

BARROW NEWS



Barrow upon Soar Neighbourhood Plan

June 2016

Neighbourhood Plan

Over the past couple of years, Barrow upon Soar Parish Council have taken the first steps towards producing a Neighbourhood Plan. The Neighbourhood Plan offers the chance for residents and businesses to have their say on future development within the parish and influence how their neighbourhood evolves. Barrow faces many challenges and opportunities over the coming years.

Last December we consulted those living and working in the village, together with key stakeholders, asking how you wish to see the village develop to 2028. The results have helped us prepare a (Pre-Submission) Draft version of the Barrow upon Soar Neighbourhood Development Plan. A six week pre-submission consultation period on the proposed Neighbourhood Plan will run from Monday 13 June to Monday 25 July 2016.

This leaflet is a summary of the Draft Plan. The full Draft Neighbourhood Plan is available to download from:

www.barrowpc.org.uk

A paper copy is available to view at the Parish Office and Community Library.

“The neighbourhood plan gives us a chance to say how development should take place. Without it, developers will make those choices for us”

- Peter Cantle

Chairman of the Parish Council's Neighbourhood Plan and Localism Committee



Holy Trinity Church

Our vision for 2028:

- Retain village character
- A vibrant village centre
- Key services and facilities are retained and there is a new community centre
- Important open areas have been protected
- New homes provide for local housing needs
- Our heritage is protected and is reflected in the design of new developments
- There are good transport links between different parts of the village.

How much housing development and where?

Taking account of Jelson's Melton Road development and other sites that have already been built and permitted, there is no need to find further sites for housing development in the village. Early consultation with local residents and businesses shows little support for housing growth and this was confirmed by our 2015 survey which showed that 96% of respondents agreed that we should not plan for more large-scale, greenfield housing development.

Our Draft Neighbourhood Plan does not plan for further large-scale, greenfield housing development. Infill within newly defined Limits to Development will be supported.



Older households

In our December 2015 survey, a clear majority of respondents were prepared to accept more housing if it met the needs of elderly people. The provision of housing which caters for older households is a key supply gap which urgently needs to be addressed.

Outside the Limits to Development, our Draft Plan supports the development of accommodation that is designed to meet the needs of the elderly.

Jobs

Some employment development in the village could help replace jobs that have been lost and improve sustainability.

Our Draft Plan provides for a mix of offices and small industrial units, including starter and grow-on units, to be built on land to the south of Sileby Road.

Melton Road

Charnwood Borough Council have recently agreed to grant detailed planning permission to Jelson Homes for 292 houses at Melton Road.

It is too late for our Neighbourhood Plan to influence this development, but we know that there is pressure from builders for more sites in the village.



Design

Local people are concerned that too many recent developments have consisted of standard, 'identikit' homes that typify new developments built by some volume house builders.

93% of respondents to our December 2015 questionnaire wanted to see the Barrow upon Soar Village Design Statement integrated into our Neighbourhood Plan and used to guide the design of new development.

Our Draft Plan expects all development to take account of our Village Design Statement.

Traffic

Traffic entering and leaving Barrow via the A6 concentrates onto the historic Barrow Road Bridge, a listed structure. This is single lane and signal controlled. It is already at capacity at peak times and additional traffic will make the problem worse. There is no easy way to improve the bridge.

The alternative route to and from the A6 via Slash Lane is regularly inundated by flooding by the River Soar. This also applies occasionally to Mountsorrel Lane. These closures cause widespread congestion on the remaining available routes.

Within Barrow upon Soar a projected increase in traffic flows is expected to result in increased delays in the village especially at locations such as Bridge Street and Grove Lane. Therefore, it is likely that any additional development, over and above that already committed, will have severe impacts.

Our Draft Neighbourhood Plan does not support new housing development of more than ten dwellings unless it can be demonstrated that existing traffic conditions will not be made worse.



