



BRIGHSTONE PARISH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN



Brook Hulverstone Mottistone Brighstone Limerstone

CONSULTATION STATEMENT

December 2015

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1: Introduction

- 1.1 On the 25th July 2013, Brighstone Parish Council made an application to the Isle of Wight Council to designate a Neighbourhood Area for the purposes of formulating a Neighbourhood Development Plan. (See Figure 1)
- 1.2 After a six week formal public consultation period, undertaken by the Isle of Wight Council the application was approved on 24th September 2013 and advertised in the Isle of Wight County Press on 4th October 2013. (Evidence File Appendix 1)
- 1.3 The Parish Council advertised the establishment of a Steering Group to oversee the formulation of the Brighstone Parish Neighbourhood Plan asking for volunteers from the parish who may wish to take part. The first meeting of the newly formed Steering Group took place on 28th August 2013. Terms of Reference for the group were quickly established and agreed. The group consisted of Parish Councillors and volunteers from the local community. (Evidence File Appendix 2)
- 1.4 In late November 2013 the Parish Council commissioned John Brownscombe (a Rural, Environmental and Landscape Consultant) to provide the Project Management role for the process. (Evidence File Appendices 2 and 3)
- 1.5 A number of sub groups were established with volunteers working on various aspects of the development of the plan including: communication strategy; parish profile; publicity; events; consultation; and tourism. (Evidence File Appendix 4)
- 1.6 A communications strategy was completed, setting out the ways in which the local community and other stakeholders would be engaged in the process. (Evidence File Appendix 5)
- 1.7 Extensive consultation has taken place with the local community and other key stakeholders and this alongside other evidence (including the Sustainability Appraisal) have informed the final Brighstone Parish Neighbourhood Plan. (Evidence File Appendix 6)
- 1.8 This consultation statement contains:
 - Details of the persons and bodies who were consulted about the proposed Brighstone Parish Neighbourhood Plan
 - An explanation of how they were consulted
 - A summary of the main issues and concerns raised by the persons consulted
 - A description of how these issues and concerns have been considered and, where relevant, addressed in the Brighstone Parish Neighbourhood Plan.
- 1.9 A series of appendices have been provided which record the elements of the consultation process and are cross referenced in the text.

