



The village of South Brent offers you a warm welcome. Take time to discover its historic buildings, ancient church and range of individual shops.

A Beacon for Breasts
 Rising above the village is a hill of wrenworts, which attracts a great many birds, also a great many in company. In the hills, it is as if a signal were being

Take a Stroll
 • To the island, a wildlife haven just steps away from the main street
 • Along the shorebirds to watch the totem cascade beneath Lytle Bridge. Originally built for packhorses, the statue is a haven spot for coffee sippers



On the way to Market
Take a walk to the 3rd Floor Information Centre in 3rd and more about the area and local events. On the walk outside you can see the toll charged at South Street, but, although it is said were high in years nearby before going to the cafe here in Wellington Square, then to 3rd and onto the river.

Friendly Village Shops
There is a wide range of shops in the village. You'll find a delicatessen, chemist, DIY store and organic food store as well as many other items. Refreshments are available at a variety of local establishments.

Ancient and Modern
Dr Thomas Clarkson is dedicated to the 18th century cause who
journalled it and probably
inspired, along with, hands you
can see a beautiful millstone
inscribed panel which depicts

Produced by South Brent Parish Council with support from the Coast & Countryside Service and Dartmoor National Park Authority.

2003-2008

*Your Village
Your Future*

The Aim Of The Parish Plan

The aim of the Parish Plan, which is part of a national initiative, is to look to the future and ensure South Brent remains an attractive and vibrant place to live in. Reflecting the views of the local community, the Plan can help to maintain those things that are important to us and improve the things that need to be changed. It will help guide the future work of the Parish Council and assist in gaining support and funding from outside organisations for activities in the parish.

The Plan specifies the actions which the Parish Council proposes to initiate in conjunction with local groups and individuals. It also takes account of, and seeks to influence, the policies, decisions and actions carried out by the District and County Councils, the Dartmoor National Park Authority and other bodies.

Drawing Up The Plan

In 2002 the Parish Council set up a small joint steering group, with the Action & Community Group, to produce the Plan.

The Plan was developed through several stages of consultation with local residents. First an exhibition of photographs, taken by schoolchildren and parishioners, showed us what people liked or disliked about South Brent. These photographs were displayed in the Old School Centre and everyone then had the opportunity, using post-it stickers, to add their comments.

Analysis of this response enabled the steering group to frame a series of questions about issues people had raised. A questionnaire leaflet was sent to each household in the parish, inviting views on these points and asking for comments on what should stay the same and what should be improved.

The replies produced a comprehensive range of issues, for maintaining the best of what we already enjoy about the village, for making improvements where people think them necessary, and for the introduction of some new ideas.

This enabled the steering group to identify priorities and to produce a report on the response. A summary of these issues was sent to each household, asking for further comments. Responses to this second consultation, emphasised some issues on which some people felt strongly and confirmed that the Plan was reflecting most people's views.

The action plan set out here is the final outcome of the consultation process and sets an agenda for future action in South Brent.

Turning The Plan Into Actions

The centre page of this leaflet shows the actions grouped into subject areas. Inevitably there is some interlinking and overlap. As far as we can, we have indicated the actions proposed, how they will be achieved, why they are needed and who will have an interest.

It will be seen that much of the Plan reflects the importance attached by the majority of people, of making sure we retain those distinctive features and services, which they like most about South Brent.

With regard to the organisations and groups involved in the implementation of the Plan, it is assumed that the Parish Council will have a leading or supporting role in each action listed and has therefore not been named every time. Similarly there may be other local groups not listed, or individuals with a particular interest, whose participation would be welcomed.

The list of future aims for the Parish Plan is not intended to be exclusive. The consultation produced a wealth of ideas, which for practical reasons could not all be included. The exclusion of some from the Plan does not necessarily mean they were ruled out, and individual or group proposals for further improvements will always be welcomed for consideration by the Parish Council.

