



Parish Workshop initial consultation drop-in event at the Jubilee Hall, Saturday 17th November

The Starston Neighbourhood Plan is a community-led document for guiding future development within the parish. It is about the use and development of land over the next 20 years. It may contain proposals for improving the area or providing new facilities, or allocation of key sites for specific kinds of development. It may deal with a wide range of social, economic and environmental issues (such as housing, employment, heritage and transport) or it may focus on one or two issues only.

The purpose of the initial consultation event was an invitation for the whole parish to individually identify key issues and themes in the parish. During the day, 67 people (approximately 20% of the parish population) gave up a few minutes of their valuable time to write on post-it notes and stick stickers onto boards, whilst consuming some delicious locally made cakes and treats, all washed down with tea and coffee.



The day had been prepared by the Starston Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group, with invitations for the day advertised on a wide variety of media, including Pigeon Post, village website, flyers and posters. All attendees were asked to agree, or disagree, and comment on five key draft objectives, as follows:





Community & Services

DRAFT Objective: To provide opportunities for all the community to access community facilities and public spaces.

51 agreed, and no one disagreed with this object.

The main themes of interest generated by the comments that were received, were grouped together afterwards under the following headings:

- ◆ Community
- ◆ Church Building
- ◆ Village Hall
- ◆ Church and Village Hall
- ◆ Parish Council

Business & Employment

DRAFT Objective: To encourage and support appropriate new and existing businesses. 49 agreed, and no one disagreed with this object.

The main themes of interest generated by the comments that were received, were grouped together afterwards under the following headings:

- ◆ Broadband
- ◆ Home based businesses, and
- ◆ Commercial units

Environment & Landscape

DRAFT objective: To protect and enable access to the countryside within Starston and the surrounding countryside.

DRAFT objective: To maintain a high quality built and natural environment for the village.

45 agreed, and no one disagreed with these objectives.

The main themes of interest generated by the comments that were received, were grouped together afterwards under the following headings:

- ◆ Strategic gap between Starston and Harleston
- ◆ Wildlife
- ◆ Fly Tipping, and
- ◆ The Beck





Transport & Access

DRAFT objective: To encourage safe walking and cycling within and beyond Starston parish.

49 agreed, and 2 disagreed with this objective.

The main themes of interest generated by the comments that were received, were grouped together afterwards under the following headings:

- ◆ Traffic speeding
- ◆ Roads
- ◆ Footpaths and pedestrians
- ◆ Cycling
- ◆ Bus

Housing & the Built Environment

DRAFT objective: To support a small amount of appropriate new housing development for a mixed community.

DRAFT objective: To encourage well-designed development that complements the distinctive character of Starston.

45 agreed, and 4 disagreed with these objectives.

The main themes of interest generated by the comments that were received, were grouped together afterwards under the following headings:

- ◆ Large scale developments
- ◆ Development
- ◆ Self-build
- ◆ Farm building conversions

Additionally, an opportunity was given for attendees to write on post it notes to answer more important questions:

1. Do we want some more housing in Starston? And, if yes, how many houses, what type of housing, and where.
2. What do you want for Starston? What makes the parish special? What would enhance it? Do we want development and how can we make the best of it? Ultimately, what would make Starston parish an inspiring and functional place to live and work by 2029?





Finally, the Steering Group had previously worked on a draft character assessment for the village, concluding that the village has 5 distinctive areas

- ◆ Northern Agricultural Area
- ◆ Central Agricultural Area
- ◆ Southern Agricultural Area
- ◆ Historic Village Centre
- ◆ Cross Road and Rushall Road

The areas were described and shown on the parish map, and attendees were asked to make comments on each area.



Attendees had an opportunity to stick flags into the parish map and make specific comments alongside the flag and the reason that they had placed the flag.

The Steering Group would like to thank everyone who gave their valuable time to attend and input into the Neighbourhood Planning process.

As a reminder, the Steering Group is made up of a group of residents, commissioned by the Parish Council, to guide the development of the community-led Neighbourhood Plan for Starston. We are not the decision makers, residents are.

For full details of the results and the comments made on the day please go to the Starston website at www.starstonvillage.co.uk/starston/neighbourhood-plan/

The next stage in the Neighbourhood Planning process is to develop these ideas further.