Teversal, Stanton Hill and Skegby Neighbourhood Plan 2016-2032

TSS Neighbourhood Forum



Pre Submission Consultation Draft

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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What is the Teversal, Stanton Hill and Skegby Neighbourhood Plan?

The Teversal Stanton Hill and Skegby Neighbourhood Development Plan (henceforward the TSS Neighbourhood Plan) has been prepared by and for local people and businesses living and operating in Teversal, Stanton Hill and Skegby (TSS).

The Localism Act 2011 provided new powers for neighbourhood forums to prepare land use planning documents. In March 2015 Ashfield District Council (hence forward ADC) designated the TSS Forum as a qualifying body with the authority to prepare a Neighbourhood Plan. Following consultation with the local community, the extent of the Neighbourhood Plan Area was also agreed and designated by ADC in March 2015. (The designated area is referred to as the Plan area).

This Neighbourhood Plan will run from 2016-2032 in line with the emerging Local Plan and will be used by councillors and officers at Ashfield District Council in assessing planning applications and by developers when preparing planning applications for submission.

This document is a summary of the full Draft Plan, giving a broad overview of that Plan.

By its nature this Summary includes references to documents and portions of the Plan that could not be included. These can be accessed by reading the full draft Plan and some appear separately on the Forum website.

If you wish to read the full Draft Plan it can be seen on our website at <u>tssneighbourhoodplan.org</u>. Paper copies have been placed for viewing at the following locations:

Mosley's Flowers, High Street, Stanton Hill. Teversal Visitor Centre, Carnarvon Street, Teversal, Stanton Hill and Skegby Library, Mansfield Road, Healdswood, Skegby Co-operative Store, Stanton Hill Co-operative Store, Vine Tree Charity Shop, High Street, Stanton Hill.

Comments

A Consultation Questionnaire has been prepared and can be accessed online through our website and by completing paper copies available at the venues listed above where there is a collection box for completed questionnaires.

The Forum is also required by legislation to consult with a number of bodies prescribed by the Regulations. These include the Environment Agency, Ashfield District Council, Nottinghamshire County Council, public utilities and voluntary groups.

The Consultation Period opens on the 29th. August, 2016 and closes on the 28th. October, 2016.

Examination

Following this Consultation there may be some changes to the Plan. The Final Plan will then be submitted to Ashfield District Council who will forward it to an external examiner. This examination checks that the Plan is in agreement with the law. The examiner may insist on further changes.

Referendum

When these changes are made the Plan will again be published and subject to a Referendum of all voters registered in the Neighbourhood Area. A simple majority of those voting will allow the Plan to be 'made' or rejected.

Please ensure you are registered to vote in public elections if you wish to take part in the Referendum. If you are unsure, please contact Ashfield District Council.

Why do we want a Neighbourhood Plan?

Local people want a say in the policies that help guide decisions affecting their area in the future. They want to have more say and exert more influence over where development occurs and what it looks like. The Neighbourhood Plan consultation process enables people to think about what they wanted to see in their area over the next 15 years rather than just reacting to District consultation on site allocation policies.

