



## Parish Priority Statement

### Background – what you need to know

In June 2022, the South Downs National Park encouraged those Parish Councils without a Neighbourhood Development Plan, which includes Slindon, to help with their own Local Plan Review rather than create one.

As part of that work the Parish Council has

- Completed a Settlement Facilities Study with the number and type of facilities and services provided in Slindon.
- Nominated the pond as a Local Green Space.
- Provided details and maps of publicly accessible green spaces in the parish.
- Allowed a local landowner to speak at a Parish Council meeting of their ‘Call for Sites’ submission to the SDNPA, proposing sites within Slindon and neighbouring Madehurst for development (early engagement).

### What’s Happening Now

Another way in which parish councils and the community they serve can contribute to this Local Plan review is through a ‘Parish Priority Statement’.

A Parish Priority Statement is the South Downs National Park’s version of the Neighbourhood Priority Statement introduced in the Levelling Up Regeneration Bill in May 2022.

This is an invitation to take part, an opportunity, it’s not mandatory and at this stage we are looking to collect the views of as many people as possible who live, work or visit our parish before the next steps are agreed.

It means that the Local Plan can be informed by the views of the local community, they won’t become part of the Development Plan but they will provide an evidence base to help with formulating planning policy.

The Parish Priority Statement is an alternative to a Neighbourhood Plan which is expensive and time-consuming to produce and the previous level of support through the SDNPA is no longer available.

The most important part is where YOU come in

This is about a vision for the future, a longer term plan for Slindon covering the next fifteen years...so we are looking

Overall - to identify three key changes you would most like to see.

Obtain feedback on 7 specific areas, although not all need to be covered.

1. Development and management of land – what could be developed, what needs to be protected.
2. Housing – the size and type of homes in any development, affordable housing, low-cost rents.
3. Design – importance of local character, which can be cross referenced to Slindon's existing 'Conservation Area Character Appraisal and Management Plan'.
4. The natural environment – opportunities to enhance.
5. Public spaces – views on these, sites for nature recovery and public realm.
6. Infrastructure - roads, parking, broadband, waste and water, community buildings.
7. Jobs.

***If you would like to be involved as part of a working party please tell us.***

So how will it work?

Our commitment - we want to reach as many people as possible and make it as easy as possible for everyone to participate. We need responses from all ages please too.

We will post details to the Parish Council website.

We will hand-deliver a copy of the survey to every house in the parish.

We will share via the Parish Magazine, SlindonLife and on our noticeboards.

There will be a range of ways in which you can share your views.

The final decision to submit the document will be made at a Parish Council meeting, informed by the feedback received.

When will all this happen?

It will start as soon as possible.

If a Parish Priority Statement is completed it must be submitted to the SDNPA by **20<sup>th</sup> October 2023** and once approved will be published on their website.

We anticipate a lot of information will need to be processed to provide a concise but comprehensive document which best represents the principal needs and prevailing views of the community.

We would also plan to share the final draft of the document before it is submitted to the South Downs National Park Authority.

### Useful Links

Parish Priority Statement Presentation by SDNPA [PowerPoint Presentation \(southdowns.gov.uk\)](https://www.southdowns.gov.uk)

Example submission

[GreenvilleParishPriorityStatement\\_Example\\_May\\_2023.pdf](#)