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Referendum Information Statement for the Stogumber Neighbourhood Development Plan (SNDP)

A neighbourhood planning referendum will be held for the Stogumber Neighbourhood Plan on Thursday 5th October 2017.

The question to be asked in the referendum is “Do you want West Somerset Council to use the Neighbourhood Plan for Stogumber to help it decide planning applications in the neighbourhood area?”

The Referendum area is identical to the area which has been designated as the Stogumber Neighbourhood Plan Area. That is, the Stogumber Parish boundary running entirely within the West Somerset Local Planning Authority area, this excludes the section of the Exmoor National Park which passes through the Parish (see attached map).

A person is entitled to vote if at the time of the referendum if they meet the eligibility criteria to vote in a local election for the area, and if they live in the referendum area.

To vote in a local government election you must:

- be registered to vote
- be 18 or over on the day of the election ('polling day')
- be a British, Commonwealth or EU citizen
- be resident at an address in the area you wish to vote in
- not be legally excluded from voting

Number of persons entitled to vote in the referendum are is: 560

For queries about election procedures please contact the electoral services team on elections@westsomerset.gov.uk or 01984 635272

The referendum expenses limit that will apply in relation to the Stogumber Neighbourhood Development Plan has been calculated at £2,362 plus 0.059p for each person entitled to vote: £2,395.04. The total referendum expenses incurred or, treated as incurred, must not exceed the referendum expenses limit. The relevant statutes and guidance must be adhered to by all (individual or body by whom, or on whose behalf, are) connected with a campaign conducted with a view to promoting or procuring a particular outcome in relation to the question to be asked in a referendum.

The referendum will be conducted in accordance with procedures similar to those used at local government elections.

The referendum documents can be viewed at:

<https://www.westsomersetonline.gov.uk/Planning---Building/Neighbourhood-Planning/Stogumber-Neighbourhood-Plan>

Hard copies are also available to view at:

- West Somerset Council Offices, West Somerset House, Killick Way, Williton, Taunton, Somerset, TA4 4QA; reception hours Mon-Thurs 08:30-17:30, Fri 08:30-16:30.
- Stogumber Central Stores and Post Office, 6 High St, Stogumber, Somerset, TA4 3TA;
- Village Hall, Station Rd, Stogumber, Somerset, TA4 3TG;
- Stogumber Primary School, Station Road, Stogumber, Somerset, TA4 3TQ;
- White Horse Inn, High St, Stogumber, Somerset, TA4 3TA;
- Deane Close Common Room, Deane Close, Stogumber, TA4 3TE;
- St Mary's Church, High St, Stogumber, Somerset, TA4 3TA.

The referendum specified documents are:

- Neighbourhood Plan;
- Map of the Neighbourhood Plan Area;
- Independent Examiners Report;
- Summary of Representations;
- Statement that LPA are satisfied the draft plan meets those basic conditions and complies with the provision made by or under sections 38A and 38B of the 2004 Act;
- Statement setting out general information as to town and country planning (including neighbourhood planning) and the referendum, which is prepared having regard to any guidance issued by the Secretary of State;
- LPA determination of effect on a European site (as defined in the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010) or a European offshore marine site (as defined in the Offshore Marine Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 2007) (either alone or in combination with other plans or projects);
- Notice of the Referendum;
- Referendum Information Statement.

1 September 2017

The Stogumber Neighbourhood Plan Area comprises Stogumber Parish, except that it excludes that part of the Parish that is within Exmoor National Park.