

Bridport Town Council

Regulation 14 Consultation Responses from online and paper survey

Summary

Q1 – Vision 85.5% agree, 9% neutral, 5.5% disagree

Respondents broadly support the revised vision but comments consistently mention that it must prioritise genuinely affordable and diverse housing for local people (especially younger residents), be matched by adequate infrastructure, services and employment, protect rural character and village identity, reduce carbon emissions in practice, and avoid overdevelopment driven by speculative or non-local demand.

Q2 – Objectives 86.5% agree, 8% neutral, 5.5% disagree

Respondents generally support the Objectives but some call for stronger, more enforceable commitments on social and affordable housing, transport and infrastructure, carbon reduction, and environmental protection.

Q3 – Climate Change 81% agree, 13% neutral, 6% disagree

Comments are largely sceptical of the proposed CC1 amendment, viewing it as difficult to implement in practice, and unlikely to deliver meaningful carbon reductions, particularly for smaller developers and where climate policies conflict with design considerations.

Q4 – Access and Movement 77% agree, 14% neutral, 9% disagree

Written responses are divided on the proposal, broadly supporting the need for social rented housing but expressing strong concern that redevelopment of the bus station site must not compromise its role as a transport hub. Request for clearer wording and firm safeguards for public transport and parking provision.

Q5 – Economy and Employment 77% agree, 20% neutral, 3% disagree

Responses show broad support for the inclusion of co-working hubs and live-work spaces to support small businesses and evolving work patterns, with comments expressing concerns about vagueness, deliverability, and whether such facilities would be well used.

Q6 – Affordable housing 76% agree, 16% neutral, 8% disagree

There is strong support for integrating affordable (especially social rented) housing to avoid segregation, but respondents express widespread concern about vague definitions, lack of enforceability, developer compliance, and the need for clearer mechanisms, higher design quality and stronger local delivery models.

Q7 – Housing mix and balance 79% agree, 12% neutral, 9% disagree

There is strong support for prioritising affordable, smaller homes to meet local need and avoid dominance by large, high-value/ luxury housing, but many respondents say that 3-bedroom homes are essential for families, question the policy's viability and evidential basis, and call for clearer alignment with the Housing Needs Assessment, stronger enforcement, and adequate supporting infrastructure.

Q8 – Sheltered and retirement homes or extra care homes 81% agree, 12% neutral, 7% disagree

Respondents broadly support restricting sheltered, retirement and extra care housing to proven local need and accessible locations and to avoid the proliferation of high-priced retirement developments that primarily attract non local retirees. Many welcome the emphasis on affordability and the intention to prevent retirement schemes from displacing housing that better meets needs of local people, particularly younger residents and key workers. Concern raised about potential age discrimination, policy rigidity, clarity over affordable rented and affordable ownership, infrastructure impacts, and consistency with national and emerging local plan policy.

Q9 – Community facilities 77% agree, 20% neutral, 3% disagree

Most respondents support adding the Assembly Rooms, British Legion Hall and Masonic Hall as community facilities, while also calling for stronger emphasis on youth provision.

Q10 – Landscape 89% agree, 10% neutral, 1% disagree

Respondents largely support strengthening protection of the Dorset National Landscape and the updated terminology, while seeking clearer definitions, effective enforcement, and a balanced approach.

Q11 – Biodiversity 88% agree, 8% neutral, 4% disagree

Respondents support stronger biodiversity protections but urge replacing optional or vague wording with mandatory, enforceable requirements, clarifying ambiguous references, and ensuring developments provide meaningful habitat improvements, green spaces, and wildlife connectivity.

Q12 – Riverside corridor 76% agree, 23% neutral, 1% disagree

The new Riverside Corridor Green Space is widely welcomed with a suggestion that the removal of Peter Foote Play Area as a designated Green Space should be justified through community consultation.

Q13 – Design for living 77% agree, 21% neutral, 2% disagree

The M4(2) accessibility requirement is welcomed for supporting older and disabled residents, with a suggestion to clarify wording around disability. Potential conflicts with climate change policies are noted.

Additional comments

Respondents generally support the plan's community-driven approach, focus on affordable housing, social inclusion, environmental protection, and balanced development, while emphasising that new housing must be accompanied by adequate infrastructure such as roads, healthcare, schools, and public transport. Concerns were raised about large developments, overpopulation, loss of local character, limited car parking, and the prioritisation of non-local incomers. The community stressed the need for housing that meets local needs, including young people, families, and key workers, alongside eco-friendly, affordable homes. Other priorities include preserving green spaces, landscapes, and biodiversity, supporting climate resilience, maintaining Bridport's arts and cultural community, improving transport links, and

ensuring the delivery of employment opportunities. Governance transparency, timely adoption of the revised plan, and alignment with the emerging Dorset Local Plan were also highlighted as crucial. Overall, the community strongly supports development that balances social, environmental, and economic needs while protecting the town’s distinctive character.

Responses in full

Q1. The vision for the Bridport Area Neighbourhood Plan has been revised in 2025 - do you support the amended version? Neighbourhood Area Vision Statement “The Bridport area will remain a place we are proud of, with an improved supply of homes and employment opportunities for local people, public facilities to match, and with a reduced carbon footprint. We will preserve our rural setting, the individual characters of our town and parishes, and ease of moving about within it” Vision for Symondsburry “Symondsburry is one of the largest rural parishes in West Dorset, and we are proud to help preserve its distinctive countryside character. Our mission is to protect the parish’s natural integrity while encouraging sustainable growth to bring lasting benefits to our residents, local businesses, and visitors alike.” (on page 24 of the revised version of the BANP).

Answer Choices	Responses		
Strongly agree		48.18%	53
Agree		37.27%	41
Neither agree or disagree		9.09%	10
Disagree		2.73%	3
Strongly disagree		2.73%	3

Comments

1. The bus park should be redeveloped. Planning permission should be granted for commercial infrastructure and business rates should be reviews with the intention of encouraging businesses to move into Bridport.
2. Build eco housing like the ones near Bridport Hospital that will (hopefully) be affordable not like the ones at Foundry Lea.
3. The development of the abattoir in Bradpole is contrary to the statement. Your focus should be the reduction of the use of animals for food, especially red meat consumption. This development will also impact on the quality of life for the residents of Bradpole, I live at number 6 Townsend Way on the route to and from the abattoir, every day traffic is held up at the T- junction of Magnetron Lane and Higher Street. Magnetron Lane is a single track road that totally unsuitable for the estimated level of traffic expected. The council claims to reduce our carbon footprint, this will increase it. The council claims to want preserve our rural setting, this will destroy Bradpole as many residents are trying to leave Bradpole by selling their houses. Unfortunately the houses are not selling because searches are revealing the issues with the abattoir. The councils statement sounds good but the council is lying.
4. it's odd that there's a vision for the overall Neighbourhood area yet Symondsburry parish have found it necessary to state their (very similar) vision independently
5. The vision for homes is not applicable to this area, we need affordable/ social housing for young people and families not over 55' s accommodation. At this time there is nowhere near enough provision for new jobs and doctors or school provision

