

## **Upper Marshwood Vale steps closer to agreeing neighbourhood plan**

A final version of the Upper Marshwood Vale Neighbourhood Plan has been submitted to Dorset Council for examination.

The plan was created by local people, and was approved by the Upper Marshwood Vale Parish Council which is made up of the parishes of Bettiscombe, Pilsdon, Stoke Abbott and Marshwood. The Parish Council feel confident that the plan reflects the hopes and views of the local community.

Neighbourhood plans were introduced in the Localism Act 2011 and aim to give residents more say in the future use of land and buildings in their area. For example, the plan can say where new homes, shops or offices might be built or where important green spaces might be protected.

Dorset Council is required to consult on the plan proposals before the examination can take place. Following the examination, if the plan is approved and supported by a local referendum, then it will be used to inform future decisions on planning applications. Consultations will start on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> August and will run for eight weeks.

### **View the Upper Marshwood Vale Neighbourhood plan**

The plan can be viewed on the Dorset Council website: [dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/upper-marshwood-vale-neighbourhood-plan](http://dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/upper-marshwood-vale-neighbourhood-plan) , and via the Upper Marshwood Vale website: <http://uppermarshwoodvale.org/home/neighbourhood-plan/>.

Hard copies will also be made available at the council offices at South Walks House, Dorchester.

Please contact the Upper Marshwood Vale Neighbourhood Plan group, or view their website: <http://uppermarshwoodvale.org/home/neighbourhood-plan/> for the locations of reference copies and dates of public events that will be going on around the area throughout the consultation period.

### **Comment on the plan**

Those who live, work or run a business in the Upper Marshwood Vale neighbourhood plan area have until 14 October 2019, to raise any concerns they may have about the plan. These will then be passed on to an independent examiner to consider. Anyone commenting on the plan should let the council know if they wish to be kept informed of the progress of the Upper Marshwood Vale Neighbourhood Plan.

Comments on the plan can be emailed to: [planningpolicyteamb@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:planningpolicyteamb@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk)

Alternatively, they can be posted to: Spatial Planning, South Walks House, South Walks Road, Dorchester DT1 1UZ.