

SUMMARY REPORT
STAGE ONE CONSULTATION
WORKING DOCUMENT
April to August 2016



Pictures of the Consultation Event at the Community Coffee Morning 4 June 2016

SUMMARY REPORT OF STAGE ONE CONSULTATION FINDINGS (WORKING DRAFT)

May to August 2016

The aim of the Stage One Consultation was to

A) To identify the issues and aspirations of the local community that will inform the development of the Vision and Objectives for Slyne with Hest's Parish Neighbourhood Plan, this was achieved by:

- An initial scoping exercise held at the village's monthly open access coffee morning in April 2016. The event on average attracts 50 people and is hosted each month by a different local group. The one attended was hosted by the Urban Saints Youth group. Community members attending the group were asked the following questions
 1. What did they like about living in the Parish?
 2. What would they like to see in Slyne with Hest?
- The Steering Group, (which consisted of local volunteers, members of the Parish Council, all of whom had involvement within the local community) used the above information, plus concerns that regularly came up with the Parish Council and steering group members own experiences to identify what should be considered as key elements in the development of the Slyne with Hest Neighbourhood Plan. Four broad areas were identified and became the areas for further consultation and consideration by the community.

They were:

Control of the Built Environment,

Care of the Natural Environment,

Maintaining a Vibrant and Diverse Community

Management of Economic Developments.

B) To consult the widest number of individuals/groups from the Parish thus representing the diverse nature of the local population, this was achieved by:

- The distribution of 500 Stage One Consultation booklets, which provided the opportunity for community members who had not *voted* in groups to give feedback of their chosen priorities via email or letter, These booklets were available from local shops and other key locations in the village, including St Luke's Primary School, (500 = 38% of all Parish households)
- Providing 9 consultation events in various venues that allowed members of the community to choose their priorities and have their say.
- Members of the local community being part of the steering group.
- Questionnaire to the thirty *visible* local businesses.

C) To raise awareness within the community of the consultation process at a local level, this was achieved by:

All of the above plus

- Developing a specific Logo which was used on all publications and clearly identified the local nature of the consultation.
- Word of mouth by Steering Group Members
- Sending letters to local group offering them the opportunity to host a consultation event.
- Article provided for two local email groups, Green belt Action Group and Save the Villages Action Group
- Local Press

D) Provide information to the local community about the National Neighbourhood Planning process, this was achieved by:

- Having a specific Neighbourhood Planning page on the village web site
- Having a Slyne with Hest Neighbourhood Planning Face book page which during the consultation period was accessed by 103 people
- Being included in the Parish Newsletter, print run of 350
- Having relevant information at 9 Consultation Events
- Having relevant information included in 500 Stage One Consultation Booklets
- Information being given as keys facts on 100 flyers placed around the Parish and local shops.
- Information being provided to and published in the local press.
- Letter and questionnaires to 30 local businesses.