6. The affordable homes for local people is crucial.
7. YES. 750 HOUSES BUILT ON SYMONDSBURY PARISH LAND. BUT THEY CHANGE THE PARISH BOUNDARYS SO THAT BRIDPORT CAN CLAIM THE COUNCIL TAX!!!!
8. This vision makes no mention of social rented, shared equity and other types of tenure. Can you confirm that starter home and social housing is mentioned somewhere?
9. Bridport is being ruined by new homes built already. Look after existing buildings and eradicate second homes.
10. There needs to be a positive plan to maintain the integrity and individuality of the villages of Broadoak, Symondsbury, Watton and Eype in Symondsbury Parish. None are part of Bridport and town-based solutions are inappropriate.
11. I would not disagree with the aspiration, however there is no apparent interest by the commercial housebuilders to improve the supply of affordable housing and despite the availability of public sector land there appears no capacity to develop affordable social housing (i.e. Fisherman's Arms, north side of Flood Lane). It does seem possible, at present to retain public facilities however a reduced carbon footprint is increasingly difficult to achieve with the reduced bus services (X51, X53). The WB1 service is welcomed but it's impact on carbon reduction is probably negligible. The rural setting is at risk with the Vearse Farm/Foundry Lea development. The individual character of our town and parishes is eroded by the abolition of the parish council structure.
12. What is an "improved supply of homes"?
13. Descriptions so wide ranging that they give carte blanche to council to justify any decisions or none in relation to development, transport etc
14. The plan for St Michael's Estate, if it goes ahead in it's present proposal form - will rip the unique creative character that makes Bridport the VERY special place it is. Imagination doesn't cost money. Lack of imagination will cost the town dearly. The houses at Vearse Farm are a product of everything that's wrong with housing development and planning. They look old before they're finished, where are the heat pumps and solar panels? Where is the medium density housing? Take a leaf out of the cohousing near Bridport Hospital.
15. The needs of young people should be emphasised re housing and employment.
16. Seems a good idea incorporating Symondsbury with Bridport more.
17. No more house building unless restricted to local purchase and affordable on rural wages. No second home purchases or non local purchases.
18. No reference to improving the infrastructure to support the improved supply of housing such as roads, health services, police or education provision. A serious shortcoming in the vision statement.
19. Current housing development seems to make very little effort to ensure that the provision of supporting facilities are available - e.g. doctor, sewage disposal, traffic impact, schools, employment opportunities and housing for local people that really is affordable. This must improve.
20. Any prospective developments must include adequate provision for affordable housing for local families, with sensitivity to the capacity for further housing in the parish.
21. The roads and infrastructure need upgrading before any building takes place. There are single track roads and ancient power and sewerage, drainage and water supplies that are already overwhelmed. In addition there are traffic movements to consider, with no alternative East-West route than the main arterial road through Bridport's town centre. The by-pass is frequently choked with traffic during summer months, particularly at weekends when tourist traffic and holiday makers changeover. There is real potential for overwhelming existing roads and making life a misery for anyone trying to get to and from work, or their children to and from school if roads are

not upgraded.

Public transport is not the answer, throwing a few more buses onto the roads makes little difference as people's lives, residential areas and work patterns vary; particularly for self-employed tradespeople that move around the area in variable commuting patterns.

If developers want to make fortunes by putting housing on green spaces they need to accommodate the extra residents new cars, school places, dentists, doctors and other public services that will be directly affected by the numbers of new houses and residents that are being touted. This is a balance-tipping time in terms of new homes, with the enormous Vearse Farm development going ahead and now these huge additions planned, the reality of these building schemes is not of relief to local housing need, but an influx of yet more people coming in to the town and surrounding villages; because rental is so high and wages so low locally that few people in housing need will be able to afford the new housing. There is a huge need for co-housing and sensitive development for local people, not holiday homes, expensive new properties and huge influxes of people without consideration for the strain on local services these changes will make.

22. Don't over develop please
23. The vision seems fine but I have noticed new houses built, which do not blend in with the surrounding countryside or architecture. I believe that new houses should blend in with existing houses and not made like boxes.
24. Suggest to delete "for local people". Sounds very parochial.
25. This must be achieved with firm and realistic housing plans for younger residents of limited financial means (and our supporting work force) in mind. There must be greater effort for a reduction of homes used only for investment and holidays.
Business also needs encouraging with affordable rents, especially for new enterprises.
26. I would like the neighbourhood vision to focus on housing for young people. I would also like to see support for local people who are setting up new businesses, particularly those wanting to use high street shops. I know of one business run by a local young person who employs other local young people. They wanted to take the next step and needed bigger premises, but were outbid for a larger shop by a national charity, which still hasn't moved into the shop. In my opinion, that was a huge missed opportunity. I would like to support the neighbourhood vision of reducing our carbon footprint.
27. It is very important to keep it as a distinct area rather than allow unrestricted urban sprawl to lead to its inevitable demise.
28. These aims should be universal
29. Well, it's hard to disagree with this statement or strongly agree - it's not really saying anything is it?

Q2 The 18 Objectives for the Bridport Area Neighbourhood Plan have NOT been revised in 2025 - do you support the existing objectives? The Objectives promote sustainable, inclusive development that reduce carbon emissions, protect Bridport's unique environment and heritage, support a balanced community and local economy, and enhance accessibility, facilities, and quality of life for all. (they are found on page 27 of the revised version of the Bridport Area Neighbourhood Plan Review document).

