

STONEHOUSE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN: YOUR COMMENTS

July 2014

RESPONSES

- 23 comment forms were completed.
- As indicated in A1, 4 of the forms were completed as a couple. Therefore the 18 forms represent the views of 26 people.

SECTION A: A LITTLE ABOUT YOU

A1. I am completing these questions as an... Individual/Couple/On behalf of a business

- 82.6% of forms were completed as an individual and 17.4% as a couple. None were completed on behalf of a business and one did not reply.

	No. of forms	% of 23 forms
Individual	19	82.6%
Couple	4	17.4%
On behalf of a business	0	%
No reply	0	%

A2 - I am here as ... Resident/Visitor. If visiting, where are you from?

- 100 % of the 27 people are residents.

	No. of people	% of 45 people
Resident	27	100%
Visitor	0	%

A3 - What is the age of the person completing these questions?

- 19% of the 27 people are aged 51-75 and 26% aged 31-50, with one person responding from other age groups.

	No. of people	% of 27 people
Under 18	0	0%
18-30	0	0%
31-50	8	26%
51-75	19	70.2%
Over 75	1	3.8%
No reply	0	2%

SECTION B: ABOUT STONEHOUSE

B1 - What kind of place would you like Stonehouse to be in 20 years?

People have told us that over the next 20 Years they would like to see Stonehouse become a vibrant, thriving town with a strong friendly community that has a range of independent shops with links to green spaces and the canal. However, The Magpies Club, Elm Road Youth Club Centre and fly tipping at the newt pond need attention.

Can you think of any other sites that need attention?

Number of comments: 9

- With so few responses difficult to draw any overall conclusion. The condition of the canal being identified three times, the rest of the answers follow a trends previously identified e.g. Elm Rd, and more minor matters.

Full comments A-Z

- Canal path St Cyrs to Eastington
- Canal path needs sorting out and cutting back
- Elm Road Youth Club. Top of Doverow Hill
- We know that, so when will something get done (in response to synopsis). Car park at Oldends Lane. I will loose my car in one of the pot holes one day.
- Spa Inn Site
- By the side of the by-pass opposite the horse trough.
- The area on Oldends Lane, opposite 'fairlands', up to railway line. Overgrown with brambles.
- Canal path need to be cut back and other paths by the Railway etc.
- Elm Road site needs redeveloping to provide a multifunction community facility.

Post-It Notes Comments:

Heritage

- St Cyr's has a large number of Casket graves which are of great historic interest and need saving.

SECTION C: DEVELOPMENT: HOW THE STONEHOUSE SETTLEMENT HAS GROWN

People told us their needs will not alter in the next 20 years, However, there was recognition that homes suitable for older people are important while a similar number thought affordable and starter housing will be key for the social and economic prosperity of the town.

6 sites were highlighted for consideration for housing over the next 20 years? Please tick the sites we should consider further?

Number of respondents: 20

- The most common answer given by respondents was development of Standish. Within the plan area Avenue Terrace was identified preferred location for development. Other suggested locations were broadly comparable across the responses, with the loss of Bristol Rd station being least attractive to respondents.

6 sites were highlighted for consideration for housing over the next 20 years? Please tick the sites we should consider further?		
	Number	% of 20
Standish Hospital	11	55%
Next to the Medical Centre	6	30%
The Magpies (Old Ends Lane)	9	45%
Land South of A419 opposite Avenue Terrace	10	50%
Elm Road Youth Club	8	40%
Part of old Bristol Road Station Site	4	20%

Full comments A-Z

- Land South of A419 opposite Avenue Terrace – NO. Part of old Bristol Road Station Site – Planning already accepted
- Part of old Bristol Road Station Site – For a Station
- Standish Hospital – make a leisure centre. The Magpies (Oldends Lane) – Leisure area. Part of old Bristol Road Station Site – Need to open Station
- Elm Road Youth Club – NO
- Next to Medical Centre – No Where is there room here? The Magpies, No the Magpies club, park and pitches are for the community Elm Road – Definitely not – how did the Council allow this to be sold from under our noses. Why was money wasted on the shared space. Part of old Bristol Rd Station Site – we need this station to re-open.
- Standish Hospital – Possibly only this would not meet the needs of Stonehouse. Elm Road – single story buildings only
- Part of old Bristol Rd Station – Bring Back the station
- Standish Hospital - Not inside Parish, Next to Medical Centre – Which Medical Centre, Magpies, Oldends Lane as Sports Facility. Land South of A419 – No Housing, Elm Road – No Housing, Part of Old Bristol Rd Station – Yes.

