

St Sampsons Church

Dear Parish Clerk,

Here are our revised comments for the neighbourhood plan.

St Sampson's PCC would like to see a further reference to St Sampson's Church included in the neighbourhood plan.

Could it be made clear that St Sampson's is the parish church of South Hill? It doesn't actually say so in the draft plan, just that St Sampson's church is at South Hill. Also, as many Parish Councillors will know, the church is now open for the community every day and the PCC and church members are currently working on plans to build kitchen & toilet facilities there so that we can make the building available for community use when the hall is not available or is not an appropriate venue. We also hope to produce information and arrange events to enable the history of the church and natural history of the churchyard to be better understood and enjoyed by the community.

We suggest the following:

at 4.2: St Sampson's, the parish church of South Hill, continues to be a centre for Christian worship, holding regular services and available for baptisms, weddings and funerals.

And at 6.1 (Vision): The parish church has become a focus for community wellbeing, offering cultural, heritage and social opportunities for all parish residents, in addition to its ongoing Christian activities.

At 5.2 many people in the survey expressed their feelings that St Sampson's Church was an important building within the community. The church is a grade 1 listed building and the sixth century standing stone in the churchyard is a scheduled monument of national importance.

C4 a) The church and churchyard and the setting in which they stand must be protected for their historical, cultural and landscape importance to the parish.

b) Applications which enhance St Sampson's church for use by the local community for social and educational purposes, or which help to promote its history and Christian heritage will be supported.

On behalf of St Sampson's PCC, we would like to offer our thanks for the time and effort put into drawing up the plan for the community.

Yours sincerely

Judith Ayers

St Sampsons PCC secretary