

# Nutbourne - Village Design Statement

Nutbourne Conservation & History Group  
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To All Residents of Nutbourne

In 1996 the then Secretary of State for the Environment, John Gummer, published via the Countryside Commission a document entitled "Village Design - making local character count in new development". In short, a Village Design Statement (VDS) is an opportunity for local communities to play a constructive part in "ensuring that development in their area is designed to enhance the local character and identity of the village in which they live."

Our own Planning Authority, Horsham District Council, has taken up this initiative and is actively encouraging villages in the area to participate. West Chiltington, Thakeham and Heath Common have already produced their own VDS's, which in turn are, already adopted as Supplementary Planning Guidance by HDC. Horsham District Council think that our hamlet would benefit from such a document and the Nutbourne Conservation and History group have undertaken to produce a VDS, which will be done in conjunction with Pulborough P.C., but stand as a separate document. There are far more advantages to having a VDS than not having one.

So what exactly is a VDS? It provides guidance for anyone considering development in the hamlet and will be equally valuable to individual householders wishing to build extensions or put in new windows, etc. as it will to planners, developers and architects considering new buildings. We can and should have a say in the way that any future development is carried out by ensuring that full account of the history and character of the hamlet is acknowledged, together with all the other qualities valued by the residents.

A group has been formed following the invitation on the village notice-board but for this to be both meaningful and successful it will be necessary to obtain the views and input of all of the residents and we are, therefore, taking this opportunity to request your support.

A VDS should reflect the consensus views of all the residents and a questionnaire for each household has been included with this letter. The responses, which will be anonymous, will form the basis of the Village Design Statement. At regular stages of the development we will be liaising closely with Pulborough PC and Horsham DC to ensure that there is common accord.

Please complete the questionnaire and leave it in the box provided in the Rising Sun no later than the 7<sup>th</sup> of March 2005.

This Village Design Statement may well take over a year to produce and if you would like to be involved please contact one of the people below.

Working Group: - Bob Allison 813314; Derek Baker 813033; Carol Nash 813608;  
Jim Noble 812004; Frank Riddle 813484; Mike Sherwood 812309

# NUTBOURNE DESIGN STATEMENT QUESTIONNAIRE

This questionnaire is designed for you to present your views and for data to be collected relating to your particular use of the local environment. The information given will remain anonymous and is solely to assist in the formulation of the Village Design Statement.

Please return the completed form to the Rising Sun Inn where a box has been provided by the 7<sup>th</sup> of March. Many thanks for your co-operation. If you have any queries please contact any member of the working group listed at the foot of the introductory letter.

<b>1.</b>	<b>THE PEOPLE</b>						
1.1.	How long have you lived in Nutbourne?	..... Years.					
1.2.	Is this your principal residence?	YES .....	NO .....				
1.3.	Why do you live in Nutbourne? ..... ..... ..... .....						
1.4.	Are you....	Please circle an answer for each member of the household					
	In employment?	Yes No	Yes No	Yes No	Yes No	Yes No	Yes No
	Do you work in Nutbourne?	Yes No	Yes No	Yes No	Yes No	Yes No	Yes No
	Do you work within 10 miles of Nutbourne?	Yes No	Yes No	Yes No	Yes No	Yes No	Yes No
	Do you work within 10 - 30 miles of Nutbourne?	Yes No	Yes No	Yes No	Yes No	Yes No	Yes No
	Do you work more than 30 miles from Nutbourne?	Yes No	Yes No	Yes No	Yes No	Yes No	Yes No
1.5.	Are you....	Please circle an answer for each member of the household					
	Retired?	Yes No	Yes No	Yes No	Yes No	Yes No	Yes No
	Mobility Impaired?	Yes No	Yes No	Yes No	Yes No	Yes No	Yes No
	At school or full-time education?	Yes No	Yes No	Yes No	Yes No	Yes No	Yes No
	Not at work?	Yes No	Yes No	Yes No	Yes No	Yes No	Yes No
	Involved in voluntary activities?	Yes No	Yes No	Yes No	Yes No	Yes No	Yes No
	Other? Please specify. .....						
1.6.	How many vehicles are in your household?	.....					