Post –It Note Comments

- If housing goes up at Oldends Lane, don't ban dog walking (only owners who don't pick up mess)
- No development at Oldends Lane.
- Stonehouse has had too much non-housing development. Much green space has gone industry should go on brownfield sites.
- Build housing with more than a single space for family homes, new development tends to be parking chaos.
- More housing for people brought up here – the next generation.

SECTION D: GREEN SPACES

People have told us that Doverow Hill, the playing fields, Laburnum Park and the canal are all important green spaces.

Do you think there is enough green space in Stonehouse?

Number of respondents: 23

- The spread of response is interesting here, with approximately 60% of people believing there is enough green space in Stonehouse. In the fullness of time, it will be interesting to see if this is an anomaly in this small sample or more substantive.

	Strongly Agree		Agree		No view		Disagree		Strongly Disagree	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Do you think there is enough green space in Stonehouse?	1	4.3	13	56.5	0		4	17.4	5	21.7

Full comments A-Z

- Not enough for recreation – must retain what we have (Strongly Disagree)
- Difficult to create more (Agree)
- As long as they don't build on Oldends Lane playing field (Agree)

Consultation respondents have told us that the following are important when making planning decisions, do you agree or disagree?

Number of respondents: 23

- Respondents see protection of green spaces and countryside as important to the wellbeing of Stonehouse. Traffic and infrastructure being the next most important. When asked respondents viewed energy efficiency as important, a hitherto unexamined area for Stonehouse Plan.

	No	Strongly Agree		Agree		No view		Disagree		Strongly Disagree	
	No	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Accessibility e.g. transport connections and foot and cycle links	22	15	52.4%	7	33.3%						
Protecting green spaces/countryside	23	16	69.6%	5	21.8%	1	4.3%	1	4.3%		
Traffic e.g. congestion	22	15	68.1%	5	22.7	1	4.5%	1	4.5%		
Infrastructure/facilities e.g. community facilities	21	12	57.1%	9	42.9%						

Energy efficiency	23	8	34.8%	10	43.7%	4	17.4%				
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No Additional comments

Respondents so far have commended the skate park, which other facilities would you like to see on the green spaces and in Stonehouse?

Number of Respondents: 23

- As to be expected a wide selection of responses with respondents believing that traditional amenities of seating, bins and toilets were most important additions to the green space of Stonehouse. Post-it note comments responded positively to the idea of green gym equipment. Respondents also wish to see an increase of swimming provision in the town.

	No		Strongly Agree		Agree		No view		Disagree		Strongly Disagree	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Children's play areas	16		7	43.8	6	37.5	2	12.5	1	6.3		
An outdoor/green gym	16		7	43.8	4	25	2	12.5	1	6.3	2	12.5
Seating	19		7	36.8	11	57.9	1	5.3				
Bins	18		11	61.1	7	38.8						
Toilets	18		9	50	7	38.8	1	5.5			1	5.5
Tennis courts	15		2	13.3	7	46.6	5	33.3			1	6.6
Track/off road cycling	17		7	41.1	6	35.3	3	17.6	1	5.8		
Swimming pool	22		11	50	8	36.4	1	4.6	2	9		

Additional comments A-Z:

Bins – Elm Road please

We have got all this but don't let us lose anything else. Police Station gone, Youth Centre gone, Shops closing i.e. Library.

Post-it Note Comments:

Recreation

- Old Ship site, Community Site, Community Orchard.
- Any community building would be a asset, either Option A or B, (referring to Oldends Lane options provided by Rec Working Group).
- Old Ship canal site pub or café.
- Like the green gym idea
- Community centre should be near/opposite Midland Road
- Can we have a Swimming Pool
- 'I'll second that' referring to swimming pool.
- Green gym would be a great idea.
- Play park on the green on Park Estate
- Outdoor Gym Laburnum

SECTION E: EMPLOYMENT

It has been suggested that new commercial sites should be located near existing sites and that a cycle route should be created between the centre and industrial sites. While the following themes were identified for helping economic development. Do you agree or disagree; can you think of anymore?

