

Parish Priorities Statement



Introduction

During the last 3 years Easebourne Parish Council and a group of volunteer parishioners expended considerable time developing a Parish Design Statement (PDS) which was finally adopted by the South Downs National Park Authority (SDNPA) on 9 February 2023 as a Supplementary Planning Document. This document sought to highlight the relevant concerns of local residents about the way in which future planning applications will be assessed. To quote Vanessa Rowlands, SDNPA Chair “This Parish Design Statement, with landscape at its heart, is a testament to the community’s involvement, allows them to be heard and provides a design framework to which future residents can aspire”.

Since the adoption of our PDS, the SDNPA has undertaken a Local Plan Review (LPR). In light of the need to adapt to revised circumstances, the SDNPA has suggested parishes such as Easebourne that are wholly within the National Park can, by completing a Parish Priorities Statement (PPS), assist in developing the evidence base for the LPR. A PPS is intended to allow parish councils to set out their aspirations for the future and identify any relevant local issues; Easebourne Parish Council believes we have summarised the key requirements and predominant opinions of our parishioners. Our concern has been to support Local Plan objectives which emphasise heritage, landscape, wildlife habitats and protection/provision of opportunities for residents and visitors to enjoy and value the National Park assets. In addition, we acknowledge the importance of conserving and enhancing ecosystem services to contribute to the Park’s wealth and the health and wellbeing of residents, visitors and businesses. By supporting these objectives we hope to ensure the provision of jobs, affordable housing, local facilities and economic viability in a sustainable and eco-friendly environment.

I. Your Details

Information Required	Response
Contact name	████████████████████
Town or Parish Council	Easebourne Parish Council
Main contact address	
Main contact telephone number	
Main contact email	████████████████████
Details of public consultation and engagement used in the preparation of the PPS	<p>This PPS response has been prepared from the feedback received during the parish-wide consultation on the Easebourne Parish Design Statement, also published this year (2023)</p> <p>The consultation comprised</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engagement with Local Schools. • High-profile presentations and active canvassing at Community Fair and Parish Council Open Days • Leafletting of every address in the Easebourne • Recurring updates in Easebourne Parish Magazine and through Parish Notice Boards and Social Media • Online survey tools as well as paper-based surveys • Promotion through key local venues, pubs, GP surgery, shops etc. <p>Based on circa 1000 premises and excluding those who postcodes could not be validated as within the parish of Easebourne, we had a response rate of 7.4%</p> <p>PDS can be found at: https://www.southdowns.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/Adopted-Parish-Design-Statement.pdf</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Max 100 words</i></p>

The vision for the future...

What are the three key changes you would like to see in your Parish over the next 15 years? These changes should relate to the priorities set out below. It will also be helpful to explain when you think these changes should happen over the 15 year period.

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To work with all stakeholders to develop places and infrastructure within the parish that enable resident families of all sizes, ages, incomes and working practices to be able to flourish and take pleasure and pride in the natural beauty and built aesthetic of this traditional rural environment. 2. To use current and future development plans to strengthen community engagement and preserve the overall traditional rural characteristics of the parish, ensuring it remains pleasurable for residents and attractive to visitors. 3. To ensure the evolution of all aspects of the Parish are sustainable and recognise the need to conserve our natural resources.
<i>Max 100 words</i>

Development and management of land

Information required	Response
What type and level of development would you like to see in the parish?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Improve the maintenance of common areas</i> • <i>Improve the parish and villages entrances with native planting.</i> • <i>Develop community facilities in line with the current aesthetic and business and recreational need</i> • <i>Explore options for providing a community hall to act as an Easebourne village hub</i>
Are there any areas of the Parish you would like to see developed?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Further development of Easebourne Park into a more general community area with better access and enhanced security</i> • <i>Investment in local business innovation hubs, business and leisure facilities</i>
Are there any specific areas you want protected for other uses?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Protect boundaries, open spaces, views, and accesses across the parish in line with PDS</i>