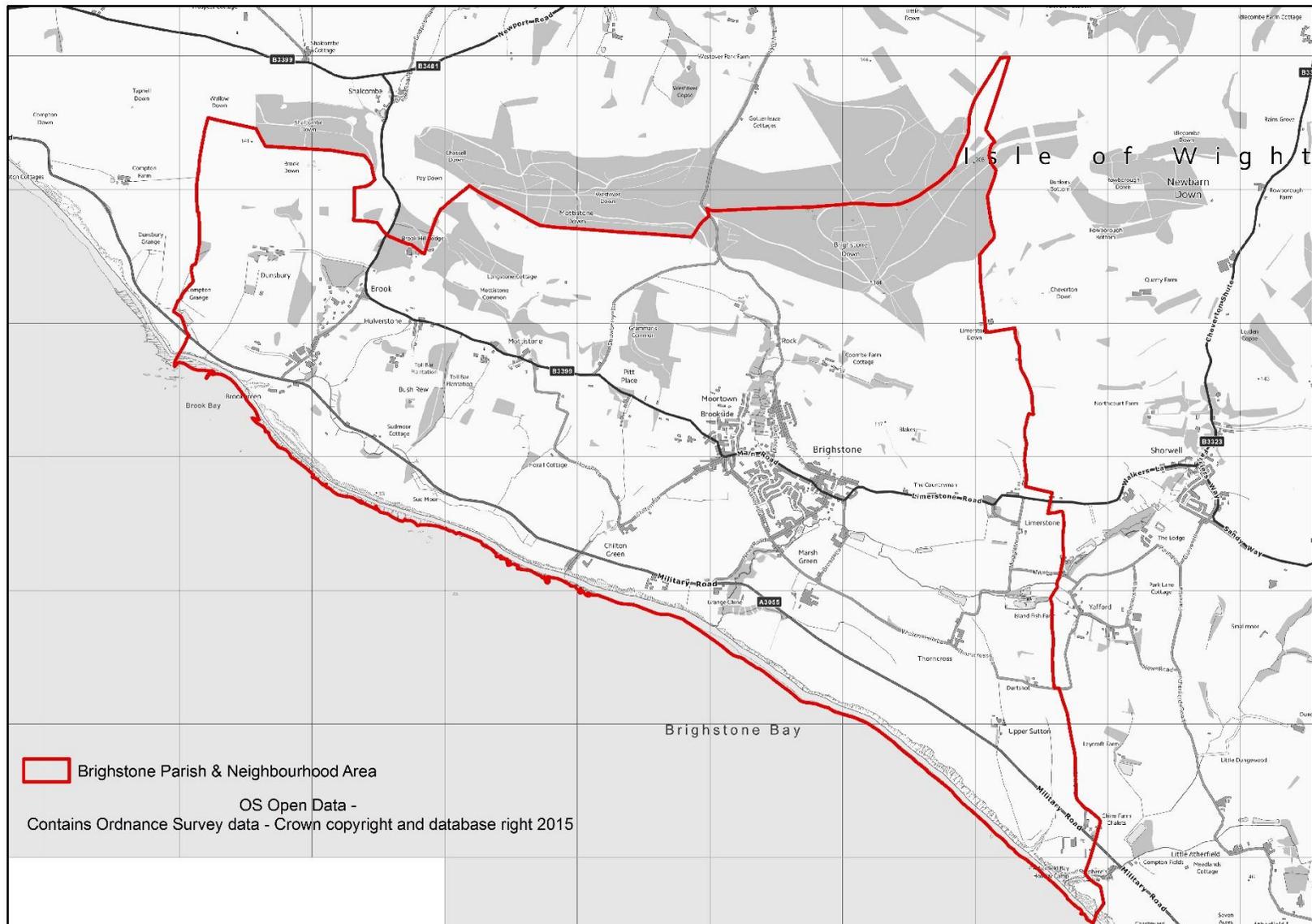


Figure 1: Map of Brighstone Parish and Neighbourhood Area

2: Initial Consultation

2.1 Details of persons and bodies consulted

- 2.1.1 Steering Group – This group was formed in August 2013 and has overseen the work to develop the Brighstone Parish Neighbourhood Plan. The group is composed of Parish Councillors, volunteers from the local community and an employed project manager. (Evidence File Appendices 2 and 3)
- 2.1.2 Throughout the process views have been sought from the local community and interest groups to help to influence the plan these have included residents, local businesses, local young people and local stakeholder organisations (Age UK, Womens Institute, National Trust, Isle of Wight AONB Partnership), Isle of Wight Council (Planning Policy).
- 2.1.3 As part of the process we have contacted our neighbouring parish councils (Freshwater Parish Council, Calbourne Parish Council and Shorwell Parish Council) to ask for their comments on the emerging plan.
- 2.1.4 National stakeholder organisations have also been asked to provide comment on the Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report – (Environment Agency, English Heritage/Historic England, Natural England, Environment Agency, Marine Management Organisation).
- 2.1.5 Throughout the process we have been in contact with the Isle of Wight Planning Policy team.
- 2.1.6 The group has been kept informed of national best practice and has had access to the online resources of Locality and My Community websites.

2.2 Consultation Process

- 2.2.1 Housing Survey – Our first survey with all properties within the parish receiving a volunteer hand delivered questionnaire. Volunteers also paid a follow up call to remind/collect completed surveys. This personal approach resulted in a 70% return rate and provided detailed factual information on the housing stock, tenure, affordability and also canvassed initial opinions on housing matters. (Evidence File Appendix 6)
- 2.2.2 Information Days – In May 2014 two events were held in Brighstone and Brook to set out the results of the parish profile research, early results of the Housing Survey and the issues likely to feature in the Residents Survey. This Information Day introduced the process to the local community and were an opportunity for questions about the scope, activities and timetable for the process. No detailed comments were sought at these events. 19 people attended the Brook event and 101 people attended the Brighstone event. (Evidence File Appendices 7 and 8)
- 2.2.3 Residents Survey, was hand delivered to all households by volunteers in June 2014. A six week consultation period was given with surveys being collected or dropped in to a collection point at the Village Shop. A return rate of 54.6% was achieved. The introductory section of the Survey provided information on the findings of the Housing Survey. The remainder of the survey a series of questions within the following topic areas:

Housing; Jobs and Economy; Protecting Our Environment; Improving Community Services; Traffic and Transport; Creating a Sustainable Community; Community Safety; Likes/Improvements and General Comments. (Evidence File Appendix 6)