Community Concerns

Community Concerns	Neighbourhood Plan Opportunities
Lack of control over where development will go, what it will look like and limited (or no) benefit to local people and a concern that there are inadequate medical facilities locally to support a growing population.	The Neighbourhood Plan enables greater community influence to require specific housing types (based on local evidence of need and the existing supply).
Some sites would be more acceptable than others – some parts of the Plan area like Skegby are already very built up, local people do not want to lose more open space in and around where they live. In Teversal and in the hamlets and open countryside in the north of the Plan area the topography, heritage and landscape sensitivity and the heritage mean that development must be limited and very carefully undertaken.	Local people accept the need for development but want more say in its location and scale of development. The Forum as a qualifying body for neighbourhood planning can set out policies that can influence the location and scale of development whilst accepting the over all number of houses proposed by ADC based on their robust assessments.
New development should not feel like it has been bolted on, it needs to blend with the existing development.	Design policies that reflect the existing mixture of styles of housing have been devised and development can be integrated where there is a clear understanding of the existing routes and connections and an awareness of the importance of ensuring new connections are safe and do not create areas for antisocial behaviour.
92% of people said that access to the countryside was the top reason why they liked the TSS Plan area. The footpath network particularly the Teversal- Pleasley Trails are a great asset with wide community benefit; but across the Plan area access could be improved. For Skegby and Stanton Hill residents particularly, good access to a range of open spaces within walking distance is required.	Improve and extend the existing network of non- vehicular routes within and out of the town. Require new development to extend such routes where desirable. Seek to identify areas of open space that could be made more accessible to the public. Protect and enhance existing open spaces and areas of nature conservation.
Community and retail facilities are limited; Stanton Hill retail area needs significant improvements.	The Neighbourhood Plan can create land use policies that encourage a wider range of facilities. The provision of significant levels of additional housing will create more demand for local services. This Plan promotes the need for additional facilities to support a growing local population. This Plan also supports the regeneration of Stanton Hill shopping area.
Limited employment opportunities within the Plan area	The Brierley Park Industrial Estate has some expansion room this Plan can encourage additional employment; improving the general attractiveness of Stanton Hill will make the area more appealing for potential new businesses.
The roads are already very congested with danger spots at certain times of the day. Additional development will put a greater strain on the road system; public transport needs improving	As this issue does not relate to a proposed development the NP cannot require improvements however the surveys and consultation feedback can be used to set out an aspirational policy and projects that could be delivered (subject to funding).

How Does the TSS Neighbourhood Plan fit with District and national planning policies?

This Neighbourhood Plan is a legal planning policy document and once it has been 'made' by Ashfield District Council (ADC) these polices will be used to inform planning decisions relating to development proposals in the Plan area up to 2032. Consequently, the Neighbourhood Plan's policies will carry statutory weight alongside district wide and national planning policy advice.

Consultation

For the purposes of this Neighbourhood Plan various public consultations and surveys have been undertaken by the Forum to gain an understanding of the views of residents and businesses that operate across the Plan area. These views and concerns have been fundamental to the formulation of the policies within the Neighbourhood Plan.

Community Vision

Community Vision

In 20 years' time the TSS Plan area will be a prosperous and thriving community. It will value its rural heritage. It will provide people with employment, education and relaxation. It will be a regenerated place where everyone can fulfil their potential.

Community Objectives

Objective 1

To ensure that future housing growth meets the needs of the local community whilst minimising the impact on the natural and built environment.

Objective 2

To ensure that new housing developments integrate easily with the existing settlement pattern whilst sustaining and enhancing local facilities for all residents.

Objective 3

To ensure that the capacity of local facilities (doctors and schools) is sufficient to meet local needs.

Objective 4

To ensure that development proposals reflect local character, topography, landscape sensitivity and views, as detailed in the TSS Place Analysis.

Objective 5

To seek solutions to the problems of congestion and road safety in the Plan area and to ensure that these problems are not made worse by increased housing growth.

Objective 6

To encourage investment in and regeneration of Stanton Hill shopping centre.

Objective 7

To protect and maintain the trails, open spaces and access to the open countryside that make the TSS area so special.

Objective 8

To ensure that all the built heritage of the Plan area, but particularly the character of Teversal village, is protected.

Objective 9

To ensure the Forum is consulted early in the planning application process (at pre application stage) via the mechanisms outlined in this Neighbourhood Development Plan.

Key Principle: Pre-application Community Consultation

1. Applicants submitting development proposals are encouraged to actively engage in consultation with the TSS Forum and the community as part of the design process at the pre application stage.

2. In consulting with the community it will be considered best practice for the applicant to involve and engage with local people and other stake holders, and particularly the TSS Forum, in consultation about any proposals before detailed plans are prepared.

3. The planning application should include a short document explaining how the proposals being submitted following this consultation have addressed the views of and any issues or concerns raised by local people and the TSS Forum.