Answer Choices	Responses	
Strongly agree		45.05% 50
Agree		41.44% 46
Neither agree or disagree		8.11% 9
Disagree		3.60% 4
Strongly disagree		1.80% 2

Comments

1. Put a stronger accent on social housing
2. Consider installing solar panels on council owned buildings.
3. The opening of the abattoir in Bradpole will increase carbon emissions in Bradpole enormously as the vehicles going to and from the abattoir will be diesel not electric. The decision to open the abattoir will reduce the quality of life to minus zero. The council cannot back up the above statement therefor it is lying.
4. The carbon factor is totally useless and should be abandoned as a waste of resources and energy.
5. Many of the (laudable) objectives are unfortunately held back by the paucity of available public transport, which realistically means buses in this area. Better transport would improve access to employment and training opportunities and to higher-tier services, as well as reducing the area's carbon footprint. Action complementary to the Neighbourhood Plan is needed to address this challenge.
6. THESE HOUSES WILL BE MOSTLY SECOND HOMES (referring to Foundry Lea)
7. Low-carbon sustainability is key
8. Objective 15 is increasingly at risk, there is a diminished bus service to integrate with the petrol/diesel taxis. Inclusion of the car parking area adjacent to the (closed) police station overlooks the number of police vehicles which park in the area.
9. As previous comments
10. No all good.
11. Carbon is needed for plant growth.
12. See the previous response
13. I note objectives 17 and 18 which recognise the current lack of sufficient public transport and cycling facilities in the area. Thus objectives 13 and 14 to promote walking, cycling and public transport are important but should not be done in a way which frustrates other (eg motor vehicle) transport until there is a credible amount of infrastructure and additional public transport for the less polluting modes.
14. I see new Plans for more Green belt Land next to meadowlands owned by Palmers and am told this is a done deal is there really a need for 85 new Houses around a flood plain with a new estate already being built ! This will certainly not keep Bridport unique environment.
15. This is a good vision.
16. Suggest to delete "unique". There is nothing unique about Bridport.

17. I do agree with this but I am very unsure that despite the stated 'intentions' this is meant entirely seriously. 'We'll do it later' always seems to be the ultimate message.

Q3 It is proposed to amend the text of the BANP Policy CC1 (in Climate Change chapter)- do you support the proposal? The text, concerning publicising carbon footprint, now reads: "Applicants should seek to minimise the whole-life carbon footprint of development proposals and are encouraged to submit a statement setting out the anticipated carbon emissions of the proposed development". (the change is highlighted in red. Page 31 of the BANP review document)

Answer Choices	Responses		
Strongly agree		49.55%	55
Agree		31.53%	35
Neither agree or disagree		12.61%	14
Disagree		1.80%	2
Strongly disagree		4.50%	5

Comments

1. A subtle but important change that recognises that whole life is a more relevant ambition.
2. Weasel words from the council, instead of actively reducing carbon levels they will accept higher levels of carbon emissions as long as the business lets the council know of the increase.
3. Totally ineffective.
4. Small builders and developers will not be able to calculate carbon emissions. Again this gives an advantage to large developers that can afford eco consultants. Small developers cannot always minimise carbon footprint and cannot afford additional expense.
5. Whilst this is an admirable local aspiration it will be dictated by the national government policy and is likely to have minimal beneficial outcome.
6. It is impossible to anticipate what will happen to a property in 10/20 years time. (i.e. my house had no central heating when I bought it and I put 11 radiators in.) – that could not have been anticipated when it was built 150 years ago. You cannot limit changes during the lifetime of a property or a development.
7. Green washing. Almost impossible for to prove whole life carbon footprint, especially for non professional developers
8. Think too much emphasis on this.
9. Carbon is needed for plant growth. Climate change is a normal sequence.
10. Meaningless change – just inserting the obvious
11. There appears to be some conflict between Climate Change policies CC2 & CC3 when set against Design policies, in particular D1 & D8 relating to Harmony and characteristics. Recent town centre planning decisions have reflected this conflict where the latter carried more weight than the former.

Q4 It is proposed to amend the text of the BANP Policy AM6 (Access and Movement chapter)- do you support the proposal? Text, concerning Bridport bus station. now reads: "b) Make the most efficient use of land and be developed to seek optimum use resulting from a design led approach to determine the capacity of the site with regard to the provision of social rent housing". (the change is highlighted in red. Page 38 of the BANP review document)

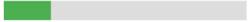
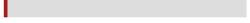
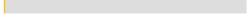
Answer Choices	Responses		
Strongly agree		42.34%	47
Agree		34.23%	38
Neither agree or disagree		14.41%	16
Disagree		4.50%	5
Strongly disagree		4.50%	5

Comments

1. Social rent housing desperately needed in an area of highly unaffordable or unavailable rents and house prices
2. And mixed use?
3. The bus station needs to be kept, maintained and improved as do the toilets
4. Redevelop the site to encourage its use by bus companies. Redevelop it with the intention of maximising capacity for buses and people wanting to use public transport as well as access for coaches and taxis.
5. Where will the bus station be relocated too? Will this result in a reduction in public transport for the community?
6. Existing roadside Bridport should be looked at to try and resolve traffic issues such as parking, more 20mph areas and one way traffic flow e.g Victoria Grove and north street, Pine view and queens road. Miles cross road and duck street. Plus others Parking is difficult in places as some drivers just park cars anywhere
7. I agree with the sentiment, not the way it is expressed.
"optimum use resulting from a design led approach" is planning waffle. In fact overall it doesn't make sense and needs rewriting.
8. as long as bus station retained
9. I can't see how there would be room for any housing at the bus station. If there is any unused space here, it would be more useful to increase parking spaces. Surely Foundry Lea should be able to provide sufficient social housing for the town? I can't see why any additional housing is required; particularly in the town centre.
10. I agree with the proposal, as long as this retains and modernises the bus station facility itself, which I understand to be the case. There is real scope to develop around a regenerated transport hub, so it provides a much more attractive arrival point in the town, as well as delivering some social rent housing.
11. Site should not be built on for housing - Bridport needs some land where a transport hub or something similar can be used in the long term future.
12. Affordable and social housing for rent is crucial if Bridport does not want to become a trendy London satellite. Housing for working, local people is essential.
13. Shouldn't it stated social rented housing?

