

I. Your Details

Information Required	Response
Contact name	The Clerk
Town or Parish Council	Lavant Parish Council
Main contact address	Lavant Parish Council Lavant Memorial Hall CHICHESTER West Sussex PO18 0AH
Main contact telephone number	[REDACTED]
Main contact email	[REDACTED]
Details of public consultation and engagement used in the preparation of the PPS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A public meeting was held in July 2024 which was advertised around the village, in the monthly magazine the Lavant News, and on the Parish Council website. The purpose of the meeting was to describe the Parish Priority Statement, including its place in legislation via the Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill (LURB), its relationship to the Neighbourhood Plan, and how residents would be able to participate. Approximately 40 residents attended this meeting. • A survey form was included in the September edition of the Lavant News, which has a circulation of approximately 1250 copies. Residents were invited to complete the paper form included in the magazine or use a link to complete the survey online. The posters advertising the public meeting also included a QR code which linked to the survey form. A total of 40 survey forms were completed, of which the majority were online. • The Parish Council had a stand at the village fete in June 2024. Residents from across the village, including those in younger age groups, were able to discuss the PPS and related issues with parish councillors. Paper survey forms were also available. • The parish council believe that the majority of the community were made aware of the PPS. • This PPS is a follow up to, and should be read in conjunction with, the Lavant Neighbourhood Development Plan (LNDP) which is

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	available on the SDNPA website and the Lavant Parish Council website.

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.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traffic – since the cancellation of proposed improvements to the A27 east-west trunk road around Chichester, Lavant has become, in effect, an unofficial northern bypass for the city. The volume and speed of traffic through the village has become unacceptable. Effective traffic management and calming is a key priority for the future. • Housing – there have been two major housing developments in the village within the last 5 years. Neither has provided adequate levels of affordable/social housing. Any future developments must provide more affordable housing, at least in line with SDNPA guidance. • River Lavant – the river is a rare chalk stream and a habitat of significant importance. This important resource has been degraded in recent years through the pumping of dilute sewage into the river and dumping of rubbish downstream of the village. The parish council is working with Southern Water and the Western Sussex Rivers Trust to address these issues and to increase awareness in the community of the importance of this critical resource.

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"> • In the recent developments at Maddoxwood, Great Elms and Eastmead/Oakley Green there has been very little provision of affordable homes. • The response from residents is very strongly in favour of either no further new housing or development of small, affordable homes.
Are there any areas of the Parish you would like to see developed?	<p>In the Neighbourhood Plan, there were two sites which were proposed for housing development and which have not yet been developed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LNDP21 Church Farm Barns was strongly supported by the community. This site brings several development benefits including it being a brownfield site; it can potentially enhance the character of the village; it has direct access on to Fordwater Road; it will re-use historic barn structures. • LNDP24 Small Scale Development Sites. These were identified as small sites within the settlement boundaries typically on previously

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	<p>developed land and which may become available during the life of the LNDP. These were identified by a call for sites but their availability was unclear so were not included in the plan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Both of these areas should be investigated for further development.
<p>Are there any specific areas you want protected for other uses?</p>	<p>Responses to the PPS survey highlighted the strong feelings that the land to the north of Chichester known as Raughmere Farm or the 'Daffodil Field' should not be developed for housing. This is otherwise known as the 'Strategic Gap' and was recognised by Appeal decision (APP/L3815/A/13/2200123). Other areas identified in the PPS survey include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land around Centurion Way • The parcel of land south of St. Mary's Church. • The field east of the Earl of March, adjacent to the village green. • Land west of the settlement boundary as identified in the LNDP.

Homes

Information required	Response
<p>What type of homes would you like to see in your local community?</p>	<p>There is a very strong feeling in the community that recent housing developments have provided larger, more expensive homes with little provision for smaller affordable homes. Any new developments should focus on affordable/social housing</p> <p>NB. It should be noted that in the case of the Eastmead development, which is in the part of the village that falls within the South Downs National Park, the provision of affordable housing did not meet SDNP's own policy. Policy SD28 of the South Downs Local Plan requires new residential development to maximise the delivery of affordable housing to meet local need. Sites of 11 or more dwellings (Eastmead has 58) should provide a minimum of 50% of dwellings as affordable, unless the developer can demonstrate mitigating circumstances. At Eastmead, the developer proposed 16% affordable housing, which the parish council rejected, but was allowed following an appeal.</p>
<p>What size of home is needed locally?</p>	<p>Smaller homes of 2 to 3 bedrooms.</p>
<p>Any other requirements?</p>	<p>It is vitally important that the provision of local infrastructure, in particular roads and sewage, is sufficient to meet the demands placed upon it by new developments.</p> <p>Any new housing would be expected to comply with current renewable energy requirements.</p>

Design

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Are there any areas of local character which are particularly important to the local community?	New developments should be sympathetic with new housing design. Please see Policy LNDP5 of the Lavant Neighbourhood Plan.
Particular features of buildings of local character	Please see Policy LNDP5 of the Lavant Neighbourhood Plan.

