

# DRAFT WELLOW VILLAGE DESIGN STATEMENT SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENT (SPD)

## STATEMENT OF CONSULTATION

Consultation and community involvement has been undertaken locally with the community within the Parish of Wellow, in line with;

- Natural England guidance document on Village Design Statements “*Village Design – making local character count in new development*” (CCP 501) (1996)
- The Council’s “*Village Design Statements Planning Guidance Note*” (2000).

It is considered by the Council and National Park Authority that the above documents, together with the;

- *Test Valley Borough Local Plan 2006*

are the relevant supporting documents which in the opinion of the Council and National Park Authority are relevant to the preparation of the draft Wellow Village Design Statement as an SPD.

### Details of Consultation to Date

- Initial meeting held at which preparation of a Parish Plan (PP) was launched and volunteers to sit on Steering Committee recruited.
- Subsequent meeting of Steering Committee agreed to extend their work to include preparation of a Village Design Statement (VDS). Advice was then sought from Community Action Hampshire (CAH) and planning officers at the TVBC.
- Steering Committee met regularly during last two years, routinely every month and on a much more frequent basis as necessary to prepare for open days, questionnaire preparation and analysis and preparing many drafts of the VDS document.
- Project launched at Christmas Church Fete, consisting of a display of what VDS and PP consisted of, aspects of Wellow and an opportunity for residents to highlight the good things about Wellow and also those issues of concern. Several hundred people will have visited the display. The feedback was noted and analysis placed on the PP website.
- Drop-in Day held to build upon findings from the launch. Wide ranging display, though centred mainly on VDS issues. Included display prepared by children of Wellow Primary School which included their feelings about living in Wellow. Well over 300 residents attended and many comments and suggestions were received. These comments were summarised.
- To ensure the reaching all parts of the community, a questionnaire building on the results of the open days was prepared and issued to all households in the parish. The draft questionnaire was shared with TVBC and NFNPA and some minor amendments made. When completed it was delivered and collected by volunteers. An excellent response rate of 53% was received.
- The questionnaire data was analysed using spreadsheet software in order to be able to consider the format of the VDS document and recommendations.

- After analysing the questionnaire results draft recommendations were produced and shared with residents at a second Drop-in Day at the Village Hall. This consisted of a display, but also included an analysis of the questionnaire results and the draft recommendations planned to be included in the final VDS document. This provided an opportunity for residents to confirm the findings or provide an alternative viewpoint. Over 150 residents attended and there appeared to be a unanimous agreement with the content of the displays and proposals, giving the Steering Group confidence to proceed to the final stages of completing a draft VDS document.
- VDS finalised and presented to Wellow Parish Council.
- Following discussion with the parish council some minor amendments have been made, VDS document approved by Wellow Parish Council.
- VDS document submitted to TVBC and NFNPA for consideration.

The draft Wellow Village Design Statement has been written, designed and subsequently amended to take account of the responses received during the process of consultation and community involvement. It also takes into account comments made by officers of the Council as one of the local planning authorities.

### **Formal SPD Consultation**

The Council and National Park Authority do not intend to request the opinion of the South East England Partnership Board (SEEPB) as Regional Planning Body (RPB) under Sec.24(2)(b) Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 as to the general conformity of the SPD with the Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS), since it is not considered that it raises issues other than those of local concern. The current RSS is *The South East Plan – Regional Spatial Strategy for the South East of England (2009)*.

The Council and National Park Authority are consulting the following bodies listed below prior to adoption of the Wellow Village Design Statement as an SPD. It is considered that this takes account of both the Council's Statement of Community Involvement in Planning Matters (SCI) 2009 and the National Park Authority's Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) 2007.

#### Parish Councils

Wellow Parish Council

Bramshaw Parish Council  
 Copythorne Parish Council  
 Melchet Park and Plaitford Parish Council  
 Romsey Extra Parish Council  
 Sherfield English Parish Council

Test Valley Association of Parish Councils  
 New Forest Association of Local Councils

#### Local Authorities

Hampshire County Council, Environment Department  
 New Forest District Council

### Statutory Environmental Consultation Bodies

English Heritage  
Environment Agency  
Natural England

### Community Interests

New Forest Verderers  
New Forest Association  
Wellow History Society  
New Forest Local Strategic Partnership (Changing Lives Partnership)  
Test Valley Local Strategic Partnership (Test Valley Partnership)

### Developer and Planning Interests (notification letter only)

Council Planning Consultants and Developers List  
Home Builders Federation (HBF)  
Council Local Development Framework (LDF) Keep Informed List

## **Sustainability Appraisal**

The Council and National Park Authority have not prepared a Sustainability Appraisal (SA) for the SPD as:

- it is not considered that the SPD would have significant social, environmental or economic effects that are not covered in the SA prepared for the Core Strategy (CS) DPD; and
- it is not required by the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directive 2001/42/EC.

Sec.180(5)(d) Planning Act 2008 removed the compulsory requirement for a SA for an SPD.

**Test Valley Borough Council proposes to adopt the Wellow Village Design Statement as a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) for the part of Wellow outside of the New Forest National Park (to the north of the A36(T), as local planning authority for this part of the parish.**

**New Forest National Park Authority proposes to adopt the Wellow Village Design Statement as a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) for the part of Wellow within the New Forest National Park (to the south of the A36(T), as local planning authority for this part of the parish.**