowledge</u>	<u>++ Improves diversity and knowledge</u>	Neutral
S, Ec	11. To maintain high and stable levels of employment	As BDBC Ability to support the local business economy Ability to provide adequate access to local jobs	<u>+ Quite hard to assess, though a housing mix could enable better access to local jobs.</u>	Neutral	Neutral	= Will increase the number of younger residents
Ec	12. To maintain and enhance sustainable economic growth	As BDBC Ability to support the local economy and supply chain	<u>+ As noted above, a good housing mix could support the use of local</u>	<u>++ Promotes a good living environment</u>	<u>++ Promotes a good living environment</u>	<u>+ Will increase the proportion of younger persons in the Parish</u>

		Ability to support and promote local shops, services and businesses	services (such as the proposed new shop).			
S, En, Ec	13. To enhance the attractiveness of the Parish to visitors	Ability to support the proposed Basingstoke – Sherborne St John Strategic Gap Ability to ensure development will enhance the attractiveness of SSJ Ability to maintain wildlife habitats identified by the SSJ Wildlife Map	Not applicable (policy does not relate to housing location).	++ Enhances the environment, look and feel of SSJ Parish	++ Enhances the environment, look and feel of SSJ Parish	Neutral
En	14. To protect and enhance the distinctiveness of the local built environment	Ability to promote high quality design Ability for development to respect and integrate with its surroundings	Not applicable.	++ Enhances the environment, look and feel of SSJ Parish	++ Enhances the environment, look and feel of SSJ Parish	= Will require proper management
En	15. To improve the efficiency of resource use, including re-using previously developed land, existing buildings and materials, and encouraging the maximum use of	Ability to direct development to brownfield / derelict land as a priority or failing that, edge of settlement Ability to promote the reuse of existing buildings	= Not applicable to the first two indicators. On the third, it could be argued that the policy has a minor	Neutral	Neutral	- Minor negative impact - suitable brownfield sites have not been identified

	sustainable design and construction technologies	Ability to identify ways in which design can lead to more sustainable development and more efficient use of land	negative impact on the intensity of land use.			
S, Ec	16. To create and sustain vibrant settlements and communities	Ability to support the development of mixed communities through the retention and provision of a range of homes, facilities and social opportunities	++ Policy has the specific intention of sustaining a range of homes in the area suited to local needs.	++ Provides a positive sense of community and identity, and improves the quality of life.	++ Provides a positive sense of community and identity, and improves the quality of life.	+ Positive impact - will increase the proportion of younger persons in the Parish.
S, En	17. To promote and improve access to open space and the countryside, and encourage healthy lifestyles	Ability to support and enhance local recreational provision Impact on Rights of Way network Ability to support the existing network of footpaths and cycleways and, wherever possible, provide new linkages	Not applicable.	++ Provides a positive sense of community and identity, and improves the quality of life.	++ Provides a positive sense of community and identity, and improves the quality of life.	Neutral
S	18. To improve community safety by reducing crime, the fear of crime, and antisocial behaviour	Ability to influence Hampshire Constabulary to promote Neighbourhood Policing in SSJ	Neutral	++ Rural crime statistics are always better than urban	++ Rural crime statistics are always better than urban	Neutral. Will require proper management

		Ability to deliver development that is well designed and accessible				
S	19. To improve health and well-being through the development of healthy communities	Ability to support the Chute Playing Fields, SSJ Village Green, Parish Footpaths – to encourage participation in recreational and social activities	+ Positive impact - will increase the proportion of younger persons in the Parish.	+ Provides a positive sense of community and identity, and improves the quality of life.	+ Provides a positive sense of community and identity, and improves the quality of life.	+ Positive impact - will increase the proportion of younger persons in the Parish.

13. Review of the Objectives set for the Neighbourhood Plan process

Process objectives at outset 2014	Original process objectives reviewed at February 2015	SSJ Neighbourhood Plan policy Objectives
Seeking the views of local Organisations	Completed through N Plan Survey.	
Seeking the views of different residents' groups (eg. Youth, Senior Citizens)	Completed through N Plan Survey. Canvassing of young persons has proved problematic	
Understanding SSJ Housing Needs and the right housing mix to meet this need	Housing Needs Survey completed by Action Hampshire. Two options remain with regard to how Affordable Housing can be delivered – a. Within SSJ Village b. As part of the Marnel Park Development Phase II).	Objective 1: Deliver an appropriate level of housing in line with the wishes of the community that will meet both local needs and contribute towards the strategic needs of the Borough.
Identifying appropriate, small scale, sustainable development sites for limited housing growth which meet local needs and incorporate desired local services, as well as satisfying BDBC requirements.	A shortlist of possible sites has been compiled – see 'Call for Sites' Update 06.03.15. This list was balloted at the 14.03.15 Consultation and Feedback Event; the results are reported in section 7 - Consultation.	Objective 1: Deliver an appropriate level of housing in line with the wishes of the community that will meet both local needs and contribute towards the strategic needs of the Borough.
Reviewing specific local issues and Seeking the views of all residents via a Neighbourhood Plan Questionnaire - Protecting and enhancing green spaces - retaining important amenities such as the PO / Village Shop - retaining Sherborne St John as a rural Village with its own distinct identity - ensuring sustainability of the Village School	The Questionnaire process has been completed with excellent response (at circa 50% of households). The results have been reviewed (see attached Review) and key findings included in Section 8 – Key Policies.	Objective 2: Retain Sherborne St John as a viable rural village with its own distinct identity through the preservation of its historic and rural setting and character. Objective 3: Protect and enhance the important green spaces, habitats and natural environment of the Parish. Objective 4: Maintain and promote key village amenities placing an importance on retaining or

		providing the shops and services that the underpin village life.
Reviewing local policies, making representation as appropriate, to assess their ability to provide true sustainability for Sherborne St John	Part completed / part in progress. The programme is defined by BDBC Local Plan timetable.	Through – SSJ Neighbourhood Plan: 6. Community Action Plan
