

# Winkleigh Neighbourhood Plan Consultation Statement

## Winkleigh Neighbourhood Plan Consultation Statement

### Introduction

1 This document sets out how community consultation was undertaken and managed as part of the Neighbourhood Plan preparation process.

2 This Consultation Statement fulfils the requirements of the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations (Section 15 (2) of Part 5 of the Regulations), setting out:

- Details of the persons and bodies who were consulted about the plan
- An explanation of how consultation was carried out
- A summary of the main issues and concerns raised through the consultation, and
- A description of how those issues and concerns have been considered and addressed in the plan

3 Winkleigh Parish Council (WPC) is the qualifying body responsible for the preparation, consultation and submission of the Neighbourhood Plan. It has been assisted by a Neighbourhood Planning Group (NPG) set up for the purpose, reporting monthly to the Parish Council. The terms of reference for the NPG are set out in Appendix 1.

4 The whole of Winkleigh Parish has been designated as the Neighbourhood Plan area.

### Community Planning in Winkleigh

5 Winkleigh is a thriving rural community with a strong cultural and community tradition. Winkleigh's distance from major towns and cities means it has a limited range of services and facilities to meet local needs. It has however been designated as a Local Centre in the Torridge Local Plan. In that role it is expected to accommodate some additional development to meet the District's objectively assessed housing need over the plan period.

6 The desire of the Parish to help shape its future was first expressed in the Parish Plan (2005) [insert This plan was updated in 2014 [[http://www.winkleighpc.org.uk/Winkleigh-PC/Community\\_Plan\\_and\\_VDS\\_17682.aspx](http://www.winkleighpc.org.uk/Winkleigh-PC/Community_Plan_and_VDS_17682.aspx)], following a Parish survey and extensive consultation. An action of this updated plan was to review the Village Design Statement, which was published in September 2016 (and can be viewed on the same link as the 2014 Community Plan).

7 The documents already prepared by the Parish indicate the strong track record of community involvement and participation. The preparation of the Parish Plan and Community Plan offer a good foundation on which to build the proposals of the Neighbourhood Plan. The conclusions of the consultation undertaken for them are important evidence for the Neighbourhood Plan and complement and reinforce the findings of more recent surveys and events.

### The Neighbourhood Plan Group

8 The Neighbourhood Plan Group (NPG), Chaired by a Parish Councillor, has prepared the plan on behalf of the Parish Council. The plan group has benefitted from the expertise of those with special interest and expertise in planning, the natural environment, education, housing, economic development and transport. Expertise was also drawn from some of the groups set up to carry forward the actions of the Community Plan.

9 The work of the NPG was assisted by consultancy work from Hamilton Baillie Associates on traffic and transport issues, and by Devon Wildlife Trust (Biodiversity Audit and Hedgerow Survey). In the pre-submission consultation stages the group was also advised by Maria Bailey of Clayewater Planning Group.

## The Neighbourhood Plan and Community Involvement

10 The NPG worked to a consultation strategy with the following key elements:

- Review of the evidence gathered for the Community Plan, and the community survey and publicity event that supported it
- Publication of a Framework Document setting out ideas for inclusion in the Plan. This was complemented by a further Parish wide survey (200+ responses) and exhibition event in October 2017
- Informal meetings with members of WPC to discuss: The role, scope and content of the Plan; housing options; draft policies and proposals
- Meetings with Devon County Council and Torridge District Council
- Liaison with other agencies and service providers; neighbouring Parishes
- Quarterly reports and updates published in Distinctly Winkleigh (delivered to all addresses in the Parish)
- Regular attendance at monthly and weekly markets in Winkleigh, to showcase particular issues and generate debate and awareness of the plan
- A public meeting presented by Ben Hamilton Baillie to discuss the findings of his traffic consultancy report
- Outreach work with organisations, individuals and schools to provide context for, and to underpin, the vision, culture and tradition of the Parish
- Use of social media for publicity about the plan and to advertise events
- Invitations to landowners and developers with planning applications to meet to discuss the longer-term opportunities and implications for Winkleigh
- Regular reports to the Winkleigh Society