1. Sustainable Development

Given the likelihood that there will be a substantial number of additional houses built across the Plan area to meet District requirements it is an important function of this Neighbourhood Plan to set out the planning criteria that must be met for any development to be acceptable. The existing capacity of the doctors and schools was raised as a concern throughout the consultation process. Whilst it is for the education and health agencies to ensure that there is adequate provision a key part of sustainable development is ensuring that the social needs of a community are met. One of the drivers to do this Plan was the local concern that more development might diminish the quality of the area. The policies in this Plan set out a framework that will improve the quality of new development both in the design and in the way development should connect to the existing settlements. Across Ashfield there is a need for affordable housing and to satisfy that market housing is needed in order to deliver the affordable and private rented housing that local people need.

NP 1: Sustainable Development

- 1. Development that leads to economic, social and environmental benefits is encouraged.
- 2. Sustainable development in the Plan area will be encouraged where it can demonstrate;
 - a) high quality design; and
 - b) housing development of a size, type and tenure to meet identified local need; and
 - c) that it contributes to improved access to the countryside and open spaces; and
 - d) that it respects the existing landscape character; and
 - e) that it delivers a range of social facilities to meet local need where necessary.

2. Design Principles for Residential Development

The TSS Place Analysis (TSS PA) provides a detailed study of the Plan area looking particularly at design, materials used, movement and connections and how the built environment sits in the landscape. This document should be used by developers to help them design schemes that maintain and where possible enhance the qualities that make Stanton Hill, Skegby and Teversal distinctive. Design solutions should be sought to ensure that good connectivity is established between new development and the existing settlement for pedestrians without creating routes and spaces that attract anti-social behaviour.

NP 2: Design Principles for Residential Development

- 1. Development should respect local character.
- 2. In Skegby development should;
 - a) look to fully connect into the neighbourhood to ensure the continuation of the grid-like settlement pattern; and

b) ensure that geometry and treatment of the streets reflects the role of the street (i.e. streets with longer sight lines are used on major routes with more truncated views for local access routes) to help establish a street hierarchy that reflects the local approach.

c) establish a strong delineation between public and private space.

d) avoid an overly complex distribution of building types, and should instead seek to create similarity at the building level, using local materials and detailing (red brick, pantile in red or brown clay, and concrete roof tiles and cast stone window and door headers).

- 3. In Stanton Hill Development should;
 - a) seek to use the classically arranged streets, regular grid and interconnected layouts that typify the settlement core; and
 - b) use a strong boundary treatment that allows for a clear separation of garden space from public streets; and
 - c) use locally inspired pallet of materials to help support the look and feel of the area.
- 4. In Teversal village development will be limited due to its heritage attributes and is encouraged to;
 - a) use sandstone, stone headers, sash windows, traditional chimney styles and red clay or grey natural slate roof tiles to reflect existing styles; and
 - b) provide a strong boundary between what is public and what is private, using low rubble stone walls or hedges; and
 - c) use generous plots and avoid overly infilling sites to maintain the irregular, and fragmented pattern of development.

5. In the hamlet of Fackley development will be limited and is encouraged to;a) seek to address the main streets positively, rather than forming backland yards that have no relationship with the rest of the village; and

- b) use a vertical boundary delineation with a green element to it; and
- c) cluster plot types and use them in a way that reinforces the transition from urban to rural; and

d) draw from local examples of design detailing such as front projecting gables on hip and valley roofs and bay windows to reinforce local distinctiveness.

6. In the hamlet of Stanley development will be limited and is encouraged to;a) use large irregular plots to continue the dispersed and fragmented approach; and

b) make provision for strong green boundaries with driveways reflecting the rural setting; and

c) follow the local building style so that the area continues to reflect its agricultural heritage; and

d) use a narrow range of materials (render, red brick, stone returns and red clay or grey natural slate roof tiles) to reflect the local style.

7. Development across the Plan area will be encouraged to demonstrate; a) layout that maximises opportunities to integrate development into the existing settlements by creating new connections and improving existing ones where this allows for safe, easy, direct movement for people of all ages to and from local services and facilities; and

b) layout that maximizes opportunities to maintain some visual openness to the countryside; and

c) streets which encourage low vehicle speeds and which can function as safe social spaces.

8. The use of industry standards for good design (Building for Life 12 or the most recent national standards) in both developing design concepts and in testing the final design proposal for quality will be encouraged for all residential development.