Can you think of any others?

Number of comments: 14

- A comparatively disappointing response rate concerning a subject that is of such a fundamental nature to the future of a town such a Stonehouse. Encouraging that respondents view the linkages, including apprenticeships between school and local industry as vital.

	No	Strongly Agree		Agree		No view		Disagree		Strongly Disagree	
		No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Encouraging and supporting small businesses	14	6	43	8							
Reopening the second railway station	14	7	50	5	35.7	2	14.3				
Providing jobs for local people	14	7	50	7	50						
Local industries to provide apprenticeships	14	9	64.3	5							
Forge links with schools	14	9	64.3	5							
Employ local people	14	9	64.3	5							

Additional Comments:

We need more social housing for those on low incomes. Council housing was built so the working classes would have somewhere to decent to live.

Post – It Note Comments:

- Always need for more jobs.

SECTION F: TOWN CENTRE & RETAIL

People were broadly positive about the Town Centre but they dislike the number of takeaways, cafes, charity shops and hairdressers. We also learnt that most people travelled outside the town for clothes and supermarket shopping to Stroud or Gloucester. In terms of quality retail respondents said they liked Nailsworth and Tetbury.

Which services do you access in the town?

What else would you like to see provided in Stonehouse?

Number of comments: 23

- Consultation identifies that residents aspire for Stonehouse to have a better quality of retail provision including completion for existing services.

	No	
		%
Co-op	22	95.7
Greengrocers	16	69.5
Post Office	22	95.7
Charity shops	15	65.2
Hardware	18	78.2
Butcher	13	56.5
Doctor	19	82.6
Chemist	20	87
Banks	16	69.5

Additional suggestions (with tick):

Library, schools, Pubs/Cafés
Pub, Schools, Children's Centre (Past)
Library

What else would you like to see provided in Stonehouse?

Shoe shop, clothes shop
Bistro type restaurant, shoe shop
New supermarket, Boots Chemist or Superdrug – this competition is healthy. Swimming pool
Another chemist
Clothing/Shoe shops
More community facilities, redevelop Elm Road site and not allow houses on there.
Shoe shop/Household/Bakery/Health food/W.H.Smith/Electrical
Garden centre
Clothes Shops (more) there was an idea for a supermarket near to the bypass but it seemed to vanish... I thought that was a good idea.
Restaurants, rather than Indian/Chinese

Post- It Note Comments:

- Need more competition for supermarkets so we don't have to drive to Stroud.
- Access to policing in Stonehouse
- Less take-away shops, nice restaurants possibility of globe being up-graded for this.
- Too many tea shops and charity shops
- Need a good shoe shop
- Police station back

SECTION G: GETTING AROUND

People have told us that they would find greater cycle and public transport provision useful, do you agree?

Number of comments: 23

- The re-opening of Bristol Road Station seems to poll well as an attractive proposition. In addition respondents would like to see improvements to non-car based travel options, including better information.

	No	Strongly Agree		Agree		No view		Disagree		Strongly Disagree	
		No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Better cycle paths	20	10	50	5	25	4	20	1	5		
Frequent and later buses	22	7	31.8	11	50	5	22.7				
The re-opening of Bristol/Gloucester line Station	23	12	52.1	8	34.7	3	13				
Better public transport/travel information	23	10	43.4	9	39.1	3	13				
More frequent trains	19	3	15.7	9	47.3	6	31.5	1	5.3		
Reduced fares	21	9	42.8	8	38	3	14.2	1	4.8		

Full comments A-Z

Comment attached to reduced fares – train fares are very reasonable – cheaper to get train to Gloucester than parking and petrol.

