

Dear Friends of Steward Wood

27<sup>th</sup> October 2017

## DNPA LOCAL PLAN REVIEW - CONSULTATION

We are writing to let you know that the Dartmoor National Park Authority ('DNPA') are currently reviewing the Local Plan. The Local Plan is the starting point when they make a decision on a planning application in the National Park. We are asking supporters to make a contribution to the review process concerning low impact development and similar topics (see below).

The DNPA are currently holding a consultation which "is an opportunity for residents, communities, visitors, businesses and other organisations to offer views on how the new Local Plan should guide future development on Dartmoor. The Local Plan will cover issues such as: house extensions, design, the environment, listed buildings, housing, business, farming, tourism, quarrying, and land for development."

The deadline for this consultation is: Friday 16 December 2016.

See <[www.dartmoor.gov.uk/planning/pl-forwardplanning/local-plan-review](http://www.dartmoor.gov.uk/planning/pl-forwardplanning/local-plan-review)> for more details.

## CONSULTATION EVENTS

As part of this process, the DNPA are holding drop-in consultation events when you can "find out more about the Local Plan, what is in it, how it may affect you, or give us your views" at the following locations:

- Yelverton War Memorial Hall, PL20 6AL - 1st November 4pm - 7.30pm
- Mary Tavy Coronation Hall, PL19 9QA - 2nd November 4pm – 8pm
- South Brent Old School Centre, TQ10 9BP - 7th November 4pm – 7pm
- Endecott House, Chagford, TQ13 8AJ - 10th November 4.30pm - 8pm
- Princetown Church, PL20 6QT - 14th November 4pm - 8pm
- Moretonhampstead Community Club, TQ13 8NQ - 16th Nov 4pm - 8pm
- Buckfastleigh Town Hall, TQ11 0DD - 22nd November 4pm – 8pm
- Ashburton Town Hall, TQ13 7QQ - 23rd November 4pm – 8pm

## LOW IMPACT DEVELOPMENT & NEW BUILD

We invite you to make a contribution to the consultation either in writing and/or in person. See <<http://www.dartmoor.gov.uk/planning/pl-forwardplanning/issues-paper>> for details of how to respond. These are the points we feel it would be good to make:

- Urging the DNPA to keep DMD30, their policy on 'Low Impact Residential Development in the Open Countryside'. However, stating that the current guidance to DMD30 needs to be changed to allow projects such as at Steward Community Woodland to take place. (In a nutshell, the actual policy is useful but the guidance to the policy is badly drafted and detrimental to our project.)
- In relation to other types of development, urging the DNPA that any new housing should be kept to a minimum, and should be built to a high environmental

specification (not simply conventional construction) and every endeavour should be made to avoid building on greenfield sites. (Thus helping to meet the targets set in the UN Paris Summit on Climate Change.) Also urging the DNPA that ALL new housing should be truly affordable, and that co-housing and self-build projects should be actively encouraged.

We hope to see some of you at the Moretonhampstead event.

Best wishes

All the folk at Steward Community Woodland