3. Housing Type

The Forum commissioned its own Housing Needs Assessment which considered both the amount and type of housing. As the Forum is not seeking to allocate sites, the amount of housing is not a matter for this Plan. However, the assessment of housing need with respect to both type and tenure substantiated the 2015 SHMA evidence in terms of the type of housing required and reflected local consultation findings.

Where housing is suitable for older people it will be important to assess the location of the proposed site in relation to local amenities and public transport. 400 metres is considered a 5 minute walk, 800 metres is a 10 minute walk.

The majority of houses should be 2 or 3 bedroom terraced or semidetached. This is in keeping with the existing housing stock and this size provides flexibility to accommodate both the needs of a growing family and is suitable for people looking to downsize.

NP 3: Housing Type

- 1. Development proposals for housing schemes are required to deliver a housing mix that reflects the local identified need. This should include smaller market dwellings to suit older people and for starter homes.
- 2. The provision of smaller market dwellings (two bedrooms) especially those suitable for older people, will be particularly encouraged on sites that are 5 to 10 minutes' walk from the Local Centre at Stanton Hill.

4. Protecting the Landscape Character

The green corridors that separate Stanton Hill from both Teversal to the north and Skegby to south are integral to the character of the wider area, serving to both bring the countryside into the more urbanised areas and as important wildlife corridors that connect habitats and spaces in the wider area. They also help to keep the settlements in the Plan area distinct, allowing each to have its own sense of place and providing easily accessible amenity space for residents and visitors.

The following map shows the gap between Stanton Hill and Skegby.



The following maps show where this gap is narrow and where development proposals should be managed carefully to avoid coalescence of the two settlements. This would erode the landscape character of both settlements.

Left: The eastern portion of the green corridor, constrained by development and in danger of being closed completely should new sites come forward here.

Right: A good portion of the green corridor remains to the west, but housing and industrial development has already pinched this down to a narrowing; further narrowing should be avoided.



The following map shows the gap between Teversal and Stanton Hill.



The following map shows one part of this green gap that is particularly sensitive. The tree belt to the rear of Barker Avenue helps to screen the urbanised area of Stanton Hill from the rural spaces beyond. It is a visually prominent space and should development occur it would be highly visible eroding the landscape character of the valley.



The following map shows the area around Fackley Road where the Teversal Trails intersect. Pockets of development along Fackley Road (Carnarvon Street, etc.) have begun to encroach into the valley and the trail centre and cricket club, whilst mainly green space, add buildings and hard standing. Further development in this area would need to maintain the sense of openness and not erode the rural nature of the trails.



NP 4 sets out a policy framework that requires developers to demonstrate they have taken into account and mitigated the impact of new development on the landscape character.

NP 4: Protecting the Landscape Character

 Development will be encouraged where the scheme can demonstrate that;
 a) landscaping and boundary treatments reflect and where possible enhance existing landscape character; and

b) it does not erode the gaps and sense of openness between Stanton Hill and Skegby, and between Teversal and Stanton Hill; and

c) maintains the connections with and to the surrounding countryside; and

d) the layout should provide views into and out of the development to identified landscape features; and

2. Development in the vicinity of Strategic Corridor G1-23 should contribute to the improvement of that Strategic Corridor.

5. **Protecting and Enhancing Heritage Assets**

Whilst Teversal village has the largest concentration of heritage assets section 6 has identified 17 listed buildings and 32 non-designated but locally important heritage assets outside Teversal village. The TSS Heritage Report provides a comprehensive assessment of all the heritage assets in the Plan area and identifies a further 11 locally significant buildings that should be considered by ADC as non-designated heritage assets.

In Teversal Village development in recent years has been infill. Remnants of Teversal's agricultural past are disappearing, for example the farm yard at Manor Farm has been redeveloped for a small residential development and other farm outbuildings have been converted into residential properties. The cumulative effect of this has been to erode the rural character of the Conservation Area. Planning applications involving the loss of agricultural buildings and farmyards should be handled sensitively in terms of the design and layout of new development in order to retain as much of the original rural character as possible. Avoiding overtly suburban characteristics of detailing is also necessary.