11 The results of survey work in October 2017 indicated a need to engage more fully with younger age groups and the employers in the Parish. Although contact was made with the Primary and Secondary Schools in the Parish, feedback from pupils has been difficult to achieve. Art and storytelling competitions open to the schools have been more successful, and a survey of pupils at Winkleigh Primary School and Chulmleigh Academy was undertaken early in 2019. To generate more information about the economy and business of the Parish, an employer's survey was undertaken (February 2018) which has provided a picture of current business operations and future needs.

12 The 'mind map' attached as Appendix 4 summarises some of the community outreach work that has helped provide the context for the Neighbourhood Plan.

13 The progress of the Neighbourhood Plan was reported monthly to the Parish Council as a standing agenda item.

14 Documents associated with these consultation initiatives, including the summary document sent to all addresses can be viewed on [http://www.winkleighpc.org.uk/Winkleigh-PC/neighbourhood\\_plan-17682.aspx](http://www.winkleighpc.org.uk/Winkleigh-PC/neighbourhood_plan-17682.aspx)

## Pre-submission (Regulation 14) Consultation

15 Following review of previous community plans and the consultation work described above, the NPG identified a series of draft objectives and policies, arranged as themes in the Plan.

### Winkleigh Neighbourhood Plan Themes

16 The Neighbourhood Plan has not attempted to address all the issues in the Parish, but rather to focus on the main issues raised through consultation that can be tackled through the planning system.

**17 Theme 1: The Environment and Resources** – seeking net gains in biodiversity; protection and enhancement of the landscape and built and cultural environment; looking to reduce the carbon footprint of the Parish by promoting low carbon energy.

**18 Theme 2: Housing, Community Life & Wellbeing** – seeking to influence the amount and type of development for Winkleigh, to secure affordable housing and promote interconnected neighbourhoods.

**19 Theme 3: The Economy** – seeking to strengthen, diversify and improve the quality of the jobs on offer, upskill the work force, and make use of the knowledge economy, ICT and the employment land resources we have. Securing the shops and services in the centre of the village.

**20 Theme 4: Transport, Travel and Movement** – seeking to reclaim streets for people, recognising the importance of the public realm in reducing congestion and traffic speeds. Making sure parking is provided. Extending footpath networks to benefit the health and leisure of residents.

**21 Theme 5: Delivery and Implementation** – highlighting the delivery agencies and the ongoing work of the Parish Council in realising the Neighbourhood Plan

22 The pre-submission Neighbourhood Plan was published on 10 June 2019 and was made available for a 6 week consultation period in accordance with Regulation 14 of the Regulations. Prior to the start of the 6 week consultation period, public notices were placed in the Crediton Courier, Okehampton Times, North Devon Journal and Gazette. The draft Plan and supporting documents were made available electronically, (with a link from the Parish Council website). Hard copies of the plan were made available at key locations (Post Office, shops, pubs, schools, doctors' surgeries, vets and other businesses visited by the public) and public libraries in Okehampton and Crediton. They were also available to borrow from the NPG and Parish Councillors. The consultation period was supported by publicity on the Winkleigh Facebook page and by delivery of a summary document and response form to all addresses in the Parish. A display of the Plan's contents was held in Winkleigh on the 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> June, with a public meeting to discuss the contents of the Plan on the 21<sup>st</sup> June.

23 Those consultation bodies prescribed in paragraph 1 of Schedule 1 of the Regulations were consulted, along with other relevant local groups and organisations. Details of those bodies and organisations to which it was sent is included as Appendix 5.