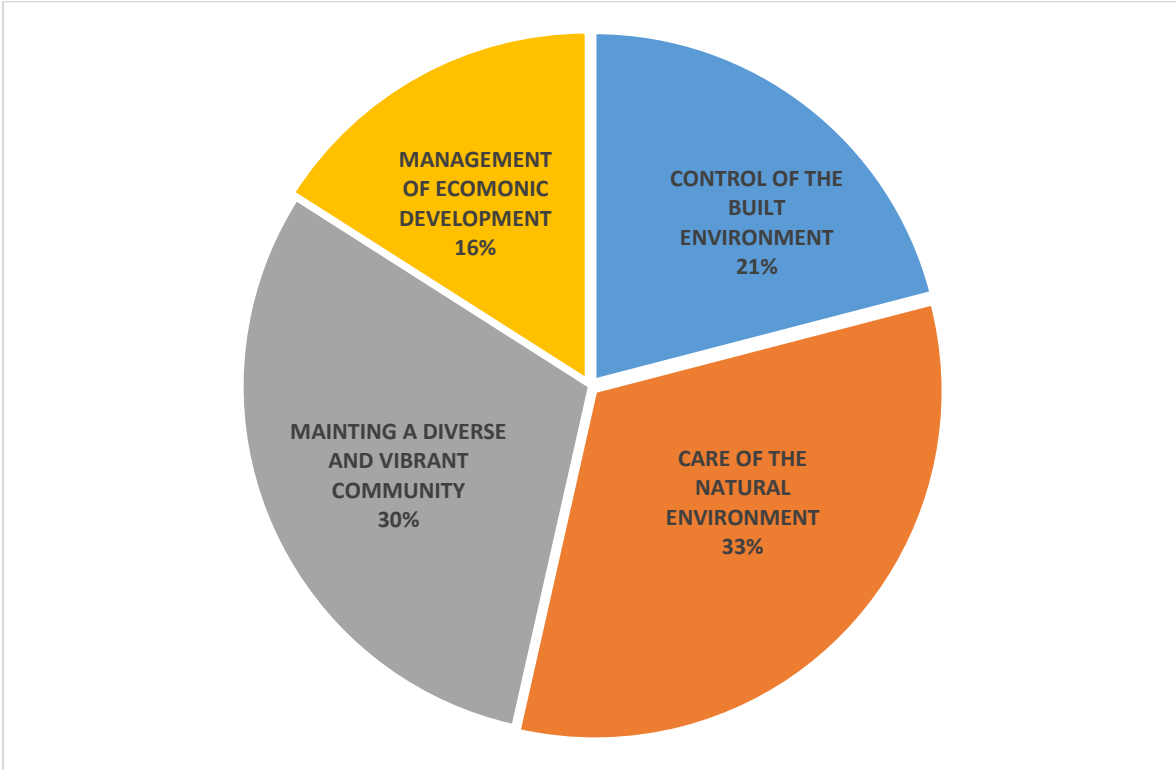
The Consultation Methods

The methods used for members of the community to record their priorities were as follows:

1. Groups

- Steering Group members attended 9 groups with a display outlining the selected priorities, community members were asked to select three out of the four areas which they thought should become priorities within the plan
- Blank cards were available to complete for any issues not covered by the identified priorities
- An informal talk was given to the local Brownie Pack with voting as above

The Results from the Voting in the Groups.



Total number of Votes cast 482
Total number of Individuals 160

Groups Visited with the Display

Coffee Mornings, - Scoping exercise 2 May 2016 and Consultation 4 June 2016
Open access group including, children, teenagers, retired people and family groups

May Fair Open group, 20 May 2016 - Including parents, carers, grandparents, children, teaching staff

Toddler Group, 6 July 2016 - Parents/carers of preschool children

Tennis Club, 16 August 2016 - Open event attended by families and people of all age, some who use the facilities and live elsewhere.

Memorial Hall Equipment Fund, 22 July 2016 - Retired people mix of residents and non-residents

Outside Londis Supermarket, 21 August 2016 - Open event, age range between and 10 and 85