2.	<b>HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT</b>		
<p>Any new housing development potentially has a significant bearing on Nutbourne's design and character not only as a result of the style of development itself, but also the impact on housing density, infrastructure and amenities more generally. Whilst no major development is currently earmarked for Nutbourne, proposals may arise in future (and in any event applications for infill development arise from time to time). Please answer the questions in this questionnaire in this context.</p>			
2.1	<p>In connection with any housing development proposals for Nutbourne, using a scale of 1 (not desirable) to 5 (most desirable) what do you consider appropriate for the area?</p>		
Low cost housing	.....	Extensions blending with original house	.....
Semi-detached housing	.....	Extensions contrasting with the original house	.....
Bungalows	.....	Residence with garage/off street parking	.....
Small Detached housing	.....	Residence with street parking	.....
Large Detached housing	.....		
<u>Comments</u>	..... .....		
2.2	<p>In principle do you agree with new development by infilling within the hamlet?</p>	YES	NO
<u>Comments</u>	..... .....		
2.3	<p>Other than infill do you think Nutbourne can sustain more housing development?</p>	YES	NO
<u>Comments</u>	..... .....		
2.4	<p>Do you agree with any new development outside the existing "built up area" of the hamlet? (See map on back page)</p>	YES	NO
<u>Comments</u>	..... .....		
2.5	<p>Any new development (whether infill or otherwise) has a potential impact on local character. In your view would any further development have an adverse effect on Nutbourne's design and character?</p>	YES	NO
<u>Comments</u>	..... .....		
2.6	<p>The conservation area policy for Nutbourne (attached) requires "spaces about buildings" in order to preserve the character of the area.</p>		
	YES	NO	
<u>Comments</u>	..... .....		
	YES	NO	
Comments	..... .....		
	YES	NO	
Comments	..... .....		

<b>3.</b>	<b>VILLAGE DESIGN AND CHARACTERISTICS</b>			
3.1	On a scale of 1 (not important) to 5 (very important) how do you rate the following in relation to their impact on Nutbourne's character and design?.....			
	House design/style	.....	Type of walls, hedges and fences	.....
	Adherence to the existing "Conservation Area" policies as attached	.....	Choice of building materials	.....
	<u>Comments</u> ..... .....			
3.2.	On a scale of 1 (not at all) and 5 (very strongly) indicate to what extent you agree with the following in relation to any new building in Nutbourne?			
	So far as possible it should blend with "old Nutbourne"	.....	No development should be permitted which results in more on street parking	.....
	The choice of building materials is more important than house style	.....	Extensions and repairs to old properties should blend in and use the same materials where possible	.....
	<u>Comments</u> ..... .....			
3.3	On a scale of 1 (like to see less of) to 5 (like to see more of) which of the following types of boundary construction impact best on Nutbourne's design and character?			
	Open fencing	.....	Low hedging	.....
	Close-board fencing	.....	High hedging	.....
	Stone Walls	.....	Rural indigenous hedgerows	.....
	<u>Comments</u> ..... .....			
3.4	On a scale of 1 (not important) to 5 (very important) how do you rate the following in relation to Nutbourne's situation as a rural village?			
	Preserving Nutbourne Common	.....	Preserving the "stone walls" listed as of townscape value by WSCC.	.....
	Preserving/maintaining the local footpath network	.....	Tending trees hedgerows and verges	.....
	Preserving the strategic gap between Nutbourne and its neighbours			.....
	<u>Comments</u> ..... .....			
3.5	On a scale of 1 (not important) to 5 (very important) how do you rate the following in relation Nutbourne's design?			
	Quality of road surface and drainage	.....	Improvement of village signs/signposting	.....
	Maintenance of verges	.....	Minimisation of road traffic signs	.....
	Lower speed limits	.....	Restricted traffic routes	.....
	Traffic calming	.....	Better roads	.....
	Retention of sunken roads without kerbs and pavement	.....	Off street parking	.....
	Retention of the dark night sky without street lighting	.....	Overhead power lines	.....
	<u>Comments</u> ..... .....			