14. The challenge will be to convert any approved design which meets the policy aim into a deliverable project without the commercial developer claiming that they cannot meet the agreed conditions of any planning consent, as now witnessed at the Vearse Farm/Foundry Lea site. Any development at the Bus Station site should be linked to the St Michaels Estate development.
15. Will there be a new bus station?
16. this is not a suitable place for social rented housing.
17. I believe that any redevelopment of the bus station and site should not include housing. If it is to become an enhanced travel hub then the improvements should be focused on that. This would bring together increased visitors and reduction of carbon footprint for the town. So make the experience of the bus station a more comfortable and compelling to use.
18. Keep bus station
Drop obsession with social rent housing. Concentrate on affordable home ownership.
19. I agree. But fear that the current system of planning and property development companies, who do not employ real creativity and imagination, let alone good architects is built to make sure none of the above can be fully achieved!
20. I would like this social housing to be designed for local families and young adults.
21. No seems reasonable
22. The statement needs to explain how and where the occupants of the new housing developments, especially those in social housing will be gainfully employed.
23. This shouldn't be to the total loss of public transport facilities in the town
24. Since new affordable social housing is certainly needed for local families, a brown field site such as this seems an intelligent choice. I would hope the number of houses would not be excessive. But see this as a good site.
25. Bunging a few houses on that site is not a good idea, it floods.
The bus station and car park could do with upgrading and facilities for travellers improved.
26. I have no idea what this means so cannot comment.
27. Makes no sense the term "social rent housing"
28. This sounds like the end of the bus station, and possibly an end to useful public transport at the times needed in our area. It's a long way to the next bus station. Where else would it go if not it,s present site. Rubbish plan.
29. I don't know anything about this proposal.
It's one week before Christmas! Guest are arriving, shopping needs to be done. To be honest this seems an odd time to expect engagement with a neighbourhood vision!
30. Bridport is seriously indeed of Car parking space. The situation is been made worse recently with a number maybe around 20 spaces taken up for Electric car charging. Cars in summer and Wednesday and Saturdays throughout the year around mid morning circulate for a space before leaving. This situation is only going to get worse with the Foundry Mead development producing hundreds of more cars. This is an urgent requirement.
31. No
32. The land is certainly not being well used at the moment. Perhaps this would be the place for the co-working hubs and live/work spaces?

Q5 It is proposed to amend the text of the BANP Policy EE2 (Economy and Employment chapter)- do you support the proposal? The text, concerning provision for New and Small Businesses, now reads: "Support will be given for developments on sites that provide for:b) Co-working hubs and live -work spaces". (the change is highlighted in red. Page 45 of the BANP review document)

Answer Choices	Responses		
Strongly agree		38.74%	43
Agree		38.74%	43
Neither agree or disagree		19.82%	22
Disagree		1.80%	2
Strongly disagree		0.90%	1

Comments

1. The town is in need of more commercial infrastructure, give approval for sites that will then provide employment
2. ideal for start ups
3. Only have to look at the old library, total failure.
4. Is co-working hub the same as the shared spaces in the LSI which are essentially hot desks?
5. This sounds like a great idea for supporting high-quality, life-enriching local jobs
6. This reactive approach is dependent upon new and small businesses being proposed. This is likely to be linked to national government initiatives rather than local policies.
7. I have a co working studio in Bridport (my second). These spaces need to be thoughtfully planned and executed, with many factors coming together to make them popular and a successful workspace.
8. Work place near where people live good idea.
9. I do think this is an intelligent, future-minded point to include, as the nature of work is changing radically... in this direction.
10. Good, if very vague
11. My son and husband both work remotely. A co-working hub and live working space aren't something they would use.
12. No

Q6 It is proposed to amend the text of the BANP Policy H2 (Housing chapter) - do you support the proposal? The text, concerning placement of affordable housing, now reads: "Affordable housing and open market housing will be fully integrated and evenly distributed across sites in such a way that once completed any quality and location differences are indiscernible. An exception can be made in cases where the affordable portion of a development is to be completed ahead of the open-market portion". (the change is highlighted in red. Page 50 of the BANP review document)

Answer Choices	Responses		
Strongly agree		34.23%	38
Agree		41.44%	46
Neither agree or disagree		16.22%	18
Disagree		5.41%	6
Strongly disagree		2.70%	3

Comments

1. Why just affordable? With no mention of social housing for rent.
2. How will this stand up when a Greenfield site is proposed? The wording should be future proofed with regard to policy changes
3. Housing for over 55's should be capped at the current level and a focus should be on genuinely affordable housing for young residents and houses for families.
4. Spread housing developments between neighbourhoods to minimise the affect on traffic
5. We should require developers to complete social housing phases before open market building
6. The disastrous consequences of making social housing look 'second class' have been prominently addressed by the Guardian newspaper in recent months.
7. "AFFORDABLE HOUSING " IS A LOOPHOLE MISUSED BY DEVELOPERS.
8. Surely then all developers will just complete the affordable portion first.
9. In practice, it seems unlikely that any developer would build the affordable portion prior to the open market housing. However, I am not in principle against the policy.
10. Will any affordable housing be permitted to be built out of area in exceptional circumstances?
11. We need affordable housing and it is essential not to ghettoise it
12. It is not possible to disagree with this proposal, however what incentive will be offered to a commercial developer to achieve this?
13. Any developments should have a legally binding contract such that the infrastructure is in place before building commences.
14. Only worthwhile if there is the power to implement it - look at the roundabout situation in the current new development. Despite the obligation to build that prior to the commencement of building any houses it was ignored by the developers
15. With this clause the develop would probably not evenly place housing around the site as that would require the infrastructure to be built in order to achieve this. Therefore, housing would be grouped to make use of the revised clause.
16. We should be using existing empty properties rather than depending on new build. Also it is important to keep these houses from ownership and exploitation by incomers and avoid any more Airbnb
17. Worried about developing companies offsetting social housing out of town or further afield. Social housing does not need to be red brick boxes! The award winning social housing architectural practice Neave Brown could do an incredible job.
18. Mixing social housing within a development rarely works well. How would the council ensure that the social housing tenants take care of property and do have anti social behaviour?
19. We should be seeking all affordable housing built by the local authority or community land trusts

20. Should blend in.
21. Market housing is not needed. Too many people in the area for services to manage. No infrastructure for a larger population.
22. Developer should complete all social housing before sold properties are put on the market
23. Excellent! Thank you!
24. Am not clear on numbers here. Also what constitutes 'affordable'?
25. Co housing schemes are the way forward.
26. Although I appreciate that developers often break promises and so encouraging them to build affordable houses first is positive, there should be additional wording to indicate that the affordable housing needs to be of good quality.
27. I would have also suggested that provision is made for "Park Homes" they have an extremely low build cost in comparison to any other build. They are affordable housing for all young and very old to buy and own. They create immediate communities of people, they are not for second homes or rentals. Their Eco footprint is lower than any foundation built property. Think of them as homes for all ages and families.
28. Social housing is the number one priority for the town and been socially indiscernible is a huge plus for a step in the right direction.
29. Completion ahead of open-market portion unlikely to happen, the preference must be for full integration
30. I agree that priority should be given to social and affordable housing but this possibly opens the door to creating 'ghettos' on the periphery of private developments?