- 2.2.4 Business Survey – Running concurrently with the Residents Survey, an online business survey was created and 52 local businesses contacted by email or given a printed out version where no email address was known. A total of 26 businesses responded (50% return rate). This survey asked questions about the respondent's business and about business and the local economy in Brighstone Parish in general. (Evidence File Appendix 6)
- 2.2.5 Youth Survey – An online Youth Survey was created and promoted via the local clubs and societies for young persons below 17 years of age. It was also promoted at Brighstone Church of England Aided Primary School (emphasising that it was aimed at children who are resident in the parish). There was a disappointing return rate despite a number of attempts to promote the survey and our keeping it available for a number of months. In the end we had 7 responses. (Evidence File Appendix 6)
- 2.2.6 Consultation Days – Following the consideration of the information given in the various surveys, the sustainability appraisal process and from discussion of other evidence by the Steering Group, two initial consultation days were held in Brighstone and Brook. Taking place in February and March 2015 these set out the findings of the surveys, the final Housing Needs Assessment, and likely direction of travel of the plan (Key issues likely to become policy). 12 people attended the event in Brook and 130 attended the event in Brighstone. A table of comments from these events was then discussed by the Steering Group. (Evidence File Appendices 8 and 9)
- 2.2.7 Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report – As part of the process a Sustainability Appraisal (incorporating a Strategic Environmental Assessment) was completed. The first stage of this was the creation of a Scoping Report which was circulated to statutory consultees (Isle of Wight Council, Environment Agency, Natural England, English Heritage/Historic England). Comments received were then discussed by the Steering Group and necessary changes made to the final Sustainability Appraisal. (See Sustainability Appraisal document)
- 2.2.8 On a number of occasions the Steering Group and Project Manager have sought informal comment on the emerging draft plan from officers at the Planning Policy Section of the Isle of Wight Council. This included early sight of the emerging plan and an invitation to attend the Steering Group meeting to discuss comments raised. The emerging plan was also shared with those Brighstone Parish Councillors not on the Steering Group and resulting comments were then discussed at the Steering Group.
- 2.2.9 Consultation took place with adjacent Parish Councils (Freshwater, Calbourne and Shorwell) on our work to research the extent of influence of the Brighstone Rural Service Centre (See Defining the extent of influence of the Brighstone Rural Service Centre Report).
- 2.2.10 Throughout the process information has been made available on the webpages and advertised through the parish newsletter and posters. The Steering Group meetings

have always been open to the general public and on occasion have had observers attend. (Evidence File Appendices 10, 11 and 13)

2.3 Summary of issues raised

2.3.1 Considering the policy context and the views given by stakeholders the following key issues were raised:

- New development in general
 - should be small scale and incremental
 - primarily located within or immediately adjacent to the settlement boundary of Brighstone village (the Rural Service Centre)
 - subject to a sequential test to use previously developed land over any greenfield sites
 - in keeping with or an enhancement to the character of the area
 - meet a locally identified need
 - have a local connection criteria for affordable housing
 - retain the rural character of the parish
- The natural and historic environment of the parish
 - Should be conserved and where possible enhanced
 - People value the rural character, peace and tranquillity of the parish including its dark night sky
- Traffic and transport
 - More frequent bus service with better direct connections to ferry ports
 - Improvements to parking, road safety and maintenance including drainage
 - Better pedestrian and cycle access
 - Better footway maintenance
 - Better signage and maintenance of public rights of way
 - Control over street lighting
- Jobs and the Local Economy
 - Retention of existing businesses and small scale growth in support of farming, rural business and tourism sectors
 - Careful consideration of larger sites such as the former holiday camps along the Military Road
- Design
 - Should be in keeping with the local character of the area in terms of scale, mass, siting and materials
 - Should complement its rural location helping to conserve and enhance the local area
- Improving Community Services
 - Retain and where possible improve existing community services and facilities – particular attention to improving access for disabled or less mobile persons
 - Support new facilities where there is a proven need and the impact on existing facilities has been fully considered
 - Protect local open space – including public rights of way, open access land and areas and views identified as important in the Brighstone Green Space Audit 2015
- Creating a Sustainable Community
 - Minimise flood risk
 - Consider implications of run off and surface water flooding from adjacent land or after periods of heavy rain or prolonged wet weather

- Support domestic solar generation (subject to consideration of the visual impact of panels on the character of the area), and farm based anaerobic digestion turning farm waste into energy
- Community Safety
 - There are no specific issues relating to this as Brighstone Parish is a safe place to live, work and visit.
 - Any safety issues tend to relate to road traffic or road maintenance concerns (see traffic and transport).

