

Visions and Objectives (First Draft)

prepared September 2015

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Contents

VISION STATEMENT	2
By the year 2031 and beyond	2
OBJECTIVES	3
Environment	3
Housing and Development	3
Employment and Business	3
Transport	3
Facilities and Services	3

VISION STATEMENT

"Standon Parish will remain an attractive Parish within a beautiful Hertfordshire setting and preserve our distinctive rural character, scale and atmosphere. Our Parish's residents have a strong sense of pride, belonging and heritage. Our Parish also endeavours to attract and welcome members into our community. Each of the settlement areas that make up the Parish have retained their own distinctive character and remain separate with the quality of the landscape spaces between them continuing to define their shared identity.

Our Parish is enriched by its open aspect to the countryside, marked by buildings of character and offers a diverse range of independent shops and services.

By the year 2031 and beyond...

There will be limited growth in housing numbers through the provision of new homes, purpose designed to meet specific local needs. These new homes will be provided in small clusters on sites that do not detract from the character and setting of the Parish.

The green, leafy, open parts of the developed Parish will be reflected in any new housing development, with well-spaced layouts with gardens and green surroundings that complement the rural environment. Making development in historic areas suit its setting, but in new sites allowing the Parish to benefit from the advantages of modern architecture and sustainable building practices.

Our Parish will continue to support local employment and businesses and facilitate new employment opportunities within the Parish for local people and to support the services within the parish.

Our Parish will aim to manage our growth, with infrastructure and services that meet the needs of our local community.

A Parish where people 'want to live', rather than 'have to live'. A Parish where it is a joy to live for everyone.

A Parish that will appeal to people at all stages of their lives as a great place to live, work and visit. It will be a Parish that strives to maintain and improve a high quality of social, economic and environmental wellbeing by meeting the challenges of the future, whilst properly respecting our historic rural past".

Objectives

In order to achieve the vision, the identified, key objectives are to:

Environment

Protect and enhance the character, qualities and identity of the rural landscape setting to manage the impacts of any future growth and maintain the spatial and qualitative relationships between the areas.

Conserve and retain features important to the visual appearance and character of the Parish, including its built heritage, Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, cherished views, woodlands, hedgerows, natural habitats and watercourses.

Protect and manage land that is environmentally important for biodiversity and nature conservation.

Protect trees and woodlands within the rural setting and to promote further planting of indigenous species.

Protect and manage existing wildlife habitats and to create additional places where wildlife can flourish undisturbed.

Protect and maintain natural existing ground water courses and their immediate surrounding vegetation, in order to maintain essential ecosystem services, prevent water and soil pollution and to help retain the natural role in flood prevention provided by existing water courses.

Mitigate and adapt to the effects of climate change.

Utilise land efficiently and protect high quality agricultural land.

Housing and Development

Provide a mix of new housing types in accordance with the needs of the community.

Ensure high standards of design with sensitive, sustainable development which protects and enriches the landscape and built setting.

Provide a higher proportion of affordable new homes

Employment and Business

Ensure the continued provision of a range of local shops by providing local produce and services provided by Parish members or affiliates.

Support local economy through existing businesses and encourage expansion of local employment.

Transport

Provide adequate vehicle parking for residents, businesses and visitors.

Develop public transport links to provide community members access to further employment opportunities.

Ensure safe vehicular and pedestrian access and promote road safety.

Protect the bands of interest for the Standon bypass.

Facilities and Services

Protect and improve existing community facilities and negotiate additional facilities in consequence of new development.

Ensure exceptional health and well-being facilities (GP surgery and District nurses), for the Standon Parish population.

Protect and enhance the Parish's network of open spaces and community facilities.

Maintain and improve public right of way routes within the Parish and to adjacent Parishes.