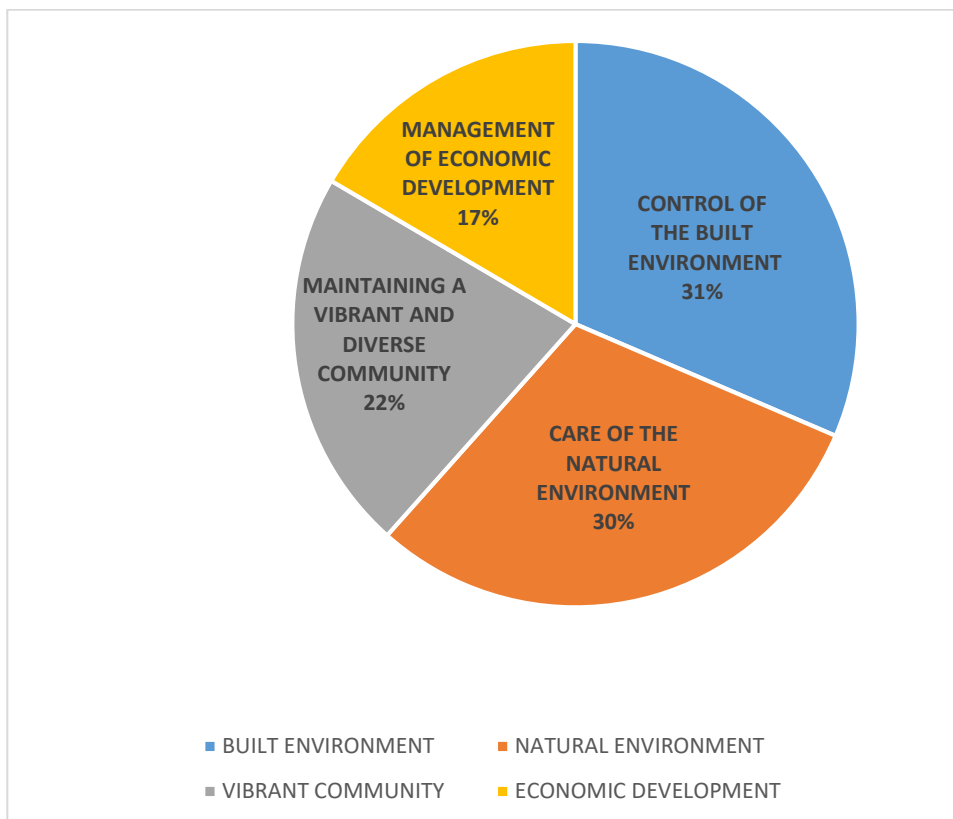
Brownies 4 July 2016

Over Sixties Club, 1 August 2016.

- **Individual Responses**

Priorities could also be selected via letter or email using the information provided in the booklet, flyer and letter. This method was measured by ranking the 4 options in order of preference, as well as providing an opportunity for respondents to raise new priorities concerns/aspirations.

Results of Responses via email and post (by % of total Votes)



The total number of individuals who voted via email or letter was 31.

COMMENTS RECEIVED DURING THE CONSULTATION

WHAT WE LIKE ABOUT THE PARISH

From the Original Scoping Exercise

The canal X 2. Peaceful environment, Community spirit, guides, leafy green spaces, the green pockets of land, Londis x 3, Village Hall, well maintained public areas, the tennis courts, the shore/beach, the community centre x 2, the bowling green, fantastic foody pubs friendly good pub, pharmacy x 3, the village ambiance, handy for motorway, Urban Saints – great for young folk, the Church Youth group, friends, safe walks in green spaces, the Green Belt

From Brownies

Rec needs wild life area and woodland, use of school field/ facilities, its safe, no crime, clubs, Street Dance, canal bridges, organised = countryside and houses well spread-out, the pub, Happy Mount Park.

NEW ISSUES/ASPIRATIONS/COMMENTS FROM GROUPS, EMAIL AND LETTERS

132 Additional Comments where received

The follow have been loosely themed. (Not definitive)
RECREATION GROUND *
Long grass on rec.
Rec needs wild life area and woodland
More play facilities, reinstate at the top of Manor Lane/Manor Road
Play area/sort out the rec. (reinstate play equipment by the chemist)
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More facilities for young families like children's play area which needs upgrading.
Children's play area
Children's play Area
Playgrounds
Playgrounds
Playgrounds
Water Park
Water Park
More things for kids
Better playground and picnic area in Slyne a cafe in Slyne of picnic area
Better equipment at the park
Better play area for children
Draining the playing field

Draining the playing field
State of the Playground!
Play area for all ages on rec site with café to attract people from outside the area.
ROADS AND TRANSPORT
Parking outside school
Parking outside school
Traffic Speeding, parking on pavements. Hest Bank Lane Garage parking on Road Dangerous/access difficult Accident waiting to happen
Parking in busy parts of the village
People parking outside school
Footpaths not safe
Speed limit for bikes and go slow signs
Mud on Road
Boardwalk on rec
Towpath narrow for bike and walkers
Narrow pavements with no view
Public transport (local transport continued bus, train at Hest Bank)
People parking outside school
Keep last bus from Lancaster (11.05pm)
Maintain bus services
Maintain bus services
Management of speed of cars/lack of pavements/Hest Bank Lane unsafe
Bus shelter at Greenacre Park bus stop
Better bus shelters e.g. on Manor Lane for buses to Lancaster
Traffic and parking is already a problem re road safety, extra houses will only make this worse Provide parking for the community facilities in the centre of the village
Better footpath – instead of white line markings on Hest Bank Lane (near the new houses)
Put 'No HGV' signs up at both ends of Hatlex Lane
New road has introduced a hill for cyclists
When it comes to repairs, don't forget Bottomdale Road
Continue to have a bus service so people can work. Bare has a railway station why not Hest Bank. Support the bus service in the evenings as they are used by all ages and so people can travel to work
The canal is now part of the recognized Bay Cycle Way, cyclist should be encouraged to visit the shores as a point to refresh and enjoy the area
Maintain public footpaths, sign them well so people feel they can use them
Support for residents who are affected by parking which causes road safety issues and inconvenience.
HOUSING AND BUILDING
New affordable houses for the next generation of locals, where! Maintain character of old houses
Certain control is needed but new houses for the next generation are needed
I do not want a lot of new development.