24 A copy of the Neighbourhood Plan summary and response form, circulated to all addresses at the start of the Regulation 14 six week consultation period can be viewed on [http://www.winkleighpc.org.uk/Winkleigh-PC/neighbourhood\\_plan-17682.aspx](http://www.winkleighpc.org.uk/Winkleigh-PC/neighbourhood_plan-17682.aspx).

24 The Response Report (Appendix 5) lists those comments received and proposed changes. To be completed post Reg 14 consultation.

## Appendices

Appendix 1: Constitution/Terms of Reference of Neighbourhood Plan Working Group

Appendix 2: Designated Neighbourhood Plan area

Appendix 3: List of bodies and organisations consulted on the draft plan

Appendix 4: Consultation 'mind map'

Appendix 5: Summary of responses to the draft plan

## Appendix 1

### **Winkleigh Neighbourhood Plan Informal Working Group Terms of Reference**

#### Purpose

- a. The main purpose of the Winkleigh Working Group is to oversee the preparation of the Neighbourhood Plan draft document for Winkleigh in order that these will then progress to Independent Examination and a successful community referendum and ultimately be adopted by Torridge District Council to become planning policy.
- b. The Working Group will operate informally and will have no delegated powers from the Parish Council
- c. The Working Group, on behalf of the Winkleigh Parish Council, will engage the local community to ensure that the Plan is truly representative of the ambitions of Winkleigh. The Group will maximise support for the approach taken in the Neighbourhood Plan by ensuring high levels of community engagement throughout the plan-making process.

#### Principles

- a. The Working Group will undertake the process in a democratic, transparent and fair fashion, encouraging widespread participation and giving equal consideration to opinions and ideas from all members of the community
- b. All decisions made shall be fully evidenced and supported through consultation with the local community.

#### Roles and Responsibilities

In order to achieve this, following resolution by the full Parish Council at each relevant stage, the Working Group will carry out the following roles:

- Copy the Parish Clerk into all emails and written correspondence, using the Parish Council address for all correspondence matters and not personal addresses. The Clerk will scan and forward any replies to all NP members when received.
- Evidence gathering and analysis of data used in preparing the Neighbourhood Plan for Winkleigh;
- Produce, monitor and update a project timetable, to include a consultation and public engagement plan;
- Produce a consultation and engagement plan, showing how the public will be involved throughout the process;
- Report back to the Parish Council by written report following each Working Group meeting and verbal account with recommendations at each Parish Meeting for consideration of approval;
- To undertake analysis and evidence gathering to support the plan production process;
- Identify funding requirements and potential sources of funding and report to RFO in writing;
- Liaise with relevant authorities and organisations to make the plan as effective as possible.

- Consult as widely and thoroughly as is possible to ensure that the conclusions reached in the draft and final NDP is evidenced and representative of the views and issues of all residents
- Submit to the Parish Council, a final draft version of the Draft Winkleigh Neighbourhood Development Plan for ratification and submission to Torridge District Council

#### Membership

- a. The Working Group will be made up of a cross-section of volunteers from the community, including Parish Councillors. Effort will be made to seek representation from under-represented sections of the community.
- b. Membership of the Working Group will be open to the public indefinitely in addition up to a maximum of 4 Council members.
- c. The Parish Clerk will be an ex-officio member of the NP Working Group

#### Decision Making

- a. The Working Group will report monthly to the Parish Council setting out progress on its work. The Parish Council will consider approval of all expenditure, consultations and the Submission Draft Neighbourhood Development Plan prior to publication for consultation and independent examination following a written report from the Working Group.
- b. The plan-making process remains the responsibility of the Parish Council as the qualifying body. The NP Working Group will seek full Council approval for all publications, consultation and community engagement exercises that will be undertaken by or on behalf of the Parish Council with appropriate recognition of the Parish Council's position given in all communications associated with the project.