Post-It Note Comments:

- Traffic volume has become bad
- Volume of traffic is too high
- If the new housing goes up at Oldends lane how will the extra traffic affect the que at the crossing.
- Traffic wardens to give tickets to yellow line parking currently doesn't happen of Gloucester Road.
- Traffic through Stonehouse is too much, route traffic around.
- Cul-de-sac for little Australia to stop through traffic.
- Move signage for mini roundabout that get ignored.
- Lots of parking on yellow lines (Gloucester Road). Nothing is done about this.
- A distributor road north of A419 will provide relief to Stonehouse Town Centre to link to B4008. This can be achieved within and supported by development.
- Meadow Road has no access for a mobility scooter (above average size).
- Stonehouse is a brilliant place for getting north. Open the other 'old' station so we can get to Dursley, Bristol etc!
- Inadequate parking for proposed Bristol Road Railway Station.

SECTION H: FACILITIES

Consultation respondents told us they regularly use the library, town hall and community centre and churches. People telling us they would like additional facilities like a swimming pool, and a more accessible library. These facilities should be provided at Old Ends Lane.

What else does Stonehouse need?

Number of comments: 14

Consultation respondents told us they regularly use the library, town hall and community centre and churches. People telling us they would like additional facilities like a swimming pool, and a more accessible library. These facilities should be provided at Old Ends Lane.

- There were 14 comments that were of a diverse nature with no single issue but with a particular dominance of community and societal issues.

Full comments A-Z

- An elected town council who are in touch with the community.
- Use Wycliffe facilities. Canal reopening
- A safe and decent high street, no dangerous speed bumps
- Dance Hall and club facilities for adults with a bar, entertainment etc
- Better cycle routes that are not always on pedestrian used paths
- Other supermarket besides the Co-op
- "...These facilities should be provided at Old Ends Lane". Why Old Ends Lane. As the community is well used could we use another hall?
- Zebra crossing outside Co-op in the High Street
- A running track because sport is good for people's health and gives the children something to do instead of sitting in front of a computer.
- More social sites – cinema/film club
- Library should open longer be multi use
- A library with more opening hours and a better collection, I always have to order. Sports clubs for children...it's Stroud or Gloucester really.
- E-library would be good.
- Community spaces for arts and creative activities.

Post-It Note Comments:

- Swimming Pool new social club as pubs have closed.
- A container without a door so young people can use at any time.
- Restore community hall as local facility. Keep library building intact.
- A Swimming Pool would be welcome. Library needs expanding and refurbished not closing
- Stonehouse commercial centre could be better used for Stonehouse
- I love the shared space and the trees in the high street. It would be nice to see that extended.
- Swimming Pool indoor very badly needed it is important for children to learn to swim.
- Indoor Swimming Pool or use of Wycliffe paying monthly membership.

- More dog poo bins as you come down from Doverow Hill... more frequent emptying of the bins Oldends Lane park... people obviously make use of them.
- Cricket pitch and team in Stonehouse.
- Swimming Pool.
- Improve Elm Road around School's and parking.

NEXT STEPS

I am particularly interested in the following topics:

Number of comments:

1. Not sure why we have a bowles (boules??) club when I cant find a club.
2. Parking on corner of Oldends Lane and over bus stop very dangerous needs raod markings. Better walking and cycle provision. Oldends Lane.
3. Thanks a lot for doing this event – learned a lot from Terry!
4. Rubbish and dog fouling on canal path needs addressing
5. Old youth centre should be given to school for outdoor teaching.
6. More litter bins all round Stonehouse
7. Remove shared space in High street, put yellow lines so drives can see where to park.
8. A reduction in Councillors
9. Love Stonehouse!
10. Provide parking for 80-100 cars if Bristol Road railway station is to be opened
11. The old youth centre should be given to the school to make outdoor classroom for the children.
12. The trees are often a nuisance to traffic. We had trees years ago, which were taken down because they became a hazard. No thought is given to pedestrians and to drives coming out of Laburnum and Co-op.

Post-it Note Comments:

Other issues (About Stonehouse)

- Redesign of High was a nice idea but it has affected traffic
- Option A for the Oldends site. Push for a Swimming Pool for all ages to use. Major overhaul of the ehurecyael (????)
- Hanging baskets are terrific – They are fantastic – as all the flowers have been.
- Love the shared space – more please
- Parking and the High Street is a mess all it needs is a pedestrian crossing.

Contact details

- Email addresses and/or telephone numbers were provided on 11 of the forms (49%). These have been input into a spreadsheet but are not included in this report.