



A chance to help shape your local community!

VALE OF ALLEN NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN – RESIDENTS’ QUESTIONNAIRE FOR WITCHAMPTON

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Context and Purpose

The government introduced a Localism Act in 2011 to give residents more say in the development of their own parish. A key part of this is the development of a Neighbourhood Plan by the local community and the Parish Council. The Plan will have legal status and will be used to influence future planning decisions affecting the Parish.

The Parish Council has set up a committee of representatives from each village within the Parish to develop the Plan, which will take 12-18 months to produce and agree with Dorset Council. There will be many opportunities for residents to air their views in that time, but the first step is to obtain up to date information about each of our village communities. Hence this questionnaire.

There will be a single Vale of Allen Plan, but we are gathering information from each of the communities within the Parish, so the questionnaire has been tailored to each village’s features and facilities.

Please complete this questionnaire to tell us **what is important for the future of your village, for example:**

- What makes living here special?
- How do you use village facilities and infrastructure, and what changes would you like to see?
- What are your views on housing, development and the environment?

Distribution and Return of Questionnaires

Our aim is for each household to complete one, but if another member of your household would like to complete a separate questionnaire, please email john.connor12@btinternet.com. Please return the questionnaire **no later than February 28th** to the Witchampton Village Shop, or alternatively post it to the Vale of Allen Parish Office at The Willows, Gussage St Michael, BH21 5HX.

If you have any questions about the questionnaire or the Neighbourhood Plan (NP) process, please contact john.connor12@btinternet.com or ring 01258 841298. You can also view information about the NP at <https://valeofallen-pc.gov.uk>.

Use of your information

The questionnaire will be anonymous, but we would appreciate if you could complete the following section, which will allow us to show we have gathered data from a cross-section of the population.

Your postcode	B	H	2	1			
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Please indicate the number of people in your household by age group:

Under 18	18-30	31-40	41-50	51-60	61-70	71+

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Q1. How important are the following to the quality of life in your Village?

(Please tick relevant box within each row)	Not Important 1	2	3	4	Very Important 5
Within Cranborne Chase National Landscape (AONB)					
Within the Dark Skies Reserve					
Open/green spaces in the village					
Sense of community					
Friendly and safe environment					
Village activities/ community groups					
Proximity to river and/or woodland					

Q2. Which of the following village facilities do you use?

(Please tick relevant box within each row)	Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Often
Club				
Shop				
Village Hall				
Sports Club				
Village School				
Little Owls Pre-school				
Church				
Playpark				
Bus service				
Public footpaths/bridleways				
Manswood Play area				

If you regularly use facilities in a neighbouring village, please list them below:

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Q3. How important to you, individually or as a family, are the following village facilities?

(Please tick relevant box within each row)	Not Important 1	2	3	4	Very Important 5
Club					
Shop					
Village Hall					
Sports Club					
Village School					
Little Owls Pre-school					
Church					
Playpark					
Bus service					
Public footpaths/bridleways					
Manswood Play area					

HOUSING

Q4. What type of housing are you in now, and what type will your household need in 10 years’ time?

(Please tick)

(Please tick)

	NOW	
	Owned	Rented
Flat		
Bungalow		
House with 1-2 beds		
House with 3-4 beds		
House with 5 or more beds		
Warden assisted retirement housing		
Affordable housing		
Social housing		
Other		

	FUTURE	
	Owned	Rented

Q5. Could you adapt your current home to meet your future needs?

(Please tick)

Yes:

No:

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Q6. How many new homes should be built in the village in the next 5 years (as context, 1 new house was built in the village in the last 5 years)?

(Please tick relevant box within the row)	Less than 1 per year	Between 1 and 2 per year	Between 2 and 4 per year	More than 4 per year
Number of new houses				

Q7. What type of development is suitable for future housing in Witchampton?

(Please tick relevant box within each row)	Not suitable 1	2	3	4	Very suitable 5
Greenfield (i.e. constructing new buildings or facilities on previously undeveloped land)					
Brownfield (i.e. a site that has been built on or altered by human activity before)					
Individual plots or a development					
A mixture of the above					

Q8. Do you think the residents’ age profile in your village is:

(Please tick) About right: Would prefer it younger Would prefer it older

Q9. Do you think land should be reserved for businesses suited to your village’s rural environment, to encourage local employment?

(Please tick) Yes: No:

Q10. Do you run a business from home?

(Please tick) Yes: No:

Q11. Do you work from home either some or all of the time?

(Please tick) Yes: No:

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Q12. Would you make use of a community workspace?

(Please tick)

Yes:

No:

LOCAL ENVIRONMENT

Q13. When considering the local environment, how important to you are the following?

(Please tick relevant box within each row)	Not Important 1	2	3	4	Very Important 5
Protecting the identity and character of your village					
Conserving the Cranborne Chase National Landscape					
Conserving the Dark Skies Reserve					
Conserving Heritage buildings and landscapes					
Protecting local wildlife and habitats					
Protecting chalk streams and winterbournes					
Reducing the risk of flooding					
Improving road safety					
Improving the C2 (road from A354 to the Horton Inn)					
Ensuring safe pedestrian routes throughout the village					
Ensuring housing design which maintains the character of the village					
Ensuring safe cycle routes throughout the village					

Q14. Do you think any of the services below need improving to meet the future needs of the village?

(Please tick relevant box within each row)	Yes	No	N/A
Sewage system			
Electricity			

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(Please tick relevant box within each row)	Yes	No	N/A
Broadband			
Recycling/rubbish collection			
Condition of the roads			
Bus services			
Car parking			

Q15. How concerned are you about the following in and around the village?

(Please tick relevant box within each row)	Not concerned 1	2	3	4	Very concerned 5
Traffic pollution					
Traffic speed					
Road signage					
Light pollution					
Flooding					
Fly tipping					
Litter					
Dog fouling					
Crime					
Anti-social behaviour					

Q16. If you wish to comment on any topic within this questionnaire, please write in the box below

Thank you for taking the time to complete our questionnaire!