Traffic congestion

Protecting the character of Barrow upon Soar

We want to conserve the unique character and identity of Barrow. We will do this by safeguarding the local landscape, protecting the countryside between the village and nearby settlements, identifying green areas of local importance within Barrow, protecting and enhancing heritage assets and the natural environment, and through the design of new buildings.

Green Spaces

Important green spaces were identified by local people during consultation on the Neighbourhood Plan.

Our Draft Neighbourhood Plan protects Local Green Spaces such as the Millennium Park and King George V Park.

Heritage

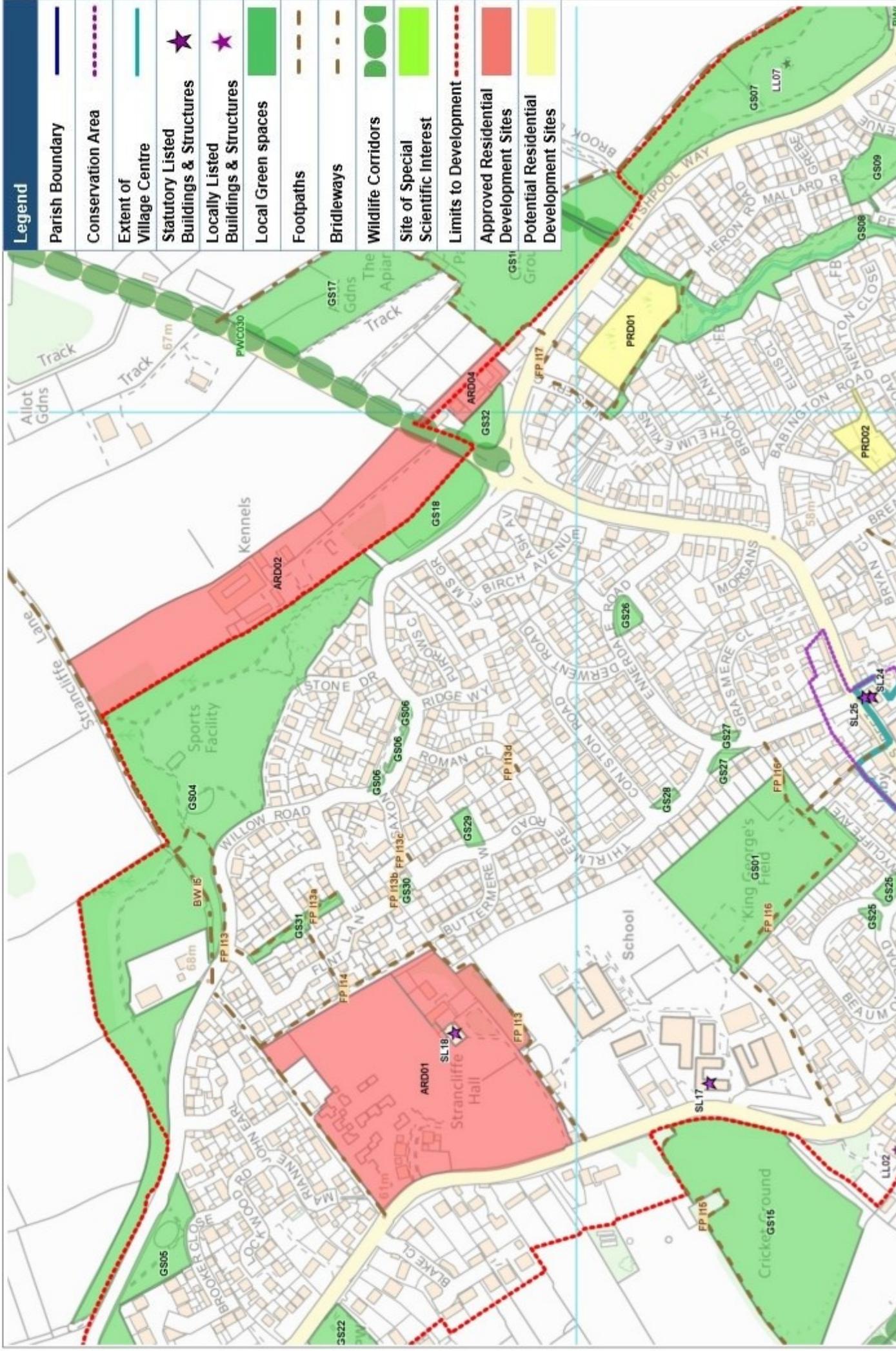
There are 25 buildings in Barrow upon Soar listed by Historic England for their special architectural or historic interest. They include the Grade II* listed Church of the Holy Trinity.