Need for Social Housing
New developments will increase the road safety risks for the elderly, disabled and infants, who have moved to the area as they believed it to be safe.
Housing for all
We need affordable housing not huge expensive ones.
Building must take place on brownfield sites where ever possible
Affordable Housing to rent as well as buy
Stop people demolishing good houses to build ridiculous 'out of place' establishments!
There are plenty of Brown Field sites that can be regenerated in surrounding places, towns for business and housing
Avoid link ups to adjacent villages/communities
The shore must be protected, Important amenity
Pursue empty residences in the village
The link road has spoiled the natural environment
There is nowhere much to build new houses without spoiling the environment for existing residents
Develop an identity for the parish unique from Morecambe and Lancaster
Any infilling should be appropriate to its surroundings
More houses yes but a controlled number and built intelligently include affordable homes for younger people
NATURAL ENVIRONMENT
With building of the link road so many trees and hedgerows, wild life corridors etc. have been lost and there are plans to plant trees but they take time and oxygenate the area and will not come into effect for some considerable time 15 years
Keep the Green Belt
Maintaining the green belt is essential
The wildlife needs space, trees, hedgerows and humans need the lung of air from the trees in the fields
More trees planted & hedges replaced
Better use of greens in Slyne, more playgrounds for smaller kids
There are a lot of young families and elderly in the village, It would be lovely to have a cafe and more facilities, like Bolton le sands and Halton
The café on the shore does a great job and I notice people meet there.
Preserving the green belt is essential
Further improvements to the shore line
Maintain all ancient woodland and trees
An environment group should be started to promote HB unique natural assets and engage other agencies
Tide timetable
SPORTS AND RECREATION
Sports and recreation facilities
3rd court at Tennis club
Tennis Club
Tennis Club

CHURCHES
A thriving Church
A village Church which is spiritual
A good Church
Modern renovations to Church Hall
MEMORIAL HALL
Maybe a better outside play area for toddlers or Memorial Hall safe for kids to play in
Another hall, that is warm and clean, for use of the village people
Better use of Memorial Hall and the grass around it
The Preschool Provide an essential service and the need better facilities and a bigger outdoor area.
Improvements to the Memorial Hall to bring it in line with other villages
Without a vibrant and diverse community there is no heart in the village so village clubs, school, Community Hall, village events should be supported
Extend the Memorial Hall
MISCELLANEOUS
Urban Saints group would love to be more involved in community projects
I would like it to retain its own identity. no merging with adjacent towns and villages
Carbon neutral village
Keep the village as perfect as it is. Please don't expand
Flooding issues
More Schools needed
Regular – weekly coffee mornings
Economic identity
Technically the historic village extends beyond the beach and has a wide hinterland
Have a vibrant positive update to village online.
Other villages have 'New to the community packs" which is delivered when a resident changes
The village should know of the resources and support them
We are surrounded by farming businesses and need to support them
Support the local leisure facilities the 3 main eating places, VVV etc.
Support local Business
Also we have Shops, Chemist, Dentist that need to be supported by the community and electricians which serve our community
The greatest asset is the shore for its wildlife and tourism more could be done like nature events to attract people.
A designated campervan site on the shore would bring income to the village.
Keep local area served with comprehensive local businesses and amenities
More control over inappropriate expansion of existing businesses in the village.
It is not a village which should have major business but the present one should be encouraged to thrive

The possibility of low level noise nuisance from the new road impacting on the ambience of the village
More could be done to reduce isolation of the elderly, ill members of the community, work with other agencies like age concern perhaps a car pool or telephone calls to those who are isolated
There is a need for allotments in the village

*The Parish Council is currently in the process reviewing the facilities offered in the recreation ground.

2. Business Questionnaire

The Business Questionnaire and flyer were posted (with SAE for reply) to the thirty businesses who had a visible presence in the village. There were only 4 replies (13% return)

The Village Newsletter made an appeal for other business who were not easily identifiable to contact the Steering Group so they too could be part of the consultation process. No responses were received.

