

GOALS

Main priorities that emerge from questionnaires and consultation sessions:

1. **Housing.** Need for more affordable homes. (In practice this can be a mixture of solutions: both private and housing association rented, shared ownership, self-build, change/removal of AOCs etc.)
2. **Community facilities.** Existing facilities need to be protected and new facilities need to be provided. Existing facilities include pubs, Marshwood shop and post office, halls, churches, garage, the Millennium Woodland Marshwood Primary School. New facilities needed include play areas, a community shop in Stoke Abbott, sewage treatment works in Marshwood and toilets in Marshwood church.
3. **Traffic.** Need a safe walking route to school in Marshwood, better parking in Stoke Abbott (possibly a car park), more passing places in the lanes.
4. **Environment:** Protect the ecology of the natural environment and improve access to the network of rights of way.
5. **Business:** support for converting buildings into workspaces or tourist facilities.

VISION FOR THE PLAN

Housing

The need for some housing growth at a rate that reflects local needs and the rural nature of the area. Where possible, we wish to provide for younger people with children, as well as older people needing to downsize.

Environment

To protect the landscape and features which contribute to the area's unique character, the enjoyment of the area in terms of countryside access and views, the general tranquility of the area and its dark skies. Also important is the design of the buildings and settlements, contributing to the area's character.

Economy

Support home working, rural workshops and small-scale tourism to strengthen the local economy and provide further job opportunities.

Community

Support a range of community facilities that can be sustained given the sparsity of the local population.