

A Neighbourhood Development Plan for Kingston

South Hams District Council Planning Notices, announcing that Kingston Parish Council, KPC, is intending to develop a Neighbourhood Plan, NP, for the parish, are now up around the village and on the SHDC website under Planning. This is the first of the statutory processes the NP has to go through to ensure it becomes a part of the legal planning process in the future. Both Modbury and Bigbury are also developing NPs.

Housing Survey: Every household in Kingston has received, firstly a letter explaining what this survey is about and secondly, the survey form itself. **Please do complete the form.** You can then seal it in the envelope provided and either wait until we come around to collect the form, door to door from 28th Oct – 3rd Nov., or put it in the box outside Jeanne Curtis' house, Litchfield, opposite the Fire Station. On 4th November the forms will be handed over to SHDC for collation. No one in the NP Task Group, or KPC, will see individual forms. What we will get is summary data on housing need in Kingston for the next 5 years.

The last survey of housing need in Kingston was through the Parish Plan questionnaire, and an independent SHDC survey similar to the current one. These took place in 2007 and only covered perceived need up to 2012. This is no longer useful data. **This is your first opportunity to influence what will be in the Neighbourhood Plan. Please do not miss it!**

Taking the decision to prepare a Neighbourhood Plan means the PC has agreed, in principle, to new development in the parish. Neighbourhood plans are intended by the government to give communities more input into where new housing is built. The draft Joint Local Plan for the South Hams (West Devon and Plymouth) states clearly that 700 homes will be built across the 52 villages of the South Hams. The NP is going to state how many, where and what type of housing YOU want in Kingston. However, if we get it right, it can achieve more than that and establish clearly what is special about Kingston; what we want to preserve and what we want to change

Developing an NP has to be a thorough and robust process and takes at least 18 months to be considered anything like legally sound. This will be hard work and the members of NPTG and the PC will need all the support you can give them.

The first Village Consultation Meeting to develop the Plan will be held from 10.30am- 4pm on Saturday 26th November in the Reading Room. We will be asking you to tell us what is good about Kingston, what is not so good, what pressures affect the village and what needs to change.

This is your village. Make sure you have your say in its future.

JA 06/12/16