The neighbourhood plan has given local people their chance to give their views on local heritage.

Our Draft Plan protects buildings and structures of local importance as well as traditional features such as stone walls and jitties.



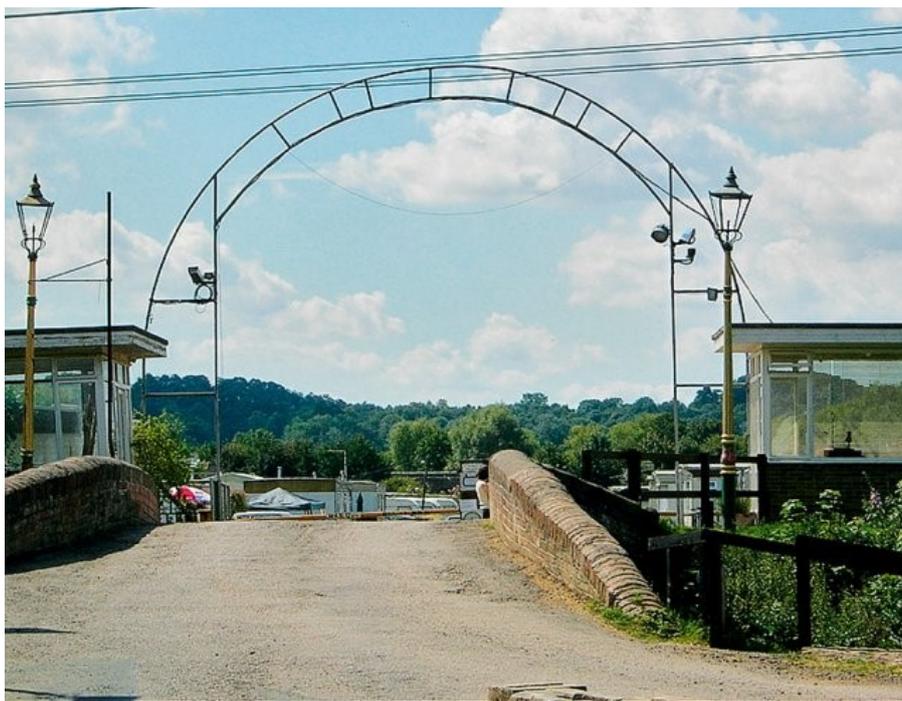
Legend	
	Parish Boundary
	Conservation Area
	Extent of Village Centre
	Statutory Listed Buildings & Structures
	Locally Listed Buildings & Structures
	Local Green spaces
	Footpaths
	Bridleways
	Wildlife Corridors
	Site of Special Scientific Interest
	Limits to Development
	Approved Residential Development Sites
	Potential Residential Development Sites



Proctors Park

Proctors, now a caravan site, was built in the 1950s and '60s as a thriving pleasure park which attracted visitors who arrived on special trains. Proctors Park plays an important part in the history of the village, but our survey showed that many people would like to see its appearance improved.

In the long-term our Plan would like to see Proctors Park become a country park. However, in the meantime we would like to see improvements to its external appearance.



Proctors Park

Community Centre

There is a good range of clubs, societies and social organisations in the village. Some of these use the facilities at Humphrey Perkins School. The school has extensive facilities which are available for private hire on week day evenings and weekends. However, the facilities are used by the school during term-time and are also too large and expensive for many community groups.