#### Meetings

- a. Working Group meetings will take place as necessary, but at least in line with WPC meetings.
- b. Where possible, all meetings should be held within the Parish
- c. The Working Group will elect a Chair from its membership to remain in those positions until the project is completed. If these positions should become vacant, the Group will elect an alternate.
- d. Working Group members should declare an interest where decisions or recommendations could result in potential advantage or disadvantage, whether financial or otherwise, to them, their family, or close associates.
- e. Disclosure of interests will be recorded in the minutes of the next Parish Council meeting.
- f. A nominated member of the group will keep a record of meetings and circulate notes to Working Group members and the Parish Council within 30 days of each meeting. The Clerk will circulate to Cllrs and Formal parish contact group.
- g. At least 3 clear days' notice of meetings shall be sent to members via email or an alternative agreed communication method.
- h. If necessary, the Parish Clerk will attend Working Group Meetings as an advisory officer.
- i. Recommendations made by the Working Group should normally be by consensus at Working Group meetings. **A minimum of 3 members shall be present where matters**

**are presented for recommendations to be taken forward to the next Parish Council Meeting.**

#### Working Parties

- a. The Working Group may establish working parties, made up of volunteers from the community to aid them in any Neighbourhood Plan related work.
- b. Each working party should have a lead person from the Working Group.
- c. Members of the community will be encouraged to participate in the process at all stages.
- d. Parish Council insurance will cover the previously agreed activities of the Working Group and volunteers provided prior notification of the activity and members involved is emailed to the Clerk 5 working days prior to the activity. Working group officers, in liaison with the parish clerk, need to ensure that terms of the insurance are not breached.

#### Finance

- a. All grants and funding will be applied for and held by the Parish Council RFO who will ring-fence the funds for Neighbourhood Development Plan work.
- b. All expenditure will be bound by the Parish Council Financial Regulations and Standing Orders
- c. The Working Group will notify the Parish Council, advising them of any planned expenditure before it is incurred and seek approval for the expense by resolution.
- d. All invoices will be made in the name of Winkleigh Parish Council.
- e. The Parish Responsible Finance Officer will be responsible for making all payments.
- f. Working Group members and volunteers from any working groups may claim back any previously agreed expenditure incurred during any Neighbourhood Plan related work on production of proof of expenditure

#### Conduct

- a. It is expected that all Working Group members abide by the principles and practice of the Parish Council Code of Conduct including declarations of interest.
- b. Whilst Members as individuals will be accountable to their parent organizations, the Working Group as a whole is accountable to the wider community for ensuring that the Plan reflects their collective expectations.
- c. The Working Group will achieve this through applying the following principles:
  - i. Be clear and open when their individual roles or interests are in conflict;
  - ii. Treat everyone with dignity, courtesy and respect regardless of their age, gender, sexual orientation, ethnicity, or religion and belief; and
  - iii. Actively promote equality of access and opportunity.

#### Changes to the Terms of Reference

- a. This constitution may be amended with the support of at least (two-thirds) of the current membership at a Working Group Meeting and with the approval of the parish council.

#### Dissolution

- a. The Working Group will be dissolved once its objectives have been attained and/or when at least (two-thirds) of its members and the parish council, consider its services are no longer required.

- b. The Working Group will then dispose of any remaining funds held in accordance with any conditions imposed by the grant funders and in the best interests of Winkleigh Parish.

