


SOS – SAVE OUR STOCKBRIDGE

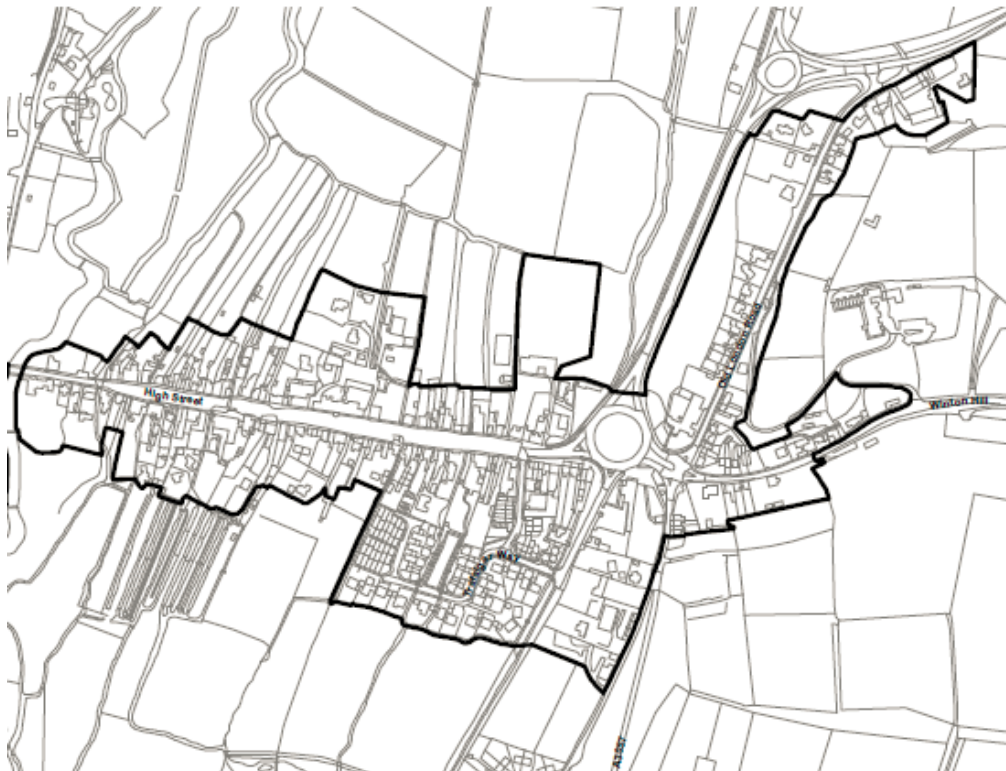
UPDATE - 10TH OCTOBER 2018

The next Stockbridge Parish Council meeting is on Thursday 18th October at 7.30pm in the Town Hall, and once again we need your help please. We'd like you to attend that meeting if you possibly can.

You already know that 80% of those who responded to the PC questionnaire indicated that they did not want land outside the settlement boundary to be developed, even if such development could be shown to be an overall benefit to the community. We attach a plan of Stockbridge showing exactly where the settlement boundary lies.

Stockbridge Settlement Boundary Map

Key:
 Settlement Boundary



Analysis of Questionnaire

If you came to the last PC meeting you will have seen the full results and analysis of the responses to the questionnaire and you can look again at the PC's published results and analysis at

<http://www.stockbridgeparishcouncil.org.uk/community/stockbridge-parish-council-12514/consultation-report/>

However there were two results, which broke down questions into a number of elements that caused us and others concern, as we did not feel they fully represented the actual responses.

Alex Lawrence (a member of the SOS Committee) has analysed more fully the responses to Q.3 and Q.5 of the questionnaire and instead of only using those who had responded 'yes' to the elements of the development, he also included those who answered 'no'. Only one response said 'don't know' to these questions so that is not statistically significant. We now attach the more detailed results of Q.3 and Q.5 for you to peruse but in summary they are:

Q.3 Do you consider any of the elements of the proposed development to be of benefit to Stockbridge:

(a) Retirement living apartments?

A. 17% said yes, but **83% said no.**

(b) Affordable housing?

A. 22% said yes, but **78% said no**

(c) Car park?

A. 30% said yes, but **70% said no.**

Q.5 If SPC were to enter into consultation are there any other elements you would wish us to pursue?

(a) Smaller development?

A. 21% said yes, but **79% said no.**

(b) Adventure playground?

A. 7% said yes, but **93% said no.**

(c) Fitness/exercise trail?

A. 10% said yes, but **90% said no.**

(d) Other community asset/sporting facility?

A. 10% said yes, but **90% said no.**

We consider that these results show that whatever inducement can be offered to the community, people don't want building outside the settlement boundary.

Neighbourhood Plan

You will also know if you came to the last PC meeting, or have read October's issue of the Benefice Magazine, that the PC are now considering whether to undertake a 'Neighbourhood Plan'. This is, as they say, 'to ensure that SPC are best placed to deal with any future planning applications'. We attach a note prepared by Roger Tym (another SOS Committee member) which sets out why it is SOS's view that we should NOT, as a community, go down the route of a Neighbourhood Plan. In summary, a Neighbourhood Plan is designed to set out where development might take place and because of Stockbridge's unique geographical position there is no scope for any large development within the settlement boundary. The Stockbridge community has made it abundantly clear that it does not want development outside the settlement boundary. In addition the work involved in forming a Neighbourhood Plan would be formidable, it would be very expensive, and would require a great deal of community involvement. While a Neighbourhood Plan might be very sensible for other villages in and around the Test Valley, Stockbridge's unique position and character, with its settlement boundary drawn tightly round existing buildings, places it in a completely different category.

If you agree with SOS that Stockbridge should not embark on a Neighbourhood Plan route, then the sooner we inform the PC of our views the better. SOS has of course sent Roger's paper to Councillors, so they can see our views before they embark on such an exercise. But we need your help at the next PC meeting so that you, the residents of Stockbridge, can inform them of your views as well.

So, if you possibly can, please come along to the next PC meeting on:

THURSDAY 18TH OCTOBER 2018 IN THE TOWN HALL

AT 7.30pm

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Jean Boney

Chair SOS