

CEF 10 REPTON AND MILTON VILLAGE DESIGN STATEMENT

Consultation Process

General

All meetings, questionnaires and information are publicised through the Parish magazine that is distributed free to each house in the Parish on a monthly basis. Posters are also used in the Repton Post Office and the Milton Village Hall Notice Board. Information is also given at the relevant Repton Village Society Meetings and Parish Council Meetings.

A total of over 100 households contributed to the development of the Village Design Statement.

Set up

Following various interested people raising the subject a small group (Peter Rainey, John Shortt and Alan Kimber) met to look at the way ahead (June 2001).

Talks were held with two villages in East Staffordshire District that had developed Village Design Statements (Barton under Needwood (July 2001) and Rolleston on Dove (Aug 2001)).

A small committee was set up to start the process and links made to various bodies in Repton and Milton including the Parish Council.

Contact was made with Derbyshire Rural Community Council (Joe Dugdale) and SDDC (Gill Hague)

Draft constitution was developed and was agreed by the Repton Village Society and the Repton Parish Council since both allocated £400.00 each to the process.

Kick off Meetings

Repton 25th October 2001, Repton Village Hall with Gill Hague and Joe Dugdale leading and 19 residents.

The objectives and process of the Village Design Statement were discussed and a Post it Fair used to note the residents likes, dislikes and wishes on the various topics making up the VDS.

Repton 1st December 2001. Public Meeting with sixteen residents

Reviewed progress to date and continued the Post it Fair together with using photographs of Repton buildings to prompt the process.

Milton 10th January 2002. Public Meeting with Gill Hague and Joe Dugdale leading and 20 residents. Again the objectives and process of the Village Design Statement were discussed and a Post it Fair used to note the residents likes, dislikes and wishes on the various topics making up the VDS.

The comments on the Post It notes were collated and ordered, both for Repton and Milton.

Development of the VDS

A committee was set up to steer the process including representatives of interested bodies in the community (13th March 2002).

Questionnaire (May 2002)

A questionnaire was developed with help from Joe Dugdale. The form covered the topics used in the Post it sessions together with a section for any other points the respondent wished to make. This was distributed in the May 2002 Parish Magazine to all houses in Repton and Milton. Boxes for replies were placed in the Repton Post Office, the Repton Corner Shop, Redshaws the Butchers and the Swan Inn at Milton. A total of 69 responses were received. The information from these was combined with the information from the Post It sessions to provide a list of comments under the headings to be used in the VDS. The comments from the questionnaire were ranked by the number of responses.

Repton Primary School (Autumn Term 2002)

The Year 5 class carried out a project to help us. The project set two questions

What do they see as the character of Repton

What (facilities) do they think would make it better.

The class was divided into groups and went round the village using disposable cameras (provided by the VDS group) to record their views. The project was also used to develop their IT capabilities.

Draft 1

Each section of the draft VDS was written by an assigned person from the comments made in the Post It session and the responses in the questionnaire. During this time the steering committee was not involved and at the end of the process the committee was reconstituted with the committee containing those actively involved in the drafting of the document.

The initial document was larger than expected and an editing process was carried out together with obtaining agreement to use drawings of Repton and Milton from their owners.

The draft was finalised in October 2004.

Draft 1 Consultation

250 copies of the Draft were printed and first made available at the Repton Village Society Meeting on the 4th November 2004 when at least 21 copies were taken. Copies were made available in the Repton Post Office and the Swan Inn in Milton and the boxes contained space for responses to be posted in for later collection. A total of 160 copies were taken out of the 250 printed.

Following notices in the Parish Magazine and Posters, Open meetings were held on the 23 Nov 2004 in Repton Village Hall and on the 24th Nov 2004 in the Milton Village Hall to allow personal responses to be made.

In all thirty responses were received ranging from three pages to those where the only comment was that the respondent was pleased with the document.

Comments from the SDDC were received on the 11th Feb 2005. This meeting indicated the new regime that the SDDC was now having to operate in and the implications on the VDS.

It was agreed to proceed to Draft 2 with a timescale for issue of September 2005 to be followed by a set six week consultation period (defined by the ODPM)

Draft 2

Following the responses by residents to Draft 1 the committee developed Draft 2. General agreement on the draft was achieved in May 2005. However due to the changes in the planning process the VDS could not now be recognised at the current time as a supplementary planning document (like all SPDs – due the requirement for them to be accompanied by a sustainability assessment, a document that is not currently scoped in the SDDC) but could be acknowledged by the relevant SDDC Committee.

Also the contents of Draft 1 covered areas outside the direct planning scope (as other VDS Documents had) but given the new arrangements our document would have to be restricted in scope and the other sections would be relevant to Parish Plans that are currently being proposed for Parishes to improve their communication and involvement in their communities.

The revised Village Design Statement document was drafted and the Extra information included in a separate document to supplement the VDS. Again over 100 copies were printed and distributed in Milton and Repton.

Final Draft

The comments against Draft 2 were limited in extent compared with the first Draft and these were easily incorporated to make up the final draft. These were collated and the final draft printed. Free copies are being distributed to those known to have contributed.

It is planned to have copies for sale in the local Post Office.