

Public Consultation
March 2016

The information presented below is a transcribed version of the hand written comments made at the meeting held in the Barley Mow on Tuesday 8th March.

Comments from: Howard Martin

Resident of: Trefonen
 Treflach
 Nantmawr
 Other Oswestry

Comment:

Whilst Mr Martin is not a resident of any of the villages covered by the Village Design Statement he has significant interests in them.

Ref: Village Design Statement Advisory Booklet.

Page 4, para 2: VDS are intended for.....etc.
 They are not about whether development should, or should not take place.
 That is a job for the local planning authorities.
 VDS are about how planned developments should be carried out.

Page 5: Highlighted section: all relevant, but please note that the last line is about
 managing change in the village, not preventing it.

Page 6, para 4: The purpose of VDS is to manage change, etc. They are not about whether
 development should take place, etc.

Ref: The updated VDS, now under consultation.

As you can see, the current draft of the VDS totally ignores these principles, which are repeated time and time again throughout the VDS advisory document, ie :-

Page 7, para 2: A VDS etc,.....

Page 7, para 4: A VDS describes visual features, etc.....

Page 9, para 2: A VDS can build, etc.....

Page 10: A VDS is important to planners because it represents the views of the whole
 community, it enables. & prevents NIMBY.

Page 12: Scope & Content – A VDS must be both relevant and complimentary.

Page 17: It is important not to rely too heavily on any available professional advice, as the
 key to an effective VDS is that it reflects widely held views of the village as a
 whole.

Page 21: Useful to put the ideas into a simple and clear statement etc, and demonstrate
 how the VDS is relevant to everyone in the village.

Page 24: If the VDS is to be approved as a supplementary planning guidance, etc, it needs
 to focus on matters and details that relate to planning decisions.

Page 31: Plan the consultation process early, etc, and not as a separate add-on at the
 end.

Page 39: An effective VDS etc.....

In conclusion, the current format of the VDS involves itself far too much in influencing future planning and development in the village, and not commenting on the design density, etc, which is its primary purpose, as stated numerous times in the advisory booklet.