

Liz Pickering

From: jane webber [REDACTED]
Sent: 23 March 2011 14:37
To: Liz Pickering
Subject: Mid Devon Green Infrastructure Strategy initial consultation

Thank you for your letter of 16th February 2011 inviting me to comment at the initial consultation stage of the above strategy. I am pleased to offer my comments, which I relate to Bradninch, but which would probably be relevant to other areas too.

Please find below a brief summary of my comments, and may I please draw your attention to the BRADNINCH PARISH PLAN, copies of which have been sent to Mid Devon District Council and Devon County Council, and which can be seen on the Bradninch Town website (www.bradninch-tc.gov.uk).

TREES

Encourage new plantings. Special care for all protected trees, particularly the ones in Fore Street Bradninch, which were planted to commemorate Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee at the turn of the last century.

PUBLIC FOOTPATHS

More paths and better links to create circular routes. A new River Walk along the River Culm (possible links with neighbouring parishes). Additional conservation walks, possibly one through and beyond the LNR at Charwell Wetland, to link with other existing paths.

GARDENS

Encourage food growing and interest in horticulture and wildlife.

VERGES

Make green verges easy to walk on (not paved, but ramps/steps for easy access and level them where necessary).

Preserve wild flower habitats.

LENGTHMAN

Maintain existing lengthsmen service or increase if possible.

RECREATION GROUNDS

Provide more if possible. Protect existing ones.

SPORT PLAYING AREAS/SCHOOL FIELDS

Provide infrastructure for spectators ('green' toilets and shelters).

CEMETERIES

Encourage planting and protect wildlife - fruit trees?

DOGS

Keep up campaign for responsible dog ownership and provide better service for dog litter bins.

HEDGES

Strategy for trimming outside nesting time. Cut a stretch, leave a stretch alternate years? Protect habitats.

FIREWOOD

Create stockpiling areas, easily accessed, for people to 'bring and take' wood from gardens etc for those with woodburners/those who have unwanted timber/prunings.

ALLOTMENTS

More, where and when needed (with strategy for use of area if demand diminishes).

HEN STREET STREAM

Proper maintenance programme - important ancient feature of Hen Street.

FARMING

Support farming initiatives for renewable energy schemes/projects and protection of habitats; solar panels on huge barn roofs (rather than allowing them on small house roofs in conservation area), wind turbines etc. Collection and use of water from large surface areas, such as roofs and concrete hardstandings - underground reservoirs? Encourage coppicing (planting of suitable trees in area difficult to till) to support popular woodchip burning energy systems.

ROADS

Collection of rainwater runoff into side channels to collection points (underground reservoirs?).

NEW HOUSING

Solar panels installed but new ideas needed to prevent eyesores!!!! Trees planted for screening. Roof water and surface water runoff collected and used - underground reservoirs, or roof tank collection arrangements for use in individual properties.

Thank you,

I look forward to seeing the progress of the Strategy.

Mrs. M.J. Webber, Ashbeare, West End Road, Bradninch, Exeter, Devon, EX5 4QS.