

Village Design Statement Validation Checklist

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| Village Design Statement for: | East Knoyle |
| <p>(i) Does the VDS describe the distinctive character of the village and the surrounding countryside?</p> | <p>The first part of the VDS describes in detail the historical context for East Knoyle, including the first recordings of the settlement, and how the village has emerged over the centuries.</p> |
| <p>(ii) Does the VDS show how character can be identified at three levels:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The landscape setting of the village | <p>The section entitled “Landscape Setting and Open Spaces” describes the landscape setting of the village. It explains how East Knoyle draws much of its special character and attractiveness from an historic and distinctive scattered settlement pattern, comprising of individual hamlets, open countryside spaces and outlying farms, together with an historic village core centred on the church and the present village hall.</p> <p>The village and its parish features a number of varied and contrasting land forms and this diversity stretches beyond into the wider countryside setting.</p> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The shape of the settlement | <p>The section entitled “Settlement Pattern” describes the evolution of the village and its buildings. It describes the settlement’s streetscape in detail. It also refers to East Knoyle’s Amenities, Businesses and Services, explaining that the village’s townscape derives much from the historic core of the village, the new shop, its two pubs, the recreation ground and areas of common land and the public footpath network.</p> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The nature of the buildings themselves | <p>The section entitled “Building Materials” describes in detail the building character of East Knoyle, explaining how its character has evolved over many centuries and determined by various factors. This section makes good use of pictorial evidence as examples.</p> |

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| (iii) Does the VDS draw up design principles based on the distinctive local character? | <p>The section entitled “Guidelines for development of buildings and boundaries” sets out detailed guidelines under the following headings: general guidelines; settlement pattern; open space and landscape; buildings and materials; roads and traffic management; and streetscape.</p> <p>These are robust, clear guidelines based on the information set out in the VDS that will assist planning officers in decisions on applications.</p> |
| (iv) Does the VDS work in partnership with the local planning authority in the context of existing local planning policy and influence future policies. | The VDS was prepared in consultation with the then Forward Planning team of the former Salisbury District Council. |
| (v) Has the VDS been developed, researched, written and edited by local people? Is it representative of the views of the village as a whole? Has the process involved a wide section of the village community in its production? | <p>The introductory section of the VDS explains how on 6th June 2006, a well attended Public Meeting in the Village Hall provided the mandate to proceed with The Parish Plan and The Village Design Statement. The Parish Plan, including the agreed Community Action Programme, was published in February 2009.</p> <p>A new team of volunteers from the community accepted the task of developing the VDS and the first meeting took place on 17th December 2008.</p> |
| Other Comments: | <p>The introduction to the VDS makes reference to the VDS being “adopted” and formally recognised as an advisory document in the planning process and that when completed, in accordance with national guidelines, it should be accepted as Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG).</p> <p>As Supplementary Planning Guidance no longer exists, and the approach to VDS recognition is for the Council to approve them as material planning considerations, an addendum with the following wording should be added to this VDS:</p> <p><i>This VDS was produced at a point in time. Therefore, there may be references in it that are now superseded. This includes references to the former Salisbury District Council and the Salisbury District Local Plan. The Salisbury District</i></p> |

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| | <p><i>Local Plan has been superseded by the South Wiltshire Core Strategy, albeit a number of Local Plan policies are saved in the Core Strategy. Similarly, there may be references to policies in the South Wiltshire Core Strategy that at the time of writing were still emerging. However, the VDS is still considered to be compliant with local policy on design matters. Finally, any references to the VDSs being adopted as Supplementary Planning Guidance or as a Supplementary Planning Document are also now superseded, as all VDSs are now approved as material planning considerations by the Council instead.</i></p> <p><i>The VDS has been subject to a recent review by officers and considered up-to-date and relevant, and has subsequently been approved at the Southern Area Planning Committee on 24 January 2013 as a material planning consideration.</i></p> |
| Overall Conclusions: | <p>The East Knoyle VDS seeks to influence the design of future development within the village. It identifies the key characteristics of the village and highlights what residents consider to be important consideration for the design of future development proposals. It provides clear guidance to developers as to what should be respected and acknowledged by new buildings in order to help preserve the local scene.</p> <p>The VDS has been assessed by officers and considered to meet the objectives set out in this validation checklist.</p> |
| Recommendation: | <p>It is recommended that, subject to the addition of the proposed addendum, the Village Design Statement for East Knoyle be approved as a material planning consideration for the purposes of development management.</p> |