NP 5: Protecting and Enhancing Heritage Assets

- 1. Only limited development will be permitted on infill sites within Teversal Conservation Area over the Plan period. Gaps like gardens and open spaces between buildings are part of the character that is reflected in the Conservation Area designation and should be maintained.
- 2. Development adjacent to the Teversal Conservation Area should not detract from the setting of the Conservation Area and should ensure that building lines and boundary treatment reflect the positive attributes in that character area and preserve the significance of the asset.
- 3. The provision of a public car park in Teversal in the vicinity of the Church and Manor Rooms is supported where the design;

a) does not harm the setting of Teversal Conservation Area; and

b) the surfacing and boundary treatment is in keeping with the Teversal Conservation Area Appraisal guidelines.

- 4. The TSS Heritage Report has identified buildings and structures regarded as locally important heritage assets across the Plan area. These are listed in Appendix B of the Plan.
- 5. The assessment and local listing of these assets by ADC is supported.
- 6. The effect of a proposal on the significance of non-designated heritage assets will be taken into account in determining an application in order to minimise conflict between the heritage asset's conservation and any aspect of the proposal.
- 7. Development should conserve and enhance the setting of Hardwick Hall and its Registered Historic Park and Garden, responding positively to the rural and historic character of the setting. No harm or loss should be allowed to key views of and from Hardwick that contribute to the significance of the heritage assets.
- 4. Proposals to improve Skegby Hall Gardens will be supported where the scheme has special regard to the desirability of preserving the asset and its setting and any features of special architectural or historic interest.

6. Improving Access to the Countryside

Improving access to the countryside is a key objective in this Plan; the benefits of 'incidental exercise' to health and well-being for all age groups are well evidenced. Earlier sections of this Plan have outlined the landscape character of the Plan area. 92% of respondents to the consultation questionnaires liked living in the Plan area because of the access to the countryside along the Teversal Trails and to both country parks within and in the vicinity of the Plan area.

NP 6: Improving Access to the Countryside

- 1. All development which is directly related to improving or extending the nonvehicular routes as identified in maps "Green Spaces" and "Heritage in the Plan Area" will be supported where the proposals:
- 2. a) do not detract from the landscape character or ecological value as defined in the most recent Landscape Character Assessment Study; and
 - b) are for the purpose of improving the non-vehicular routes; and
 - c) would not harm local habitats.

7. Strengthening the Retail Centre in Stanton Hill

The only designated Local Centre is at Stanton Hill. Of the 46 units in the Local Centre only 13 are still trading and a further 7 are take aways or cafes. 19 units have been converted to residential use. Proposals need to create space along the high street for wider pavements, staggered parking bays with build-outs for tree planting, and a pedestrian-priority set of crossings. This would help moderate traffic speeds whilst making this space more appealing for users. Incidental on-street parking would enable the local retailers to attract passing trade allowing them to capitalise on the connectivity advantages the area enjoys. The following Table is taken from the TSS Place Analysis.

Strengths	Weaknesses
 Excellent local and area wide connectivity. Southerly aspect to the main retail side of the street. Bus services to the area. 	 Underinvestment in the buildings that line the street. Single-sided. Narrow space and footways. High traffic volumes and speeds.
Opportunities	Threats
 Widen pavements and narrow the traffic lanes. Provide more parking for stops at the shops. Improve the public realm and signage to 	 Funding for area-wide initiatives is hard to come by. Store owners may not wish to collaborate. People may seek to use other retail

The following Map shows the extent of the Local Centre boundary as defined by ADC and the number of retail units still in operation.



NP 7: Strengthening the Retail Centre in Stanton Hill

- 1. Development that supports the vibrancy and vitality of Stanton Hill by diversifying and enhancing the range of local shops and related commercial services for the local community will be encouraged.
- 2. Proposals which improve public spaces are encouraged.
- 3. Development proposals in the local centre to increase the provision of off street parking are encouraged.

8. Improving Digital Connectivity

Across the Plan area broadband speed varies considerably. In Skegby and Stanton Hill access to superfast broadband enables people to access the internet for business, social networking and to access services.

