



COOMBE BISSETT AND HOMINGTON NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

As many people will know the Parish Council has been developing a Neighbourhood Plan for the past few years. It aims to conserve and enhance our rich heritage and thriving community, whilst at the same time ensuring that development to sustain the future health of our community takes place in a way that reflects the Parish's distinctive character.

The current version of the Plan is the result of extensive consultation. This has included an initial questionnaire delivered to all households, a community survey to establish views on specific issues, two public meetings and two formal consultation exercises. There have also been regular updates in the CB&H Express and village website, with the community invited to submit comments and suggestions throughout the Plan's development.

As such the Parish Council's welcomes any comments, even those that question the value of Neighbourhood Plans. However, it would be remiss of us not to point out that the personal view published on the village website contains a number of inaccuracies and misleading comments. But rather than go through these in detail we would strongly recommend that people make up their own minds by looking at the latest version of the Plan on the village website at [cb_hnp_submission_version_dated_mar_2025.pdf](#).

This version of the Plan was submitted to Wiltshire Council in March this year. They have conducted a consultation exercise and made an additional Habitats Regulation Assessment of the Plan which reported positively on the Plan's policies. An Independent Examiner has now been appointed who will ensure that the Plan has been produced in accordance with the regulations, aligns with national and Wiltshire Council policies and contributes to sustainable development. Once this is complete and any necessary adjustments made, the Plan will be subject to a local Referendum. If approved it will become part of Wiltshire Council's planning policies and guide development in the Parish out to 2038.

The Parish Council has carefully looked at the benefits of Neighbourhood Plans. It may be of interest that across England over 3,000 Neighbourhood Plans are in place or under development. In Wiltshire alone, 60 have been agreed and more than 200 are at various stages of development. This is why we are convinced that Neighbourhood Plans are powerful tools to ensure that development in our Parish both meets our community's needs and reflects the community's wishes. Importantly a Neighbourhood Plan will also provide the best available protection against inappropriate speculative development.

Coombe Bissett Parish Council