Signed..... Chair Winkleigh Parish Council

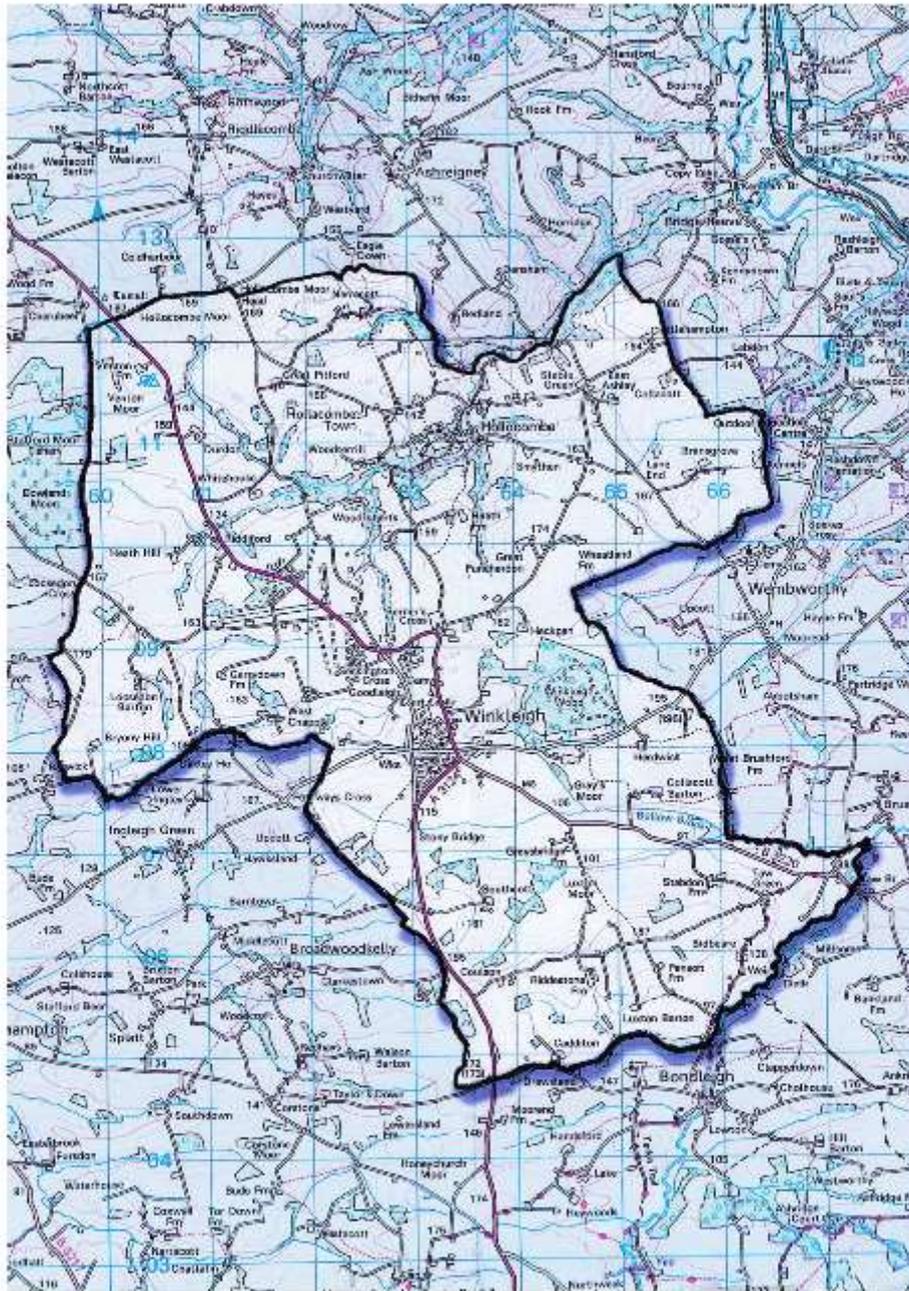
Signed..... Proper Officer WPC

Signed..... Chair NP Working Group

Dated.....26/07/2017..... Ratified Minutes Ref.....7.7.17bi.....

## Appendix 2

### Designated Plan Area



# Winkleigh Parish

Lower Itton, Spreyton, Crediton, Devon EX17 5BB  
01837 89095, [winkleighpc1@btconnect.com](mailto:winkleighpc1@btconnect.com)  
[www.winkleighpc.org.uk](http://www.winkleighpc.org.uk)

Mr D. Green  
Planning Manager  
Torrige District Council  
Riverbank House  
Bideford  
EX39 2QG

26<sup>th</sup> January 2017

Dear Mr Green

**Re: Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2013:**

**Application for Designation of a Neighbourhood Area: Winkleigh Civil Parish**

Under the relevant legislation, as set out in the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012, Winkleigh Parish Council, being a “relevant body” as defined in Section 61(G) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, wishes to prepare a Neighbourhood Development Plan.