Q7 It is proposed to amend the text of the BANP Policy H4 (Housing chapter)- do you support the proposal? The text, concerning Housing Mix and Balance Community, now reads: "To ensure a balanced community, major housing applications will contain a mix of housing types and sizes to meet a range of needs. The preferred mix will be guided by the latest Bridport Area Housing Needs Assessment and its Supplement, and any subsequent changes to trends in household composition identified by the local planning authority. To help shape a balanced future community, developments of smaller, lower-cost homes will be strongly preferred. Developments offering mainly 3-bedroom or greater properties will be opposed". (the change is highlighted in red. Page 52 of the BANP review document)

Answer Choices	Responses		
Strongly agree		52.25%	58
Agree		27.03%	30
Neither agree or disagree		11.71%	13
Disagree		5.41%	6
Strongly disagree		3.60%	4

Comments

1. Larger housing is generally only affordable by people moving to the area and the trend is for affluent retirees
2. There is a chronic shortage of housing for families in the area.

3. Larger homes (3 or more bedrooms) should be equally considered to attract a range of people to the town as well as making the most of greenfield sites. Some larger developments should also be considered to provide a basis for economic development
4. Yes – what is crucially needed are affordable eco homes.
5. Three bedrooms seems to me to be a minimum requirement for any family with two children. Any smaller and growing families will need to move more than once at a significant cost. I would agree that proposed developments of predominantly four bedrooms or more should be opposed.
6. Families need mostly 3 bedroom houses so I would like to see developments offering 4 and 5 bedroomed properties opposed. But I do agree the lower cost homes will be preferred.
7. but include some 3 bed
8. We need 1, 2 and 3 bedroom affordable homes not luxury 4/5 bedroom properties which are unattainable for most local families
9. I am not opposed to the development of some 3 (or even 4) bedroom properties to meet future needs, but agree that the balance to address the backlog of local housing need should currently favour smaller properties.
10. Not sure what evidence proves there is a demand for studio or one bed accommodation. Most young people renting are in a house or flat share and might work from home.
11. We need housing that will be affordable for young people
12. It is not possible to disagree with this proposal, however what incentive will be offered to a commercial developer to achieve this?
13. The developers need to have some larger homes to sell to support the provision of low-cost housing. No developers will come forward if this alteration is included.
14. There should be caution with this revised clause. If too many rejections for this type of development were made then there is the potential to restrict families moving to area for jobs. It should be recognised that families with 2 children also require that 4th bedroom for visiting grandparents. If the proportion of properties with only two bedrooms becomes skewed is there more chances of only retired people moving here or that they become Airbnb properties?
15. Social engineering. Instead make second homes illegal and deter holiday parks and holiday homes. Promote high quality hotels/guest houses which support more jobs than squeezed in (and unsightly caravan parks) and holiday homes that do little for employment except for cleaners. Ban AirBnB type use of homes.
16. Smaller yes – medium density also yes!!
17. This does not seem to support housing for young families. Surely the minimum should be 3 bedrooms.
18. Again we need housing that enables younger adults and families to remain in our community. Families need bedrooms to accommodate their children and young people could be supported in house shares / HMO student style arrangements. We don't need large houses that are not fully occupied.
19. Housing needs to attract lower income people.
20. Provided they are only occupied by already local residents.
21. The occupants of any new housing developments will need employment opportunities so that they can contribute financially to the area rather than having any potential negative impact on Dorset's social services budget.
22. Excellent!
23. Housing range is important, but infrastructure around the developments need to be taken into consideration much more prominently next to these proposals. How are the vehicle movements through the town affected, where are the jobs for these new

residents, how can we be sure these plans are fulfilling local needs? Also where are the additional doctors, dentists and school places required to accommodate people both now and in the future. There are already gaps in public services.

24. I would have also suggested that provision is made for “Park Homes” they have an extremely low build cost in comparison to any other build. They are affordable housing for all young and very old to buy and own. They create immediate communities of people, they are not for second homes or rentals. Their Eco footprint is lower than any foundation built property. Think of them as homes for all ages and families.
25. Crazy idea. Higher income purchasers are the ones who drive the local economy and create opportunities for lower income earners which allow them to purchase properties.
26. What must stop is developers promising A, B and C and once given the green light forgetting C and diluting B. This appears to be becoming almost acceptable, standard practice. Foundry Mead a prime example.
27. Whilst the FINAL 2025 Housing Needs Assessment, produced by Locality’s appointed consultants AECOM, states that it has been prepared in accord with the 2024 NPPF it is not clear whether the locally-interpreted “Supplement” also accords, the only reference to NPPF being within the glossary. This document appears to seek to set aside some of the conclusions reached by the appointed independent consultants creating a tension between the two.
Has this been discussed with AECOM and Dorset Council?
Is the content and function appropriate?
Since “and its Supplement” is referred to in some policy text it could result in inconsistency and confusion.
The examiner may wish to determine this issue.
28. The evidence from AECOM suggests that the current dwelling type mix in the NA is fairly well balanced and that most new units should have either three or four bedrooms. Has Dorset Council provided a revised housing requirement for BANP?
29. Yes, yes, yes.

Q8 It is proposed to amend the text of the BANP Policy H5 (Housing chapter)- do you support the proposal? The text, concerning Sheltered or Retirement Homes or Extra Care Home Developments now reads: "A new or extended Sheltered, Retirement or Extra Care home development will: 1. Location a) Be located within a defined development boundary and be of an appropriate scale in relation to its setting. b) Be located so as to afford reasonably level and easy access to shopping and social facilities whether on foot or by use of mobility scooter or similar, except for Extra Care homes where this restriction does not apply. 2. Need- Be subject to a proven local need for the development in the neighbourhood plan area or its closely surrounding parishes. 3. Priority- Be given less priority than Affordable Housing except where the sheltered or retirement homes may be, in themselves, affordable". (the change is highlighted in red. Page 53 of the BANP review document)

Answer Choices	Responses		
Strongly agree		48.60%	52
Agree		32.71%	35
Neither agree or disagree		12.15%	13
Disagree		0.93%	1
Strongly disagree		5.61%	6