It is proposed that the Plan should be implemented during the next five years with the actions in the Plan falling into three categories:

- **Priority actions.** These are highlighted on the centre page and include those actions which will benefit most parishioners.
- **Ongoing actions.** Those where there will be continued involvement over the next five years. In many cases these actions have already started.
- **Other actions.** These are important, but often with benefits for a relatively limited number of parishioners. The Parish Council will actively support these actions, but the rate at which these progress may depend on village organisations and the active involvement of those who would like to help.

Building On The Progress Of Recent Years

South Brent's strong community spirit has led to many improvements and achievements in recent years, which are acknowledged in the consultation and include:

- New Health Centre
- New Primary School
- Acquisition & refurbishment of the Old School & School House
- Extension and refurbishment of the Village Hall
- Refurbishment of the Toll House and provision of the Millennium Clock
- Acquisition and management of the Island
- New premises for dental practice in the Station building
- New roundabout at Sanderspool Cross
- Tennis courts and skatepark at the Recreation Ground
- Provision of premises for Pre-School, Computer Centre and Community Library
- Provision of new bus shelter
- Acquisition and management of Railway Wood
- Information boards and village noticeboard
- New Conservation Area Study by Dartmoor National Park Authority



Maintaining What We Have

South Brent residents are fortunate in the facilities, amenities and environment that we already enjoy. Our first priority must be to ensure that these are maintained, encouraged and conserved. These include:

- local shops and services
- community and sports facilities
- education and health amenities
- community groups and events
- farmed landscape around the parish
- access to countryside around the parish
- green spaces, trees and hedges within the village
- historic buildings and features



KEY OBJECTIVE

A village centre improvement scheme, which will implement a comprehensive traffic plan and appropriately improve the appearance of the heart of the village, to the benefit of local shops and services and the quality of life for local residents.

Thanks

The Parish Council wishes to thank:

- the numerous local residents whose helpful views and contributions have shaped the Plan
- the Countryside Agency for financial support and guidance in preparing the Plan
- the Community Council of Devon and Dartmoor National Park Authority for their help and guidance
- the members of the steering group which produced the plan - Cllr Peter Kelly, Cllr Roger Elford, Ross Kennerley, Kevin Shotter, Penny Wainwright and Julia Willoughby
- all the other partner organisations, with whom we have worked in the past and look forward to working, with renewed enthusiasm, in the future

How You Can Help To Make The Plan A Reality

South Brent has a strong tradition of voluntary involvement by local people to make things happen, as our record in recent years has shown. For the Plan to become reality, active involvement by local residents will be essential. If you want to help to get any of the actions under way, or if you think that some actions are not being given enough priority, then it is up to you to get involved.

Individuals who would like to be actively involved are invited to contact the **Clerk to the Parish Council, Mrs Julia Willoughby**, on 01364 72894 or e-mail clerk@southbrent.gov.uk.

For More Information

The consultation response, which underpins this Plan, may be viewed on the Parish Council website:
www.southbrent.gov.uk

Measuring Progress

The Parish Council will be monitoring progress and local residents always have the opportunity to attend Parish Council meetings to ask about projects which interest them. The Annual Parish Meeting will also provide the opportunity for the Parish Council to report back on progress achieved.



South Brent Action
and
Community Group



 The
Countryside
Agency

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SOUTH BRENT

Priorities For The Next Five Years

The priorities set out in the action plan are to:

- Support local authorities and housing associations in providing affordable housing where
- Promote the range of shops and services to residents and visitors
- Implement a comprehensive traffic scheme to address pedestrian safety, traffic flow, traffic
- Secure increased police presence, on foot, at appropriate times
- Provide facilities for young people, and for sport, based on identified local needs
- Make improvements to the appearance of the village centre
- Seek improvements to the bus service, promote public transport and support a feasibility

What Action Is Proposed

Housing & Development

Represent community views on local planning issues to protect the existing environment, ensure a high quality of design and to control inappropriate development and to promote opportunities for local people to obtain affordable housing.