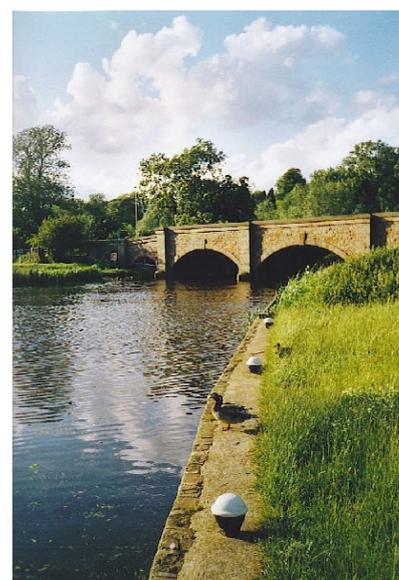
Our Draft Plan takes a flexible approach to the location of a new community centre, but a village centre location is preferred. The impact on existing community facilities will be taken into account.

Nature conservation

Barrow Gravel Pits is a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and comprises one of the best remaining complexes of open water, grassland, scrub and woodland in Leicestershire possessing a rich flora and fauna representative of flood plain habitats in the English Midlands.

The whole stretch of the River Soar within Charnwood has been notified as a Local Wildlife Site and functions as a major wildlife corridor across the landscape; it supports key species, such as the otter, and rare aquatic plants such as the grass-wracked pondweed.

Our Draft Plan protects the local network of ecological features including important wildlife corridors.



River Soar

Village Centre

Barrow's centre helps to address the day-to-day needs of village residents and the immediate area. There are very few vacancies, but the opportunities for expanding the centre are limited.

Local people generally feel that the village centre is thriving and meets their day-to-day needs. While some local people would like to see a bank and public conveniences, the main concerns relate to car parking.

Our Draft Plan will ensure that the Village Centre continues to provide a diverse range of uses and appeals to a wide range of age and social groups. It is the preferred location for new shops.

Parking

A local parking study has concluded that in order to address the shortfall in parking in Barrow upon Soar some 20 to 30 additional off-street car parking spaces should be provided.

Our Draft Neighbourhood Plan supports the extension and improvement of the existing off-street car parks. The loss of Village Centre car parking will be resisted.



Services and Facilities

Local residents have access to a good range of services and facilities. The Village Centre contains a supermarket, newsagent, post office, pharmacy, takeaways, dentist, optician, a library and health centre. The village also has both a primary and secondary school.

Health Centre

The health centre is currently operating at 70% over-capacity and is expected to be at 90% over-capacity when existing planning permissions for new housing are occupied. There is no prospect of NHS funded capital investment at present.

Many people responding to our surveys raised complaints about the service, including difficulties in making appointments. Notwithstanding these problems, most feel that retaining the health centre within the village centre was important for the future.

Our Draft Plan protects the village centre GP surgery but does allow for new healthcare services elsewhere.

Hall Orchard C of E Primary School

Hall Orchard is a large primary school in Leicestershire with 462 pupils on the school roll. It is estimated that this will rise to over 600 when approved housing development is fully completed.

Our Draft Plan provides for the expansion of the existing Primary School and allows for an additional primary school to be built outside Limits to Development

Let us know what you think

A 'drop in' session concerning the Draft Neighbourhood Development Plan will take place:

15:00 to 19:00hrs on Thursday, 23 June 2016 at Barrow upon Soar Community Library, North Street

The 'drop in' session will provide an opportunity to examine the contents of the Plan and to discuss it in more detail with members of the Parish Council's Localism and Neighbourhood Development Plan Committee.

Representations on the contents of the draft Neighbourhood Plan must be submitted in writing to Barrow upon Soar Parish Council no later than:

17:00hrs on Monday 25 July 2016

Contact Us

If you would like to comment on the Draft Plan please write to us or complete and return a Representation Form. The form will be available at the 'drop in' session or can be downloaded from the Parish Council's website. Comments may be made by email to:

clerk@barrowpc.org.uk

or by post to the Parish Council Office, 12 High Street, Barrow upon Soar, Leicestershire LE12 8PY

www.barrowpc.org.uk

ParishOnline

Parish Map

Barrow upon Soar CP

