

To: All the Priston Villagers

June 2018

PRISTON VILLAGE DESIGN STATEMENT:
Upgrade to a SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENT

Dear Priston Villager,

We thought it was about time you were updated with some news about the Village Design Statement and its progress. The VDS was created following your input and with regard to the wishes of the village as a whole on the subject of development of the village. It is particularly concerned with planning applications and changes to the structure of the village. As you are probably aware we managed to get the VDS adopted by B&NES and a copy of the VDS is currently available on the Priston web site (www.priston.org). Since then we have been seeking to increase the power of the VDS to further ensure that your wishes with regard to planning applications are taken into consideration.

Following conversations with B&NES representatives the VDS has been altered to include additional historic information and several other small changes to meet the requirements for a Supplementary Planning Document. In agreement with B&NES Planning Policy, the VDS is now being put forward as a Draft Supplementary Planning Document to B&NES Local Plan. If its status is agreed then this will significantly increase the weight it is given by B&NES Development Management, when they are considering planning applications affecting the village. The enhanced document is now available on the Priston website (www.priston.org) and paper copies will be placed in the Village Hall, Church and Ring of Bells next week.

The process now requires a consultation period of 4 weeks commencing **19th June to 16th July 2018**, which must include members of Priston Parish, Statutory Authorities like English Heritage, and stakeholders across the B&NES area. If amendments are required, B&NES Planning Policy will discuss them with the Priston VDS Working Party and the Parish Council and once agreed they will then be incorporated in the document.

B&NES Planning Policy will then produce a "Consultation Report" and take it through the approval process.

Your comments can be made using the link on the **Priston Website**, or by email to: planning_policy@bathnes.gov.uk, or by letter to: **Planning Policy, B&NES Council, Lewis House, Manvers St., Bath BA1 1JG**. Comments must go directly to B&NES Planning Policy and not to the Priston VDS Working Party. A Comments Form is available on the B&NES website and paper copies of these will be available alongside the copies of the document on display in the Village.

Copies of the VDS are available on the Priston Website and hard copies can be found in the Church, the Village Hall and the Pub. Copies will also be available in Bath, at the One Stop Shop on Manvers St and Bath Central Library during the consultation period.

This proposed change of status is very important for achieving as much protection as is possible for the future of Priston Village so please consider commenting to B&NES in one of the ways above.

Yours sincerely

Priston VDS Working Party