Comments

1. There will still be elderly people wanting to downsize to an affordable sheltered or retirement home but we have sufficient pricey options already
2. Emphasis should be on genuine local need for existing residents not schemes to attract new retirees.
3. Housing developments should be given priority over care homes
4. Tho of retirement age (tho still working) what we DON'T need are more retirement homes. Need to have affordable homes for the key workers.
5. The "affordable housing" tag is a planning loophole and a fictitious offering
6. Elderly care needs priority
7. We don't need any more retirement properties!
8. The policy balance should be tilted to ensure that retirement developments do not cluster in the area, at the expense of other residential development which would better meet local housing needs and to help retain a more balanced and sustainable community.
9. The allocation of sites for retirement facilities should have their affordable (social care) element integrated so that everyone benefits from amenities regardless of affluence.
10. We don't just want retirement homes for the rich, but for everyone
11. However, without provision for any staff (maintenance or nursing) to live close by in affordable housing any such development is likely to have an adverse impact on the BANP area travel plans. Is it possible to include a requirement for X amount of staff accommodation to be incorporated within every Y amount of residential provision?
12. There should be clarification of Affordable to rent or Affordable to buy.
13. And ensure the provision of adequate medical facilities for the new population
14. It should be remembered that age demographics are constantly evolving. Perhaps a more pragmatic decision process is required based on the demographic situation as it changes year to year.
15. Extra care housing should also be easily accessible to the town
16. Retired people need easy access to services.
17. I like the linking to local need & the prioritisation of affordability to the local population. Thank you.
18. Agree entirely except for point 3. Retirement developments should NEVER be prioritised over affordable housing for locals and young people. Bridport has more than enough retirement flats already, and our health services already cannot meet demand.
19. I would have also suggested that provision is made for "Park Homes" they have an extremely low build cost in comparison to any other build. They are affordable housing for all young and very old to buy and own. They create immediate communities of people, they are not for second homes or rentals. Their Eco footprint is lower than any foundation built property. Think of them as homes for all ages and families.
20. Suggest to delete 3. Any discrimination against older people is totally unacceptable.
21. I'd like a well designed Dementia home in Bridport.

22. Not sure whether there is a need to replace “Demonstrate a proven need” with “Be subject to a proven need” the latter appears to be rather prescriptive.
The text “Be given less priority than Affordable Housing...” may not accord with the NPPF or the emerging Dorset Local Plan in terms of providing housing to meet “the needs of those who wish to live and work in Dorset”.

Q9 It is proposed to include additional community facilities to the BANP Policy CF1 (Community Facilities chapter) - do you support this? The list of Community Facilities now includes: "Assembly Rooms, British Legion Hall, Masonic Hall" These Community Facilities were added as a result of community consultation. (the change is highlighted in red. Page 58 of the BANP review document)

Answer Choices	Responses		
Strongly agree		39.81%	43
Agree		37.04%	40
Neither agree or disagree		20.37%	22
Disagree		1.85%	2
Strongly disagree		0.93%	1

Comments

1. I suggest adding the Lyric theatre as a potential community space for artists and co-working. Access to youth programmes should be prioritised.
2. Valuable local venues.
3. I agree that the additional facilities should be included, there are also many other Community Facilities available both commercially and socially/charitably managed.
4. Youth Clubs!!!!
5. Location of Community facilities important as it integrates populations.
6. This is window dressing.

Q10 It is proposed to amend the text of the BANP Policy L1 (Landscape chapter)- do you support the proposal? The text, concerning Green Corridors, Footpaths, Surrounding Hills and Skylines now reads: "1. Proposals must preserve and enhance the natural beauty of the Dorset National Landscape: 2. Proposals that do not preserve and enhance the Dorset National Landscape will be refused". (the change is highlighted in red to note the name change from Dorset Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Page 69 of the BANP review document)

Answer Choices	Responses		
Strongly agree		69.09%	76
Agree		20.00%	22
Neither agree or disagree		9.09%	10
Disagree		0.91%	1
Strongly disagree		0.91%	1

Comments

1. It is imperative we protect our UNESCO natural beauty sites. It would also be prudent to explore the use of green space for sustainable local community food production in a cyclical way that benefits the local wildlife.
2. There should be standards for the environmental friendliness of developments as well as architectural standards.
3. Do hope so. The area is already being eroded by current building & sadly people who come in & grubbing out hedges for fencing & turning front gardens into undraining paving.
4. I agree wholeheartedly with the principal, but not sure how effective this would be given the capitulation of major planning authorities and government to developments locally such as Vearse Farm, over 700 houses on a AONB area.
5. It is vital that the revised Plan adopts the current (changed) nomenclature.
6. Change of AONB to DNL. No comments.
7. Preservation is a must, however what does Enhancement look like for all the areas likely to be included by this Policy?
8. Whilst I am happy with the addition of the Dorset National Landscape I am concerned about reference to skylines. We should support wind energy on our hills and seek to build upwards in parts of our town rather than outwards across the countryside.
9. Bridport area has natural beauty in its surroundings important to preserve this for all.
10. Also the council should not be allowed to sell off land (such as along the edge of the old railway line) without full public consultation.
11. Recent developments have not taken this into consideration. The buildings creeping up Allington hill from the West Mead site have created an ugly approach from the West. The environment is very fragile and changes are never made with enough consideration, despite the associated assurances.
Vearse farm is a good example. There will be as many houses as possible crammed onto that site, whether they are affordable, unaffordable public or private, once the developers squeeze them in, the environment is changed forever.
12. As long as this criteria is not used by NIMBY's.
13. Strongly agree but repeating myself. Developers promise the earth initially and once planning is approved back track.
14. It is correct to update the text to reflect the name change. Current housing requirements may create a situation where these policies could be challenged.

Q11 It is proposed to amend the text of the BANP Policy L2 (Landscape chapter)- do you support the proposal? The text, concerning Biodiversity now reads: "1. Development proposals that meet the mandatory biodiversity net gain (BNG) requirements*, will need to use the BNG metric tool to demonstrate how they will deliver habitat improvement to benefit biodiversity. Where feasible developers are encouraged to seek biodiversity gains over and above the 10% mandated by government. 2. Wildlife corridors and important habitats have been identified on Maps 7, 8 and 9 and proposals that would result in their loss or harm to their character, setting, accessibility, appearance, quality, or amenity value should be avoided. 3. New developments will be encouraged to consider creating new or enhancing existing habitats, such as incorporating 'swift bricks' and bat boxes in developments over 5 metres or providing safe routes for hedgehogs between different areas of habitat, providing green roofs, green walls, street trees or sustainable drainage systems. ". (the change is highlighted in red. Page 71 of the BANP review document)

Answer Choices	Responses	
Strongly agree		60.00% 66
Agree		28.18% 31
Neither agree or disagree		8.18% 9
Disagree		1.82% 2
Strongly disagree		1.82% 2

Comments

1. Wording seems strange, "developments over 5m", what does this refer to, height?
2. New developments should also include green space for residents, play areas for children and allotment space for residents to grow their own food. All new developments should protect the local water courses from pollutants, include SUDS, reduce hard surfaces and not create further flood risks.
3. Para 3, delete "encouraged to consider" replace with "required to".
4. Item 2 'should be avoided' should be 'must be avoided'.
5. Swifts very important.
6. 3 is poorly written, I think the word "or" after "5 metres" ought to be "and". And 5 metres ought to state "overall height" to make it unambiguous.
7. Agreed. There is debate about swift boxes and whether they are suitable at all locations, since swifts tend to look for new nesting sites close to other existing sites. However, in principle 'yes' and other types of nest box may be suitable too.
8. The provision of swift bricks and bar boxes should be mandatory not merely encouraged.
9. "Where feasible", "developers are encouraged" are terms which commercial developers will ignore and which will be unenforceable. Similarly "consider creating" is likely to be ignored. Is the 5m reference to height? What constitutes a safe route for hedgehogs?
10. BNG gains often hard to achieve on site. Council must promote off-site credits by making land available.
11. Important to keep and preserve wildlife.
12. Whilst this should apply to new developments of properties, it should not apply to minor works to existing properties.

