**Neighbourhood Plan Progress Report 12 January 2018**

Consultation on Vision and Objectives

The consultation on the Vision and Objectives of the plan closed on 12 January 2018. At the time of writing this report we had received some useful comments regarding the need to include an objective specifically relating to agriculture and one relating to sustainability. We have revised the list of objectives to cover these items.

Funding

We have now made an application to the Neighbourhood Planning and Community Buildings Programme for Technical Support from AECOM, to prepare a Strategic Environmental Assessment of the Neighbourhood Plan as required by South Hams District Council. AECOM are an environmental consultancy who specialise in environmental assessments and are funded by the Government to provide assistance for Neighbourhood Plans. We have also asked whether AECOM could carry out a detailed site assessment in relation to the proposed site allocation for the provision of circa 10 primarily affordable dwellings. We have also applied for funding to assist with various environmental reports required for the proposed affordable housing scheme and South Hams District Council’s Community Housing Division have agreed to provide financial support for this development including paying the fees of the Architect.

List of Local Heritage Assets

As part of the Neighbourhood Plan we would like to prepare a List of Local Heritage Assets. These are non-designated heritage assets which are important to the local community and ones which the community would like to conserve and enhance.

The NPPF (para 135) states:

*‘The effect on the significance of a non-designated heritage asset should be taken into account in determining an application. In weighing applications that affect directly or indirectly non designated heritage asset, a balanced judgement will be required having regard to the scale of any harm or loss and the significance of the heritage asset.’*

For the local heritage assets to have any weight it is important that these are identified in the plan. These can be buildings of special architectural or historic interest, that are not listed eg Warren Cottage, the oldest building on the mainland at Bigbury on Sea, and the Pilchard Inn, the oldest building on Burgh Island. These are not listed buildings but are clearly buildings of significant local heritage value. There are many other buildings in the parish which are of local heritage value and should be retained. Local heritage assets can include structures or archaeology sites as well as buildings eg earth mounds of historical significance, old pumps or wells, old stone walls, Devon hedge banks, Second World War pillboxes, or even interesting areas of paving or cobbles.

We are proposing to get the whole of the community involved in this process and will be asking the parishioners to put forward suggestions, supported if possible by some background information as to why they consider these to be of local heritage interest, and including photographs. We will then set up a working group to consider the proposals. We suggest that the working party should include people from the History Society and anybody else with heritage, history or design expertise.

We will be placing in the Holywell Stores some Nomination Forms for this purpose. The nomination forms when complete can be posted in the Neighbourhood Plan box or alternatively people can send nominations to the Chairman or any member of the Steering Group by post or email.

We are also encouraging the younger members of our community to get involved in this exercise and will be arranging some specific events for them during the next few weeks.

We hope that parishioners will take an active part in this process so that we can be sure that the local list fully represents the views of the community.

The list of local heritage assets will be published for consultation purposes to enable people to comment on this prior to it being sent to South Hams District Council and Historic England for their approval.

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