The following questions (with the responses) were asked in the Questionnaire.

What are the positives about your business being based with-in the Parish?

Responses No Positives
Nice Clientele
Friendly Community
Peaceful and attractive location
Good staff from area
New link road

What constraints are there on your business by being based with-in the Parish?

Responses Access to customers
Visibility to Customers
Lack of Development Opportunities
Limited footfall
Not the largest of markets
Expensive Housing

What facilities/services do you wish were provided locally that would contribute to business life in the Parish?

Responses Networking possibilities

Faster Internet
Office and Retail/Light Industry Space
More shops on Manor Road would provide more footfall
More community based events
More family events
Small industrial hi-tech units

What developments in the village over the next 10 to 20 years would help your business grow?

Responses Better Broadband Speed
Need for Parking
Increase population living in the Parish
Not Sure
Greater population
More housing with related infrastructure

Are you able to access sufficient workspace premises or opportunities to grow your business?

Yes 0 No 2 Not stated 0

Responses Struggling to expand premises with planning and tenant's rights
Not Sure
There is no workspace available
Need some small industrial units to have service and hi-tech businesses

Have you any other comments or concerns about economic development within the Parish over the next 10 to 20 years

Responses Need to be more proactive with development
No
Parking
Speed on the main road
Lack of employment for populous

The following business related comments were contributed by other members of the community during the consultation period. (Included in previous table)

The village should know of the resources and support them
We are surrounded by farming businesses and need to support them
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Support local Business
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Overview of the two Community Feedback Exercises

A total of 191 Individuals responded to the two General Community Consultations, this represents 6% of the parish population as a whole.

Total population	3200
Age Profile	0-4 4%
	5-15 10%
	16-64 55%
	65+ 31%

ONS 2011 Diocese Parish Census data

Feedback from the respondents indicates there is clearly high level of support for three of the Priorities originally identified at the scoping exercise.

Ranking of the Priorities

Priority	Feedback given in Groups		Feedback via email and letter	
	%	Ranked	%	Ranked
1. Control of the Built Environment	21%	3	31%	1
2. Caring for the Natural Environment	33%	1	30%	2
3. Maintaining a Diverse and Vibrant Community	30%	2	22%	3
4. Management of Economic Development	16%	4	17%	4

Priorities 1, 2, 3, were, over the two exercises, the most popular, with no one priority dominating the consultation. Priority 4. Management of Economic Development clearly came lowest in both consultation exercises

Business Consultation

Although a very limited response from businesses the one issue which emerged in the consultation where the need for increased 'footfall or access to population', more work space

Aspirations and Comments Exercise.

The 132 Aspirations and Comments received will help inform the Vision, Objectives and Policy Development

This exercise identified addition priorities not covered by the original four priorities,

1. Road Safety, transport, safety, parking with-in the village. 32 comments
2. The use of the Memorial Hall and the Recreational Ground. 30 comments

Draft Conclusion drawn from Stage One Consultation.

The Aim and Objectives of the Stage One Consultation has been achieved, the process involved a wide range of the community members, it offered various types of community engagement and raised awareness of how to become involved, it publicised the Neighbourhood Planning process and how it fits both at a local and national level. It offered opportunities to "vote" for priorities to be included in the plan. This provided an overview of what the community wished to be included in any Neighbourhood Plan for the Parish of Slyne with Hest and gave a strong framework to develop a clear Vision and Objectives, which will lead to a further whole community consultation in Stage Two, resulting in the policy development for the final plan, which again will go to whole community consultation.

The additional new issues identified will also be considered in more detail in the policy development process

1. Road Safety, transport, safety, parking with-in the village. 32 comments
2. The use of the Memorial Hall and the Recreational Ground. 30 comments

Issues which do not directly fall into the remit of the Neighbourhood Plan will either be forwarded to the appropriate agency or included in the plan as an annexe.

The steering group feels it now has sufficient information to move to stage two and write the Vision and Objectives for the plan.

The Vision and Objectives will be based on

- Caring for the Natural Environment,
- Maintaining a Diverse and Viable Community.
- Control of the Built Environment
- Protect the Historic and Heritage Assets of the Parish
- Planning Impact of the Local Business

Interim Feedback to visitors at the Monthly Coffee Morning 6th August 2016

