

Stonehouse Neighbourhood Plan Emerging Policies November 2015

Emerging Policy

Amenities and facilities

The provision of new community facilities for many demographic groups (families, young and elderly people) will be encouraged and supported.

Facilities that improve the visitor experience will be supported where these do not result in a loss of proportionally more community facilities.

Proposals that would result in the loss of community facilities will NOT be supported except where the existing facilities are no longer needed/viable OR suitable replacements are included in the proposal itself.

Retention of at least the current diversity of retail provision will be supported.

Proposals for increased / enhanced diversity in retail provision will be encouraged and supported.

Provision of facilities that enhance and improve the quality of the town centre streets and approaches to the retail area will be supported.

The character of Stonehouse as a 'Market Town' will be protected and enhanced.

Proposals for retail and community facilities will be encouraged to contribute to sustainability such as energy efficiency.

Provision of community facilities contributing to health and well-being such as sports facilities will be encouraged.

Economic development

Through multi-agency working with SDC, GFirst LEP and other organisations the Neighbourhood Plan will create a positive environment for the creation for a wide range of employment opportunities within Stonehouse to meet local needs.

The loss of business space will not be permitted unless: it is to be replaced with space of an equal or higher quality or the proposed alternative use would overall provide equal or greater benefits.

Proposals for the redevelopment or change of use of redundant land or buildings to which improve the hospitality provision will be supported.

The Cotswold Canals Trust long-term vision of a through navigable route from the Thames to the Severn is to be supported.

The installation of digital, electrical and other infrastructure throughout Stonehouse will be supported in order to support the development of employment opportunities.

Environment

Local Green Spaces designation may be used, especially for areas that have little or no other protection e.g. greens on estates

New developments will have to have a garden a min of 3m square, a green area of 10m within estates of more than 6 houses and be of sustainable construction

New allotments sites and additional burial sites may be encouraged.

We will encourage community low carbon energy production/energy efficiency/sustainable construction

Paths and cycleways will be improved and wildlife corridors encouraged for the enjoyment and health of all and ease of getting around for walking, buggies and cycling

Community green areas and buildings at the Ship Inn site will be supported

Areas such as the Newt Ponds by Court View will be made Wildlife conservation areas

New development will protect the vistas of Stonehouse to surrounding escarpment

The canal and riverside will be an attractive entrance to Stonehouse by water by protected space 4 metres from the water's edge

We will protect and support enhancement to the Industrial heritage corridor

Areas to be protected - Views of St Cyr's Church, Doverow Hill, Playing fields and parks, Protected play spaces, Green spaces within housing estates, Canal and riverside, Court View Newt Ponds, Ship Inn site and Pearcroft Rd Orchard

Housing

No conversion of single storey dwellings to two storeys to protect limited supply for elderly and the psychically challenged.

Minimum of 40% of all new builds to be high quality social and affordable housing

All builds must meet good energy efficiency standards.

All new builds to deliver two car parking spaces for each unit that does not include garage space provided.

Builds that meet the locally identified housing needs will be supported

Occupancy of new build social housing to be protected through a structured tier system to support local families to stay within Stonehouse

10% minimum of 9+ dwellings must meet current Lifetime Home Standards

All builds will deliver access roads, pavements, bus stops, green provision, child play areas and ensure no flooding to minimum standards that will be contained within policy

Material used in any build to be sympathetic and in keeping with area

Where traffic is considerably increased by any development 20 mph speed limits to be considered.

All builds must not distract or obstruct the rural and iconic vistas from and to the Town.

The building line should not be encroached upon to ensure no creep to joining the Parish's of Stonehouse and Standish

All builds must meet the requirements of ICHA, Wildlife and Special Interest sites

Getting around

Introduce more routes for pedestrians, cyclists and mobility scooters

Where possible adapt pedestrian and cycle routes to also be wildlife corridors

Encourage the rerouting of the Cotswold Way through Stonehouse

New Development must be connected to the town centre and facilities by pedestrian and cycle routes

Residential development should be designed with cycle storage and parking including parking for a car club car

Industrial and commercial development should provide adequate car parking

Improve links to the canal

Develop the canal as a transport corridor

Improve walking and cycling links to local schools

New development must provide bus stops and subsidise bus routes where these do not already exist

Support the re-opening of Stonehouse Bristol Road station

Protect and enhance Burdett Road station

Improve disabled access to Burdett Road Station

Protect off-street parking for cars, motor bikes and bicycles

Improve parking in the High Street to increase safety

Support proposals to reduce lorry movements through Stonehouse