<b>4.</b>	<b>AMENITIES</b>			
4.1.	Which amenities do you use in Nutbourne?			
	The Rising Sun	.....	Stuart's Wood	.....
	Wildlife studies	.....	Telephone Box	.....
	Walking footpaths	.....	Post Box	.....
	Horse riding on bridleways & lanes	.....	Newspaper collection box	.....
	Cycling on bridleways & lanes	.....	Others please specify	.....
	<u>Comments</u> ..... ..... ..... .....			
4.2.	If land and/or funding were available what public amenities would you like to see?..... .....			

<b>5.</b>	<b>ENVIRONMENT</b>			
5.1	On a scale of 1 (not important) and 5 (very important) please indicate how concerned you are about the following.			
	Crime	.....	Noise levels (aircraft)	.....
	Smoke & air pollution	.....	Noise levels (land)	.....
	Dog fouling	.....	Other	.....
	<u>Comments</u> ..... ..... ..... .....			

<b>6.</b>	<b>FINALLY</b>			
	This should include features (views/open spaces/greenery, etc) that you would like to see enhanced/preserved/considered for development			
6.1.	What do you most like about Nutbourne?..... ..... .....			
6.2.	What do you most dislike about Nutbourne? ..... ..... .....			
6.3.	What would you most like to see improved/happen? ..... ..... .....			
6.4.	Are there any particular features that you would like to see given prominence in the forthcoming "Village Design Statement"? ..... ..... .....			

Thank you for your time in completing this questionnaire.

## NUTBOURNE CONSERVATION POLICIES (Transcript of WSCC document 1973)

The following general policies, which supplement those of the County Development Plan, have been adopted by the Local Planning Authority for use in guiding development proposals and other changes.

**Historic Buildings.** Buildings and other structures, of particular merit, are included in the statutory List of buildings of Special Architectural or Historic Interest. The preservation of these structures is essential. Owners are required to maintain them in a good state of repair and will be encouraged to reinstate former architectural features where appropriate. Other structures, of merit or of group value, which contribute towards the character of the Conservation Area, are shown as being recommended for inclusion in the statutory List or to be otherwise protected.

**Alterations to Structures.** Any alterations or additions to existing buildings must be sensitively designed and constructed of sympathetic materials in order to retain or emphasise the historic appearance of the building.

**Uses.** It is intended that existing uses within the village shall, for the most part, remain undisturbed.

**New Structures within the Conservation Area.** Any new buildings within the Conservation Area should acknowledge the character of the environment, especially in their form, scale and materials, and not be unduly assertive so that the historic buildings remain dominant. Schemes for the treatment of the spaces around new buildings, as for example hard surfaces, planting, walls, etc. must similarly, in terms of material and design, accord with the character of the Conservation Area.

**Spaces about Buildings.** A basic element contributing towards the character of the area is the size and arrangement of spaces about buildings which varies from narrow lanes to the more open street. These characteristic spaces should be maintained and enhanced where necessary by the sensitive use of indigenous materials and planting.

**Planting and Surfaces.** Existing trees and hedgerows which are a feature of the Conservation Area should be retained and properly cared for, and, if necessary, Tree Preservation Orders will be made. Where tree felling cannot be avoided replanting may be required.

Any new surfacing required for hard standing should be designed to be as unobtrusive as possible.

**Materials.** The predominant use of the local stone contributes towards the area's distinctive character and so this material should be retained in its natural form and not be colour washed, rendered, or otherwise obscured. Furthermore, the colours of painted surfaces should emphasise the natural building materials rather than detract attention from them.

**Road Works and Street Furniture.** Any road improvement schemes, or the introduction of street furniture, which are essential, should be so designed and sited as to cause the minimum visual impact on the street scene.

**Overhead Lines.** Efforts will be made to secure the replacement of overhead lines, which are obtrusive in the village scene, by underground cables.

**Setting of the Conservation Area.** Any new development adjacent or visually related to the conservation area must be designed so as not to conflict with the aesthetic qualities of that area.