13. Every development should include street trees which are proven barriers to mitigate flooding and will help lower urban temperature. As our climate changes and heats we should aspire to plant urban cool areas, trees, and small hedges. Ban concrete, encourage green spaces around streets and between houses.
14. While I understand that including meeting these requirements may make development slower, they are crucial to its long-term environmental sustainability & hence very important. Thank you.
15. Yes, we share this planet and this neighbourhood with wildlife. If we alter eco-systems and the habitats of wildlife we need to survey, protect and preserve existing environment that supports plant and animal life.
16. Largely agree. But developers shouldn't just be "encouraged" to do this - they won't. It needs to be part of planning permission, and enforced.
17. I really like the re-wilding of Askers meadow.
18. Appears to be in accord with NPPF Sec 15 Conserving and enhancing the natural environment and recent ministerial statements on Biodiversity Net Gain.

Q12 It is proposed to amend the text of the BANP Policy L3 (Landscape chapter) - do you support the proposal? The text, concerning Local Green Spaces now reads: "Riverside Corridor, new 2025". Area N in list has been amended so that Peter Foote Play Area replaced with a new, larger area called Riverside Corridor. (the change is highlighted in red. Page 73 of the BANP review document)

Answer Choices	Responses	
Strongly agree		38.89% 42
Agree		37.04% 40
Neither agree or disagree		23.15% 25
Disagree		0.93% 1
Strongly disagree		0.00% 0

Comments

1. Important for children.
2. Wonderful inclusion.
3. BANP Objective 8 is to protect existing community facilities. The removal of a Green Space designation is not particularly welcome unless it has been as a result of local community consultation. The additional designation of "Riverside Corridor" is in accord with BANP Objective 9.

Q13 It is proposed to amend the text of the BANP Policy D9 (Design for Living chapter)- do you support the proposal? The text, concerning Environmental Performance of buildings now reads: "g) Designing homes to meet Building Regulations Part M4(2) category 2: Accessible and Adaptable dwellings.". M4(2) is about buildings having 'reasonable provision to access and use the facilities', but it focuses more on people with differing needs, such as older or disabled residents. (the change is highlighted in red. Page 91 of the BANP review document)

Answer Choices	Responses	
Strongly agree		34.26% 37
Agree		42.59% 46
Neither agree or disagree		21.30% 23
Disagree		0.93% 1
Strongly disagree		0.93% 1

Comments

1. Should 'disabled residents' be amended to emphasise 'residents with restricted mobility or other disabilities'
2. Keeping pace with changing legislation. No comment.
3. Care of older people helps us all.
4. As referred to under 3. Climate Change there is a potential conflict between CC & Design policies.

Q14 Please use this space below to tell us about any concerns you have regarding the review of the Bridport Area Neighbourhood Plan, including details of any issues you feel are not being addressed by the revised Bridport Area Neighbourhood Plan.

- **Compliance with Dorset Local Plan**
It is understood that this is a review of the 2020~2036 Bridport Area Neighbourhood Plan which complied with the Local Plan existing at the time that it was “Made”. This review of the 2020 adopted Neighbourhood Plan incorporates a number of necessary amendments to reflect recent changes in the NP area. Neighbourhood plans should support the delivery of strategic policies contained in local plans. (Review document page 5)
- The 2015 West Dorset Local Plan is now some 10 years old, Dorset Council are engaged in an emerging Local Plan expected to be adopted in late 2027. Until a new Dorset Council Local Plan is adopted, the Local Plans for the former West Dorset District will continue to be used for decision making but are subject to challenge. The recent 2025 Local Plan Options Consultation states under 2.2 Strategic Priorities: “Housing, including accessible and affordable housing, will be provided across the plan area to meet the needs of those who wish to live and work in Dorset.” Which includes retiring incomers to Bridport whom it is noted, on page 5, contribute to local community groups. (Which includes the Town Council). The DC Consultation papers indicated the requirement for many more development sites (2251 dwellings) being required around the NP Area to meet the Govt Housing Requirement for a 5-year supply. Further work is being undertaken with SYMO4 (372 homes) having since been withdrawn. The 2024 Annual Position Statement (APS) giving a 5.2 yr supply expired on 31st October

2025. The DC 2025 Position Statement reduced the supply of deliverable sites equivalent to 2.53 years with potential significant effects on planning decisions.

- Page 7 of the introduction to the revised BANP refers to consideration having been given to the Dorset Council Local Plan Options Consultation (2021) and Site Options Consultation (Aug 2025) the latter being appendix A to the above Local Plan Options Consultation (Aug 2025), which itself referred to the requirement for “a step change in approach”.

There is little direct reference to the 2025 Local Options Consultation paper itself but much to its Appendix A Opportunity Sites For Housing incorrectly referred to as Site Options Consultation (Aug 2025) as above. Potentially confusing since there is an AECOM document entitled: Site Options Assessment report Aug 2025.

- The independent AECOM Final Housing Needs Assessment (HNA), whilst being in accord with the 2024 NPPF, pre-dated the recent Dorset Council Options Consultation and understandably was influenced by the Council’s 2024 Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA). However it is now out of step with the most recent proposals.

The AECOM 2025 Bridport Area HNA recommends at 8.1.3: BTP & SPC should monitor carefully strategies and documents with an impact on housing policy produced by the Government, Dorset Council or any other relevant party and review the BANP accordingly to ensure that general conformity is maintained.

- The separate AECOM Site Options Assessment Report was published in Aug 2025 contemporaneous with the publication of the Dorset Council Options Consultation. The former having been written prior to the latter’s publication.

AECOM recommends at 3.1: Consideration should also be given to the direction of travel of the emerging development plan so that policies are not superseded by a newly adopted Local Plan.

- These matters are not fully addressed in the revised BANP but will require action in the coming months and years.
- Governance Arrangements (p.101)

Much is made of the BANP being community driven. Whilst the Agendas and Minutes of the Joint Councils' Committee may be found on the Bridport TC website, those of the Steering Group meetings are not made public contrary to its agreed Terms Of Reference (Approved Oct 2020) as published on the Town Council website.