(Evidence File Appendices 6 and 9)

2.4 Actions taken – Draft Plan

- 2.4.1 The results of the various surveys, consultation events, detailed scrutiny of other evidence including Census data and data from the Sustainability Appraisal and careful consideration of national and local policy formed the basis for the development of the Vision, Objectives and Policies of the Brighstone Parish Neighbourhood Plan.
- 2.4.2 The emerging plan was shared with the Isle of Wight Council Planning Policy Section and Brighstone Parish Council for informal comment and feed back.

3: Pre Submission Draft Consultation

3.1 Pre-submission consultation process

3.1.1 The pre-submission consultation was undertaken between Friday October 16th and Friday 27th November 2015.

3.2 Details of persons and bodies consulted

3.2.1 Every household in the parish had a leaflet delivered to them providing details about the Pre-submission draft Brighstone Parish Neighbourhood Plan consultation. This gave details of where the plan was available to view (both as a printed version and online), details of the two consultation days and how to provide comment. A list of all the proposed policies was included with the leaflet to ensure that every household in the parish had been informed. (Evidence File Appendix 10)

3.2.2 Draft Plan Consultation banners were erected at Limerstone, Brighstone and in Brook to advertise the consultation. Posters were placed on notice boards around the parish, articles written for the local newsletter and an advertisement placed in the Village Talk section of the Isle of Wight County Press. (Evidence File Appendix 11)

3.2.3 In addition to the local community a web link to the documents was forwarded to key local organisations:

- Isle of Wight Council Planning Policy Team
- National Trust
- English Heritage/Historic England
- Environment Agency
- Natural England
- Marine Management Organisation
- Isle of Wight Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Partnership
- Freshwater Parish Council
- Shorwell Parish Council
- Calbourne Parish Council

3.2.4 Two consultation days were held in late October in Brook and early November 2015 in Brighstone. Displays of the pre-submission draft policies, a policies map and copies of the printed versions of the main and background documents were provided. Those attending were invited to provide their thoughts on a comments sheet. 12 people attended the event in Brook and 48 people attended the event in Brighstone.

3.2.5 Printed copies of the Plan and supporting documents were made available at Brighstone Library, the Exchange and via short loan from two of the Parish Council.

3.2.5 Comments received during the pre-submission consultation were then discussed at the Steering Group where a decision was taken on how to address any that were deemed relevant in the final plan. (Evidence File Appendix 12)

3.3 Summary of comments received during the pre-submission consultation

3.3.1 Comments were received from the following (NB we have not included those which were only wishing to express overall support and no detailed comment on the plan which numbered 14) :

- Mr Lamacq
- Marcia Begent
- Mr & Mrs Tearle
- Environment Agency
- David Tolfree
- (Name redacted at request of consultee)
- Paul Bradley
- Julian Kemp
- Natural England
- Isle of Wight Council
- David Motkin

These are shown in the Pre-submission Consultation Responses document (Evidence File Appendix 12)

3.3.2 Issues raised through the pre-submission consultation can be summarised as follows:

- Clarification of relationship between the Neighbourhood Plan and active planning applications
- Confusion over long term connection with the area as being a necessary criteria
- Plea about need to consider modern design
- Encouragement of more families into the area to help long-term viability of the school
- Parking issues in the centre of Brighstone Village
- Infrequency of bus service
- Coastal Path and potential draw for visitors
- Should Brighstone Village be a Rural Service Centre
- Small scale development in other settlements
- Parking enforcement
- Design principles
- Amend policy JE2 to have similar introductory statement as JE1
- The approach in H1, H3 (Housing and Specialist Housing)
- Approach taken regarding Green Space and Views
- Requirements in JE2 (conservation and where possible enhancement of landscape and natural environment)
- ICS2 concerns that 'local need' element may be too restrictive
- CSC1 – suggested rewording to clarify need for Flood Risk Assessment

(Evidence File Appendix 12)

4: Actions Taken

All comments received during all aspects of the consultation have been fully considered and discussed by the Steering Group. This has led to the modification of the Brighstone Parish Neighbourhood Plan and its associated documents. (Evidence File Appendices 2, 6 and 12)

5: Summary

The Brighstone Parish Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group believe that a thorough and robust consultation process has taken place throughout the development of the Plan and set out in this document and its associated Evidence File.