Homes

Information required	Response
What type of homes would you like to see in your local community?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 'Truly affordable housing for young people' in preference to 'a retreat for wealthy old people'. • Small-scale context-sympathetic quality housing built to match existing old housing stock' and in line with the Parish Design Statement (PDS). <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Max 100 words</i></p>
What size of home is needed locally?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prioritising a mix of affordable homes for young families, with provision to support a range of different life-styles, catering to those who work the land and those in clerical occupations. <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Max 50 words</i></p>
Any other requirements?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Homes should facilitate community, we will champion strengthening community. <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Max 100 words</i></p>

Design

Information Required	Response
Are there any areas of local character which are particularly important to the local community?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mill Bridge, the housing between the A286 and the A272 are areas with distinct character. • The hamlet of Henley is a heritage site, with over half the buildings are Grade 2 Listed and date back to 1575 or earlier. • Easebourne village has a Conservation Site comprising a significant part of Easebourne Street and the buildings around the Priors. • The Cowdray ruins are a highly valued part of the Easebourne landscape, as are views across the golf course. • The BP garage is seen as disfiguring and not in-keeping with the Parish aesthetic. <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Max 100 words</i></p>
Particular features of buildings of local character	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Details of the Character Areas are captured in the Parish Design Statement.: https://www.southdowns.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/Adopted-Parish-Design-Statement.pdf <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Max 100 words</i></p>

The natural environment

Information Required	Response
Opportunities to make nature bigger, better and more joined up	<p><i>Investigate options within the scope of the Parish Council for enhancing our very valuable natural environment. Improved options for humans and wildlife to cross the A272 and A286 without further 'suburbanising' the Parish with street furniture.</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Max 100 words</i></p>

Jobs

Information Required	Response
Information about business you would like to protect and business opportunities that should be provided	<p><i>Explore options for facilities that encourage the development of small business, retail and leisure.</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Max 100 words</i></p>

Public spaces

Information Required	Response
Public Open Spaces, Public Realm, Pocket Parks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>There are extensive open spaces in the Parish, all of which are valued by the responders, most notably Easebourne Park and Cowdray Ruins.</i> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Max 100 words</i></p>

Infrastructure

Information Required	Response
Active travel priorities, roads/parking, community buildings, needs, waste water infrastructure, broadband, renewable energy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Explore options for traffic-calming measures and better parking options and the easing the congestion over the Rother Bridge.</i> <i>A Community Hub or village hall was mentioned several times, as was improved accessibility to Easebourne Park.</i> <i>The resolution of poor drainage of the roads around the Rother Bridge effectively was raised.</i> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Max 100 words</i></p>

DATA PROTECTION STATEMENT

The information collected in this response form will be used by the National Park Authority, as part of its public task, to inform the local plan-making processes and other relevant Authority documents or processes. This information will then be retained until it is superseded. By responding you are accepting the information within your response, may be made available to the public. Any personal information provided (names, addresses, phone numbers, email addresses or other contact details) will not be made public. Please let us know if you do not wish for your information to be shared in this way.

All information held by the South Downs National Park Authority may be subject to release under the Freedom of Information Act. If any information included is sensitive and you would like to have the opportunity to object to its release in the event of a Freedom of Information request, please contact us.

Further details on how we manage your information, including your rights under the GDPR, are available in our Privacy Notice <https://www.southdowns.gov.uk/national-park-authority/transparency/privacy-statement-2/>

	Please tick here to confirm you have read and agree to submit your information in accordance with the disclaimer and data protection statement.
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Information required	Response
Print Name	
Date	

We ask that forms are returned by email to planningpolicy@southdowns.gov.uk

If you are unable to return the form by email please post to:
Planning Policy Team, South Downs National Park Authority, South Downs Centre, North Street
Midhurst, West Sussex, GU29 9DH