It is unclear from page 101 “What’s Next” when the revised BANP is likely to be “Made”. This is probably partly dependent upon the Examiner’s report and recommendations. Given this current BANP Review consultation expires at the end of December 2025, is the expectation that the revised BANP will be adopted by the summer of 2026 by which time the emerging Local Plan (adoption Q4 2027?) will have progressed and will carry more weight?

- Traffic impact within new development.
- In agreement with all of this plan but holding developers to their plans are crucial. I also must reinstate the urgent need which was never mentioned for car parking spaces.
- I’m sure there is a very good reason why this survey is happening now, but I feel that, just before Christmas, people may not have the time or headspace to contribute fully. I want to take part, but this is a very busy period for most people, so I wonder how many will have the capacity to really consider this revised neighbourhood vision.
- I would have also suggested that provision is made for “Park Homes” they have an extremely low build cost in comparison to any other build. They are affordable housing for all young and very old to buy and own. They create immediate communities of people, they are not for second homes or rentals. Their Eco footprint is lower than any foundation built property. Think of them as homes for all ages and families.

- I am concerned about any more large developments in our area. They are never affordable for local people and will just end up being homes for people who sell their properties in the cities. The town is growing too quickly and I am concerned that it will lose its character. There is already not enough parking for local people and encouraging more people is just going to make it worse.
- I'm generally concerned that the vibrancy of the town be enhanced, natural habitats be preserved and provided and that the landscapes be protected. Climate resilient towns matter. Food resilience matters. Social inclusion matters. Investments in social hubs and points of diverse connection matter.
- It is all too wonderful.
- Public services and road infrastructure are not being highlighted enough. Building the right kind of houses, in the right places, with adequate facilities including roads, sewerage, doctors, dentists, school places, car parking, shops and public green spaces need enhancing. Clumsy nonsensical development will compound the problems around homelessness for our local residents and those that wish to live in the local community. This is a tipping point and it needs consideration for the environment, both human and natural, to co-exist harmoniously.
- I appreciate the thought & consideration that has gone into the above alterations on behalf of our community. Thank you. Is there adequate support for facilities for young people? I'm not sure what they need. Can they be consulted, through schools perhaps? Thank you.
- Do not encourage non local persons to move to the area. We do not have the facilities for a larger population. E.g doctors, dentists, schools or transport links.
- All seems okay.
- I do not feel there is adequate reflection of the needs of younger adults. We should also mention housing for asylum seekers as we will have these duties and responsibilities as elsewhere in the country to provide this housing.
- Please include the encouragement and support of car free transport routes - such as the Loders Transport Group battling to build a route from Bradpole to Loders along the old railway line. So far they have been stopped at every turn by mainly retired comfortably off residents with time on their hands to look into every loophole and catch 22!
- I wonder if some of the redevelopment associated with the "arts quarter" will result in the loss of Bridport keeping the artist community of Bridport for which it is known for. I acknowledge that housing is required but at what cost?
- All new developments need to be built only when there is adequate infrastructure (medical facilities, schools, transportation etc) in place.
- I hope that any AONBs (as renamed) should NOT be allowed to be used for building land.
- The loss of banking and post office facilities within the BANP could have been referenced together with its impact on travel plans. At a time when mental health and well being has become more prominent during the review period, the importance of support groups, together with the role of churches, could have been identified as an item requiring/deserving support.
- It would be helpful to see more provision of electric car chargers, air source heat pumps and solar on roofs of unlisted buildings, battery storage and use of permeable surfaces for parking instead of hard standing.
- Would like to see better public transport - buses and possible return of train service to West Bay.
- My main concern with all current or future housing plans for Bridport is that they are sufficiently supported by enhanced facilities including, shops, parking, doctors,

dentists, MIU and other health care facilities, schools, nursing/care homes, and ensuring access to and around the town centre is managed efficiently. There are already congestion issues in town which will only get worse once Foundry Lea is inhabited.

- Good in theory but so far proved toothless.
- The general layout and presentation is brilliant! Top marks! However: ps, col 2 top, redundant comma in line 1; p.39, text in blue shaded area of map is illegible; p.45 no key to coloured shaded areas on map; acronym BANP should be replaced by 'neighbourhood plan' not needed; p 51 'policy H3' should not be split by a column break; p80 surely 'within' and not 'below' the definition of small. 9/10 smiley face!
- Lighting issues to be addressed especially Vearse Farm and unsold properties, concerned about retirement complexes, loss of car parking and green spaces and consequently tourism impact.
- Light pollution, more flood relief.
- As well as affordable housing, employment opportunities are key to keeping younger people in the Bridport area so why haven't sites for expanding the employment base been designated - for example adjacent to the Gore Cross site? In addition, the plan should encompass a policy of making the area attractive to business with specified support from the Council. Regarding housing, the anti-coalescence areas identified are crucial to prevent urban sprawl and they should be given greater priority in the criteria used to assess any developments.
- Have residents been asked to put forward any other issues that they deem relevant to living Bridport?
- Where new areas of land are being considered for development of new housing that are close to existing housing, for example Peter Foote play area, could we please have architecture that is modern and exciting. Avoiding stealing light from existing housing should also be a pre-requisite.
- Thank you for letting us have a say. Just hope that the rural nature can be saved & treasured & that the gov takes back its overload of housing that 'has' to be built here. Also that future builds are eco & affordable not like at Foundry Lea.
- To develop Bridport as a town. A more diverse range of businesses and industries should be attracted to the town, which currently relies heavily on hospitality which is subject to seasonal demand. A better range of businesses as well as employment will help the economic security of Bridport and its job market as well as benefit the local hospitality industry by encouraging locals and tourists to use the high street. Spending more in the hospitality industry here as well as having more opportunity to spend money in Bridport.
- There is nothing in the plan about social housing. "Affordable" housing is only affordable if the rent is within the LHA; can the council confirm that they will be using this definition of "affordable" rather than the government one of 80% of market value? Can the council also confirm that genuinely affordable housing will be prioritised in all future housing developments? There are already plenty of unaffordable houses to buy and rent here; what does the council intend to do about the large number of local households in emergency and temporary housing, in unsuitable, insecure and unaffordable rented properties, and on the DCC waiting list?
- A major area that needs addressing is access to NHS dentists and pharmacists. Any new developments need to include plans for facilities for existing residents as well as new populations. Local transport links need to be a major consideration. The new local commons bus between West Bay and Bridport is a wonderful grassroots initiative but better affordable public transport is essential. Reinstate the railway!