As required by Regulation 5 of the Regulations, this Application for Designation of Neighbourhood Area is accompanied by the following:

- A map which identifies the area to which the area application relates;
- A statement explaining why this area is considered appropriate to be designated as a neighbourhood area;
- A statement that the organisation or body making the area application is a relevant body for the purposes of section 61G of the 1990 Town & Country Planning Act.

We consider the defined area to be appropriate for designation for the following reasons:

- i) The area for which designation is sought covers the entire administrative area of Winkleigh Civil Parish.
- ii) The defined area has an existing sense of community which the Parish Council wishes to nurture and cultivate by creating a Neighbourhood Plan to meet the present and future needs of residents, businesses and organisations in a way that conserves and enhances the environment whilst ensuring community safety. A Neighbourhood Plan will build on the vision for sustainable development set out in the Community Led Plan (published October 2014). It will also include elements of the Village Design Statement (published November 2016).

- iii) In the interests of balance, the Parish wish to emphasise and support the suitable and sustainable development of the Old Airfield as the designated and most appropriate area for industrial development to support the local economy, thus reducing the industrialisation of the countryside which will support the well-established tourist businesses in the area.
- iv) The Parish Council will work alongside Torridge District Council (which has a “duty to support”), residents and stakeholders as it has done in producing both a Community Led Plan (2014), Housing Needs Survey (2015) and an updated Village Design Statement (2016) as well as consultation of the emerging North Devon and Torridge Local Plan (2011-2031).

For the purposes of section 61G of the 1990 Act this letter is our statement.

Yours sincerely,

*Melanie Borrett*

Melanie Borrett

Responsible Finance Officer and Proper Officer

To Winkleigh Parish Council



Please reply to:  
Ian Rowland Direct Dial: 01237 428719  
Email: [ian.rowland@torridge.gov.uk](mailto:ian.rowland@torridge.gov.uk)

**TORRIDGE  
DISTRICT  
COUNCIL**



Melanie Borrett  
Winkleigh Parish Council  
Lower Itton  
Spreyton  
Crediton  
EX17 5BB

Our Ref : IR/WINN7                      Your Ref :  
Date        8<sup>th</sup> March 2017

David Green  
Planning Manager  
Riverbank House  
Biddeford  
Devon  
EX39 2QG

DX:53606 Biddeford

Tel 01237 428700

Dear Mrs Borrett,

**Decision regarding the designation of Winkleigh Neighbourhood Area  
under Section 61G of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as  
Amended)**

I am pleased to inform you that pursuant to a resolution of the Full Council  
on 6<sup>th</sup> March 2017, Torridge District Council has designated the area  
contiguous to the Civil Parish of Winkleigh as the 'Winkleigh Neighbourhood  
Area' in accordance with Section 61G of the Town and Country Planning Act  
1990 (as amended).

**Office Hours**  
Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu  
8:45am - 5:15pm  
Friday  
8:45am - 4:45pm

The relevant designation information is set out on a formal notice, two  
copies of which are enclosed. One copy is for your records and I would be  
grateful if you could arrange for the other copy to be placed on a local notice  
board so as to publicise the designation of the neighbourhood area. A copy  
will also be made available on the Torridge District Council website in due  
course.

