

# The Cerne Valley Neighbourhood Planning Working Group

The Parish Council have appointed a Working Group of local residents who will be responsible, with the Parish Councillors, for driving the planning process and ensuring that the Cerne Valley Neighbourhood Plan is fully adopted by the community. The Working Group is chaired by Fred Horsington assisted by Ian Humphreys. Currently the other members are as follows:

Pictured left: Jane Andrews, Roy Burnham, Andrew Farrow, Tom Handley, Vic Irvine, Richard Maisey, George Mortimer, Malcolm Savage, Jane Stannard and Adam Wilkes.



*"I have lived in this valley since 1957 and started farming full time after leaving school at 16. During that time I have participated in many roles in the community, so when the opportunity came to take part in this Neighbourhood Plan I was glad to be a part of it"*  
Fred Horsington, Chairman of the Working Group

## Action items from the Princes Foundation Report:

### Housing and Local Facilities

- What type of community
- Identify potential sites within 5 minutes walk of centre
- What rate of growth do we want
- What type of community facilities do we want
- Public transport type, cost and frequency

### Tourism and Valley Branding

- Develop a "big idea" and marketing strategy
- Determine local assets and suitability of products to market

### Regeneration

- Determine which public areas could be improved
- Identify improvements which could be made to roads, cycle tracks and footpaths

### Education

- Partner with local colleges to develop training opportunities
- Determine how a new school could benefit a wider community
- Partner with a LEAF group
- Partner with an entrepreneurial training group

### Energy

- Discuss a sustainable woodland based energy source
- Food production
- Develop a farming model to improve local food supplies
- Identify additional allotment land

### Employment

- Identify potential job opportunities based on planned new local businesses
- These actions were derived from the three day consultation event held in November. For further details please see the full version of the Report on the website.



Cerne Valley Working Group

## What happens next?

A mobile stand will be set up outside Cerne Abbas stores on a Saturday in April.

Everyone is invited to attend the Open Day displays and Village Meetings:

**Godmanstone Village Hall  
Saturday 14 April**

**Cerne Abbas Village Hall  
Saturday 19 May**

The Working group will continue to meet on your behalf and will be consulting further about specific issues.

The Neighbourhood Planning website will be updated with all the latest news.

The next edition of "It's for You" will contain a section for Readers Comments if you want to write to the Group. Leave any letters in the Cerne Abbas stores.

If you want to be more involved, contact any Working Group member.



**Cerne Valley**  
*Neighbourhood Plan*

# Its for you!



Welcome to the first edition of "It's for You", a quarterly publication produced by Cerne Valley residents in support of the proposed local Neighbourhood Plan.



The Cerne Valley has been designated as one of seventeen Districts in England to become "front runners" in the Government's Neighbourhood Planning initiative. This provides tremendous opportunities for all residents to influence the future of our area.

This Newsletter is the second in a series of initiatives taken by the Parish Council to involve everyone in deciding how we want the Cerne Valley to look in the years ahead. Here you will read about the outcome of the three day Community Planning Workshop held in November, which officially launched the community consultation process. Important choices have to be made, so now's the time to tell us what you want!

The Parish Council takes the view that the sustainable growth option was a clear preference after the consultation event, and this is your chance to challenge or endorse the strategy.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Tom Handley  
Chairman Parish Council

## In this issue ...

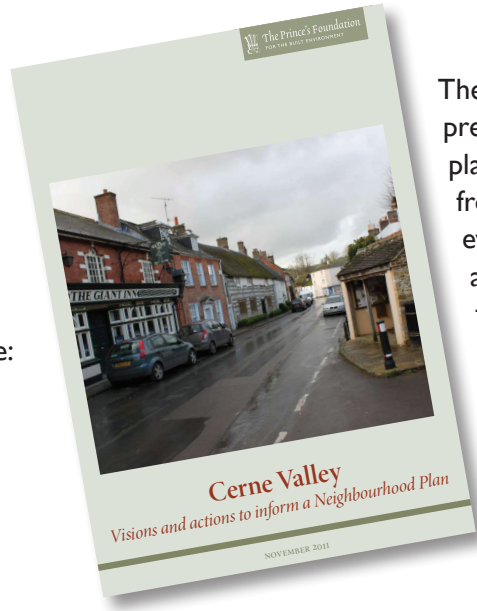
- Two Visions
- Key Questions
- What is a Neighbourhood plan?
- What's next
- Who's who
- Action items