However, in the rural settlements particularly Teversal and Stanley broadband speeds are much slower and effectively limit the capacity of people to run businesses or access services over the internet from home.

Over the Plan period the need to access services and information via the web will only increase and with the advance of information technology will be the growing expectation that people can run their businesses from home.

The NPPF paragraph 42 supports the development of high speed broadband technology noting it plays a *'vital role in enhancing the provision of local community facilities and services'*. Providing infrastructure to enable people to work from home is a key part of promoting sustainable development as it reduces the need to travel by car to work which is a key objective of land use planning. It also enables people to access services (retail and community services). The community supports efforts made by the Forum and others to ensure that local people are able to have the fastest broadband connection to support the

economic and social well-being of residents wherever they live in the Plan area.

NP 8: Improving Digital Connectivity

1. Proposals that provide access to superfast broadband to serve properties and business developments in the Plan area will be encouraged.

2. New development, where viable and practicable, should provide the necessary means for residents to access the superfast broadband network when it becomes available and, if possible, contribute to improvements in the service for existing residents and businesses.

Getting Around

The only employment site in the Plan area is Brierley Park Industrial Estate. There is no additional proposed allocation in the emerging Local Plan. 4% of residents work from home. This means that currently, most of the 4,000 local people in employment have to travel to work. Given limited public transport, 79% (3190 people) travel by car to work. AP 1 is aspirational because the issues relate to various parts of the road network and improving public transport. AP 1 reflects the concern of local people and is based on local evidence. AP 1 identifies those areas that local people consider need improving as part of the growth of the Plan area. Inadequate public transport affects 20% of the population who do not own a car, greater than the East Midlands average.

The following Table identifies the traffic hot spots in the Plan area and the Forum will work with the Nottinghamshire County Council and ADC to secure highway design solutions for the all traffic hot spots.

The following table identifies traffic hotspots in the Plan area.

pedestrian crossing on Mansfield Road near the Skegby Coop	Kings Mill Road East and Beck Lane junction needs improvement - right turn lane onto Mansfield Road too short causes congestion
the provision of parking bays on Mansfield Road extending east towards the Fox and Crown (where Mansfield Road meets Beck Lane) and west towards St Andrews Primary School.	Access onto Mansfield Road from Omberley Avenue near junction with Kingsmill Road East due to blind bend and on street parking causes queuing traffic at peak times.
improvements to the junction of Forest Road and Mansfield Road to accommodate high volumes of traffic to include a slip road for those turning left.	On street parking on Chancery Lane also hinders safe access to Mansfield Road
HGVs accessing M1 through Wild Hill, Fackley and Stanton Hill and along Shepherds Lane these routes reduce to single width in places with minimal sight lines and the presence of HGVs is a significant road safety hazard.	Poor road access to Brierley Park Industrial Estate
Parked vehicles, HGVs and narrow roads through Stanton Hill particularly Stonyford Road and Fackley Road create access difficulties through Stanton Hill and on New Lane	Traffic calming solution to improve pedestrian safety along Stonyford Road through Stanton Hill.
speeding on Meden Bank – due to road lay out creates road safety issues	lack of street lighting on Low Road at the junction with Back Lane and Dawgates Lane

AP 1: Road Safety and Public Transport

- 1. The TSS Forum will work with partners including Nottinghamshire County Council and Ashfield District Council to seek design solutions to improve road safety and increase parking provision in those areas identified in the above table.
- 2. The TSS Forum will work with partners including Nottinghamshire County Council, Ashfield District Council and local bus operators to improve the frequency and routes of bus services to reduce car usage and to enable people to access local facilities.

List of Projects

To support the Plan policies, the following projects will be implemented with the support of the Forum over the Plan period (where funding and partnership working allow).

- 1. Promote an environmental improvement programme to enhance public space in Stanton Hill Local Centre
- 2. Support ADC to improve Skegby Hall Registered Gardens
- 3. Work with ADC, NCC and local bus operators to improve and extend the local bus service
- 4. Work with ADC, NCC to seek solutions to the highway safety and parking issues identified in this Plan.
- 5. Seek local listing of those buildings identified by the Forum or that have been nominated by ADC but not yet listed.