**Head of Paid Service**

Jenny Wallace

If you have any further questions regarding the designation or the wider  
neighbourhood planning process please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours sincerely,

**Ian Rowland**  
Senior Planning Policy Officer  
Enc.



100%

[www.torridge.gov.uk](http://www.torridge.gov.uk)

## Appendix 3

### List of Bodies and Organisations Consulted

Organisation	
<b>Reg14 Consultees</b>	
where the local planning authority is a London borough council, the Mayor of London;	N/A
a local planning authority, county council or parish council any part of whose area is in or adjoins the area of the local planning authority;	<p>Devon County Council</p> <p>Torrige District Council</p> <p>Mid Devon District Council</p> <p>West Devon Borough Council</p> <p>Dolton Parish Council</p> <p>Dowland Parish Council</p> <p>Ashreigney Parish Council</p> <p>Wembworthy Parish Council</p> <p>Coldridge Parish Council</p> <p>Chulmleigh Parish Council</p> <p>Brushford Parish Council</p> <p>Bondleigh Parish Council</p> <p>Broadwoodkelly Parish Council</p> <p>North Tawton Town Council</p>
The Coal Authority	N/A
The Homes and Communities Agency	The Homes and Communities Agency
Natural England	Natural England
Environment Agency	Environment Agency SW
the Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England (known as English Heritage)(	Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission (Historic England) SW
Network Rail Infrastructure Ltd	Network Rail Infrastructure Ltd
Highways Agency	N/A
Marine Management Organisation	N/A
to whom the electronic communications code applies by virtue of a direction given under section 106(3)(a) of the Communications Act 2003; and	BT Openreach; CTIL (Telefonica (O2) & Vodafone); MBNL (3+EE)

(ii) who owns or controls electronic communications apparatus situated in any part of the area of the local planning authority;	
a Primary Care Trust established under section 18 of the National Health Service Act 2006(7) or continued in existence by virtue of that section;	Devon Clinical Commissioning Group  NHS Devon Partnership Public Health Royal Devon & Exeter Trust North Devon NHS Trust
a person to whom a licence has been granted under section 6(1)(b) and (c) of the Electricity Act 1989(8); a person to whom a licence has been granted under section 7(2) of the Gas Act 1986(9) a sewerage undertaker; and (v) a water undertaker;	Western Power Distribution  Wales and West Utilities South West Water  Regen SW communities
voluntary bodies some or all of whose activities benefit all or any part of the neighbourhood area; bodies which represent the interests of different racial, ethnic or national groups in the neighbourhood area;	Devon Communities Together Torrige CVS Torrige, North, Mid and W Devon CAB
bodies which represent the interests of different religious groups in the neighbourhood area;	Winkleigh Parochial Church Council Winkleigh Methodist Church
bodies which represent the interests of persons carrying on business in the neighbourhood area; and	Heart of the SW LEP
bodies which represent the interests of disabled persons in the neighbourhood area.	Devon Carers
<b>Other Consultees</b>	
Police	Police and Crime Commissioner Devon & Cornwall Policy and Crime Commissioner Avon & Somerset
Sport England	
Devon Wildlife Trust	

N Devon Biosphere Reserve	
Tarka Rail Association	
Stagecoach	
Wallingbrook health centre	
Winkleigh Primary School	
Chulmleigh Academy	
Local businesses and landowners	
Young Farmers	
Community Centre Committee	
Village Hall Committee	
Sports Centre & Playing Fields	
ACE Archaeology Club	
Allotment group	
Toddler group	
Winkleigh Fair Committee	
Winkleigh Society	
Winkleigh Methodist Church	
Women's Institute	
Senior Citizens Club	
Royal British Legion (women's section)	
Royal British Legion (men's section)	
Parochial Church Council of All Saints Church	
Winkleigh Wives Group	
Wallingbrook Patients Participation Group	
Winkleigh Biodiversity Group	
Women's section of British Legion	
Winkleigh Green Group	

## Appendix 4

### COMMUNITY OUTREACH MIND MAP



## Appendix 5

### Summary of Comments on the draft Neighbourhood Plan

TO BE COMPLETED

Winkleigh Neighbourhood Plan			
Para No./Policy	Comment No	Summary of Comment	Response
General Comments			
Introduction			
Vision			
Natural Environment			