

## Preshute Neighbourhood Plan

Monday 21st February saw the publication for Regulation 14 public consultation of the Preshute Neighbourhood Plan (NP). The Plan will guide land use strategy within Preshute to 2036. The objectives and policies have been directed and shaped from an initial community engagement in early 2021 that included a questionnaire sent to every resident, business and landowner in the Preshute area.

Preshute is entirely within an unmatched Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) with many nationally important historic, heritage and biodiversity treasures just a walk away from our doorsteps. The area is a priceless asset and visual amenity that we must protect for future generations and that today, all of us can enjoy and benefit. It is why so many visitors come to this area.

In deciding what should and should not be included in the Plan, our NP team have focused on local protection for the AONB from urban sprawl, loss of views and inappropriate individual developments. The NP aims to protect views from important public vantage points such as The Wansdyke, south of Treacle Bolly, the White Horse Trail and the Ridgeway. We want visitors to enjoy the unique countryside, but equally important is better education and accessibility that respects our farming community's needs and allows our rural businesses to flourish.

Preshute is fortunate to be home to world-class equestrian businesses. Horse racing, show jumping and other forms of equine sport, as well as a growing number of light industrial businesses all provide employment to local people and we want to see that local employment grow sustainably. That's why we support the re-use of disused or derelict buildings for appropriate uses. In turn, we would like to see a few affordable homes in an appropriate place for local people who work in the area.

Finally, we can't ignore the importance of caring for and developing our rich biodiversity. Preshute plans to plant some 200 trees (one for each of our residents) to mark the impact of the Pandemic.

The Preshute NP conforms to the National Planning Policy Framework and Wiltshire Council Core Strategy and we have consulted Wiltshire Council officers and all relevant agencies in its preparation.

You can read more about the Preshute Neighbourhood Plan at <https://www.preshutepc.org.uk/neighbourhoodplan.html>