Public open session, Community Planning workshop



# The Princes Foundation Report from the Community Planning Workshop, November 2011

This three day event “kicked-off” the Neighbourhood Planning process for the Cerne Valley. It was led by experts from The Princes Foundation, who have been appointed by the Government to assist “front runners” with the development of their Neighbourhood Plan. The full report can be read on the local website: [www.cernevalley.org](http://www.cernevalley.org)



The report of the event contains two preliminary VISIONS of possible future planning scenarios. These were developed from community inputs at the three day event. The report emphasises that these are merely a start point and that a lot of further discussion and planning needs to follow.

## KEY QUESTIONS

**Is the sustainable growth option the best for the valley?**

**What are the really important assets to protect and enhance?**

**What new facilities do we want?**

Have your say on these and other questions regarding the future of our Valley. Feedback forms are available on the website or just write to the Working Group.

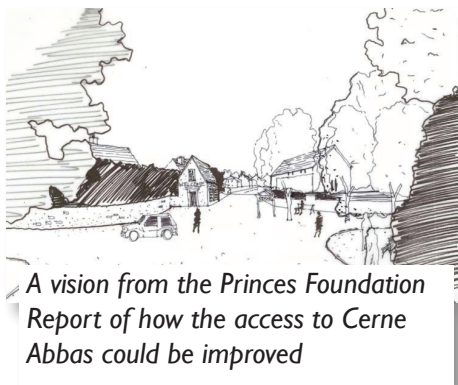
Email: [cernevalleyplan@gmail.com](mailto:cernevalleyplan@gmail.com)



## Two visions

### No Growth

- No new homes built
- Ageing population
- Lack of affordable housing
- Disconnection between villages and farms
- Lack of local jobs, further education and facilities
- Tourism potential undeveloped
- Funding difficulties to maintain landscape and infrastructure



A vision from the Princes Foundation Report of how the access to Cerne Abbas could be improved

### Sustainable Growth

- New homes sensitively phased
- Proactive Valley branding to encourage quality, long stay tourism
- Population increase with more younger people
- Affordable housing forms a significant proportion
- Existing buildings improved or facelifted
- Links developed between villages and farms/estate. In association with colleges
- Possibility of start-up businesses
- More support for local facilities
- Landscape and infrastructure improved
- Locally produced energy and food
- New job opportunities

### What is a Neighbourhood Plan?

- It is a new way for communities to decide the future of the places where they live and work.

### What will the Plan do for us?

- It's up to us to decide.
- It will help us to create and influence the environment we want to live in.
- It gives us control of our future village.
- We can decide what facilities we want and where they are to be located. That covers roads, paths, houses, businesses, education, jobs, open spaces, parking, footpaths public areas etc.

### Do we have to make a Plan?

- If we don't, the Dorchester planners will have control.

### Who is going to do it?

- We all will be able to contribute our thoughts and ideas to the Working Group, who are responsible to the Parish Council.
- The Working Group will prepare the Plan and submit it for a public referendum to all residents of the Valley.

### When will it be ready?

- That depends on the ideas we receive but we are aiming to complete a draft plan by Spring 2013.

### How can I tell you my views?

- Send an email to the Working Group:
- [cernevalleyplan@gmail.com](mailto:cernevalleyplan@gmail.com)
- Via the website Forum online
- Feedback forms can be completed in Cerne Abbas stores or the Green Valley Farm shop.
- Come to the Village Meetings.

## Godmanstone: A sustainable long term vision from the Princes Foundation report