The natural environment

Information Required	Response
Opportunities to make nature bigger, better and more joined up	<p>Lavant is a small village of approximately 1400 residents situated on the edge of the South Downs. There are several areas across the village which are important habitats for significant species:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The pond north of the village green and the pond behind the Rectory on Pook Lane are home to the Great Crested Newt, which is protected in the UK under the Wildlife and Countryside Act, 1981, and is a Priority Species under the UK Post-2010 Biodiversity Framework. In February 2024, a local resident observed a European Eel (<i>Anguilla anguilla</i>) in the vicinity of the village pond and the River Lavant. This species is listed as 'Critically Endangered' on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. • Small pockets of woodland and trees in hedgerows support populations of the Barbastelle Bat, a species which is protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, and are also listed as Near Threatened globally on the IUCN Red List. • The River Lavant is one of three designated chalk streams in Sussex that rise from the chalk aquifers in the South Downs National Park and is an internationally rare habitat. However, regulatory monitoring to assess Water Framework Directive (WFD) status undertaken by the Environment Agency has shown that since 2010, the Lavant has consistently been classified as having 'poor' ecological status. <p>Looking to the future, wildlife corridors will be established across the village to ensure the connectivity of habitats within the village and between the South Downs National Park and wildlife corridors being established in the Chichester District. These will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishment of a thicker hedge along the western perimeter of the village green, linking Great Elms with the River Lavant. • Centurion Way linking with River Lavant northwards and across fields to Marsh Lane; • Eastwards through Great Elms, Village Green, River Lavant at Sheepwash Lane; St. Mary's Churchyard and across to Chalkpit

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	<p data-bbox="660 136 1326 208">Lane. Connecting to the Valdoe would link to the CDC corridor through Westhampnett.</p> <p data-bbox="563 257 1426 533">The Parish Council and local residents are working with the Western Sussex Rivers Trust to monitor the condition of the River Lavant. A survey of the condition of the river conducted in May 2024 on behalf of SDNPA, makes several recommendations to improve the physical features of the river and enhance its natural habitats. The recent appointment of a Chalk Streams Resilience Officer for the Lavant will greatly facilitate these improvements.</p>

Jobs

Information Required	Response
<p data-bbox="165 1223 523 1413">Information about business you would like to protect and business opportunities that should be provided</p>	<p data-bbox="563 922 1426 1113">The village has two public houses which provide employment locally. Also situated in the village are a car servicing workshop/garage, a petrol station and a small Co-Op supermarket. This is the only shop serving the village and being situated on the main A286 road, it is not easily accessible by residents without a car or those with mobility issues.</p> <p data-bbox="563 1164 1426 1272">The old Lavant House School building in West Lavant is being developed as a hub for small businesses and when completed, will be an attractive employment location.</p> <p data-bbox="563 1323 1390 1395">Residents have expressed a desire for a shop closer to the centre of the village which would be more accessible than the current offering. Others proposals which would provide employment include:</p> <ul data-bbox="563 1447 1238 1680" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="563 1447 991 1478">• Doctor's surgery and pharmacy <li data-bbox="563 1485 746 1516">• Repair café <li data-bbox="563 1523 1238 1554">• Workshops providing for traditional skills/education <li data-bbox="563 1561 788 1592">• Café/tea room <li data-bbox="563 1599 746 1630">• Post Office <li data-bbox="563 1637 1166 1668">• Facilities for small businesses with hot desking

Public spaces

Information Required	Response
<p><i>Public Open Space, Public realm, Pocket Parks</i></p>	<p>Important green spaces in the village:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The village green • Children’s playground at Churchmead Close • Sports pitch on Pook Lane opposite the Memorial Hall • The public open space on the new Great Elms development. The parish council is working with the Sussex Wildlife Trust to identify opportunities for nature recovery and enhancement of biodiversity. This will include input from local residents to ensure it meets their needs. <p>The community has expressed a strong desire that all of these green spaces should be preserved.</p>

Infrastructure

Information Required	Response
<p><i>Active travel priorities, roads / parking, community buildings needs, waste / water infrastructure, broadband, renewable energy</i></p>	<p>As expressed in the Vision for the Future above, the volume and speed of traffic through the village is a major issue. A group of local residents has formed CHIL, Community Highways Improvement Lavant. This project has identified areas of poor road design and signage and seeks to address these shortcomings. The objective is to deliver pragmatic, proportional and deliverable solutions.</p> <p>A plan is in place to construct a bridge across the River Lavant at the Churchmead children’s play area. A riverside footpath will then run from the bridge to the village green and Memorial Hall, which will make these areas more easily accessible to residents from mid-Lavant. This project has received wide support from the community. There is also a proposal to replace the old chain link fence at the playground with a more attractive structure which will also make the river more visible and the make entire space more attractive for learning about the river and the natural environment.</p> <p>The Lavant Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP) is frequently overwhelmed by groundwater infiltration into the sewer network, with resultant discharge of untreated sewage into the River Lavant. Southern Water are investing in lining the sewers to reduce infiltration and upgrade the WWTP. The parish council maintains an ongoing dialogue with Southern Water to monitor progress.</p>

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	<p>The village is well served by full-fibre broadband, although it is the responsibility of individual residents to ensure they enjoy the benefit of the fastest speeds available.</p> <p>Other proposals from residents include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EV charging points • Local solar farm and/or wind farm to benefit the community • Facilities for older children and teenagers including skateboarding and mountain biking • Better integration of walking and cycling routes • A mobile shop shared with other villages

FINALISING YOUR SUBMISSION

As a reminder, before finalising your submission, please check you have addressed the following:

- **You have completed the details in section I, including details of public engagement events and consultation activities which have informed the statement. Where possible please identify the percentage of the community that have engaged in the preparation of the PPS.**
- **Please try to summarise the community's views and aspirations as much as possible, do not provide details of individuals who have commented, and bullet points for key priorities where possible.**
- **If you have supporting evidence or information please use a hyperlink to the data where available, and summarise the information as much as possible in the PPS.**

DISCLAIMER

The assessment process and outputs will feed into the Local Plan review process but we cannot guarantee the delivery of specific community aspirations in the South Downs Local Plan policies, allocations or designations.

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/>

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Please tick here to confirm you have read and agree to submit your information in accordance with the disclaimer and data protection statement.
Information required	Response
Print Name	Christopher Turner
Date	31 st January 2025

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