Employment & Economy

Actively support the local economy by encouraging local employment opportunities, promoting local shops, services and amenities and using local skills for community projects

Traffic

Secure needed improvements to road safety, traffic flow and parking in the village

Crime & Disorder

Improve policing and crime prevention in the parish

How It Will Be Achieved

1. Maintaining a clear understanding with the planning authorities on the best way to present local views
2. Support local authorities & housing associations in providing affordable housing where there is a proven local need
3. Support Dartmoor National Park Authority and South Hams District Council in resisting poorly sited and badly designed proposals
4. Production of a 'Village Design Statement' recording the pattern and detail of buildings in the parish
5. Liaison with organisations which support employment opportunities, including starter units
6. Promotion of the range of shops & services to residents and visitors; consider a "Welcome to South Brent" promotion
7. Ensure local firms are used, wherever practical, for parish projects
8. Effective implementation of the 20 mph limit in the centre of the village. Publicity to promote this coupled with stricter enforcement
9. Implement a comprehensive traffic scheme to address improved pedestrian safety (including crossings & pavements), traffic flow, traffic calming, lorry access, parking and signing
10. Improve the availability and use of off-street car parking in Station Yard and Co-op car parks
11. Secure increased police presence, on foot, at appropriate times
12. Reduction of traffic crime through effective enforcement of speed and parking restrictions
13. Encourage establishment of Neighbourhood Watch Schemes
14. Investigate CCTV for car parks

PARISH PLAN

There is a proven local need

Calming, lorry access, parking and signing

Study into reopening the railway station



Why It Is Needed

To ensure that parishioners views are given maximum consideration by the planning authority

To maintain a diverse age and social mix allowing younger generations to stay within the parish

To maintain the distinctive nature of the settlements and the character of individual buildings

To guide and control future development by recognising the locally distinctive nature of the built environment in South Brent

To maximise opportunities for local employment close to where people live, and in order to enhance the community

To ensure that local shops & services flourish, to encourage new ones to meet needs, and to minimise travel to more distant shops or services

To make best use of local skills and ensure project money benefits the local economy

To improve safety of pedestrians and other road users, and to reduce noise

To improve the safety and attractiveness of the village to the benefit of road users, pedestrians, residents and local businesses

To improve off-road parking for the benefit of drivers, residents and local businesses

To address concerns over the timing and effectiveness of the Police presence in the village

To reduce the danger to pedestrians caused by cars, particularly in the village centre

To assist in crime prevention and detection

To combat vandalism and theft

Who Will Have An Interest

Dartmoor National Park Authority • South Hams District Council
Devon County Council • Action and Community Group

Dartmoor National Park Authority • South Hams District Council
Housing Associations

Dartmoor National Park Authority • South Hams District Council
Devon County Council • Action and Community Group

Action and Community Group • Dartmoor National Park Authority
South Hams District Council • Devon County Council

Dartmoor National Park Authority • South Hams District Council
Devon County Council • SWE Regional Dev. Agency
Enterprise South Devon

Shops and services • Estate agents • Dartmoor National Park
Authority • South Hams District Council • Traders calendar

Local Groups • Funding Bodies

Devon County Council • Police • Drivers

Dartmoor National Park Authority • Devon County Council
Police • Drivers • Local Businesses • Pedestrians
External highway consultants

South Hams District Council • Dartmoor National Park Authority
Plymouth and District Co-op • Local Businesses

Police

Police • Drivers

Police

Police

Community Facilities

Support existing community facilities and help to ensure the provision of additional amenities, for which there is an identified need



Environment

Maintain and improve the local environment and heritage



Transport

Secure improvement in public transport serving South Brent and a reduction in the need for car travel



15. Provide facilities for young people where there is clear local need
16. Assess whether there is local need for additional meeting facilities for the elderly
17. Maintain availability of viable lifelong learning opportunities in the village, working with educational providers to ensure identified local needs can be met
18. Consider additional, viable, sports facilities and support work to provide them
19. Find a suitable site for allotments
20. Support the Old School Centre in maintaining and extending the range of activities offered
21. Support the Village Hall in maximising use of facilities
22. Investigate need for a local group to provide caring support services not already available
23. Provision of part-time optician service in the village, in liaison with Health Centre
24. Identify possible community or economic use for the Old Signal Box and liaise with owners over possible acquisition
25. Setting up a South Brent Conservation Area Improvement Scheme in conjunction with funding agencies
26. Appropriate improvements to the appearance of the public areas in the village centre in respect of planting, seating, lighting, signing & street furniture, possibly linked to a conservation area improvement scheme
27. Support the Brent Island Trust in the restoration of the weir and conservation of the leat
28. Support the South Brent Community Composting Group in obtaining a site and starting a scheme
29. Work with the waste authority to provide better recycling facilities throughout the parish
30. Open a footpath from the Recreation Ground to Station Yard negotiate with owners over a safe access route - and if feasible seek to fund implementation
31. Ensure effective and regular street cleaning, working with the waste authority to reduce litter, especially dog fouling
32. Seek improvements in bus services, through liaison with bus companies
33. Investigate reopening of the Railway Station and support a feasibility study into its viability
34. Reduce car travel by supporting a car-sharing scheme and promotion of bus & train availability
35. Actively support the Ring and Ride Service and investigate its use by other groups

To support proposals, identified by young people, which can be tackled locally	Youth Committee • Devon County Council • Community Colleges YMCA
To improve the quality of life for older residents	Senior Citizens • Age Concern • Devon County Council Retirement Homes • Village Hall • Old School Centre
To cater for local needs in the village, to help employment prospects and the quality of life, and reduce the need for travel to other venues	Old School Centre • Devon County Council • Learning & Skills Council • Community Colleges • Further Education Colleges
To provide as broad a range of sports as possible, for the health and enjoyment of residents of all ages	Recreation Association • Local Clubs and Groups South Hams District Council • Sport England
To meet an identified local need, increase local food production and promote health	Community Composting Group • Produce Association Dartmoor National Park Authority • South Hams District Council
To provide activities which meet local needs, reduce the need for travel to other venues and assist viability	Old School Management Committee • Users
To provide locally supported activities, reduce the need for travel to other venues and assist viability	Village Hall Management Committee • Users
To support carers	Carers • Nat Federation of Carers • Churches Devon County Council
To meet an identified local need, reducing travel to obtain this service	Health Centre • Opticians
To restore a neglected building in order to provide a local facility	Network Rail • Possible user groups

To support individuals or groups in undertaking improvements to buildings or open spaces within the conservation area in the centre of the village	Action and Community Group • Dartmoor National Park Authority English Heritage • Property Owners
To improve the appearance of the centre of the village, enhancing the quality of life and the attractiveness of South Brent as a local centre	Action and Community Group • Dartmoor National Park Authority English Heritage • Property Owners
To restore the damaged weir for historical and ecological reasons and to ensure continued use of the leat	Brent Island Trust • Dartmoor National Park Authority
To maximise composting of green waste locally	Community Composting Group South Hams District Council • Devon County Council
To minimise the amount of local waste going to landfill and maximise recyclable salvage	South Hams District Council • Dartmoor National Park Authority Devon County Council
To create a direct link to the Recreation Ground	Network Rail • Dartmoor National Park Authority
To improve public hygiene and maintain the cleanliness and appearance of the village	South Hams District Council • Local Press • Schools Dog owners

Current bus service could be improved to maximise local use of public transport	First Western National • Stagecoach • Devon County Council
To allow access to train services from and to South Brent, increasing options for sustainable public transport and helping to reduce road travel	Network Rail • Train Operators • Devon County Council South Hams District Council • Dartmoor National Park Authority
Maximise use of public transport and minimise car travel	Devon County Council • Train/ Bus operators Car-share organisations
To maintain an important service, especially for the elderly and infirm, and encourage similar initiatives	Devon County Council • South Hams District Council Ring & Ride