

# Silkstone Neighbourhood Development Plan 2022 - 2033



Draft Plan for Regulation 14 Public Consultation  
Silkstone Parish Council, February 2022



# Silkstone Parish Neighbourhood Development Plan Regulation 14 Consultation – 28<sup>th</sup> February to 11<sup>th</sup> April 2022

## What is an NDP

Neighbourhood Development Plans (or NDPs) are locally-led planning policy documents and are used to help decide planning applications in a specific local area. NDPs are informed by consultation and engagement with local residents and stakeholders and must sit within the wider national and local authority planning framework. Government planning policy is set out in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and Barnsley Council's planning policies are set out in the adopted Barnsley Local Plan and Policies Map.

At the end of the process **everyone on the electoral register in the Parish is invited to vote in a referendum** on whether the Plan should be used to help decide planning applications.

## What are we consulting about?

You might remember that in Spring 2021, the NDP steering committee consulted on a document on the key planning Issues and Options identified as relevant to Silkstone Parish (which includes the villages of Silkstone and Silkstone Common). The steering committee has used the comments made on that document by local residents and groups to prepare a draft NDP. This turns those Issues and Options into more formal Planning Policies that will be used when planning applications affecting the Silkstone Parish are considered by Barnsley Council.

We now have to undertake a formal Regulation 14 consultation on the draft NDP. This means consulting local residents and groups again on those issues, but also a wider range of other organisations across the Barnsley borough and beyond. This document is a summary of the draft NDP and includes a form for your responses. However, this consultation is on the complete Draft Plan, so please refer to this document before you respond. **The consultation runs from 28<sup>th</sup> February to 5pm on 11<sup>th</sup> April 2022.**

The full draft NDP and other background information are available on the Parish Council's NDP website at [www.silkstoneplan.co.uk](http://www.silkstoneplan.co.uk). You can also borrow a paper copy from members of the steering committee listed on page 6. Those people will also answer any questions you have about the draft NDP, and will also be available at the planned drop-in events on 19<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> March (more details on page 6), if covid restrictions allow these to go ahead. The responses we receive will be used to finalise the NDP before the next round of consultation by Barnsley Council prior to the referendum..

Please complete the response form on page 7 & 8 and return it using one of the options on page 8.

Access the draft NDP at Feb. [www.silkstoneplan.co.uk](http://www.silkstoneplan.co.uk) If you have problems accessing it, please email: [npsc19@gmail.com](mailto:npsc19@gmail.com)

Welcome to this special edition of the Parish Newsletter which is dedicated to the next stage of the Silkstone Parish Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP). The plan follows intensive efforts by a committed group of residents across the Parish and is backed by the Parish Council. It is the result of consultations with parishioners about the future of planning and development in Silkstone and Silkstone Common.

This Newsletter contains a summary of the draft NDP and is part of a formal consultation process lasting from 28<sup>th</sup> February to 11<sup>th</sup> April 2022. Please take time to read it and go to the Silkstone Plan website at [www.silkstoneplan.co.uk](http://www.silkstoneplan.co.uk) to see the detailed proposals. We have planned drop-ins events in both villages to take place in March which we hope will be able to go ahead given the relaxation of covid-19 restrictions.

We need to know if you support the draft vision and objectives and draft planning policies. Is there anything you object to or do you have any comments or suggestions for changes? Is there anything important that you think we have missed?

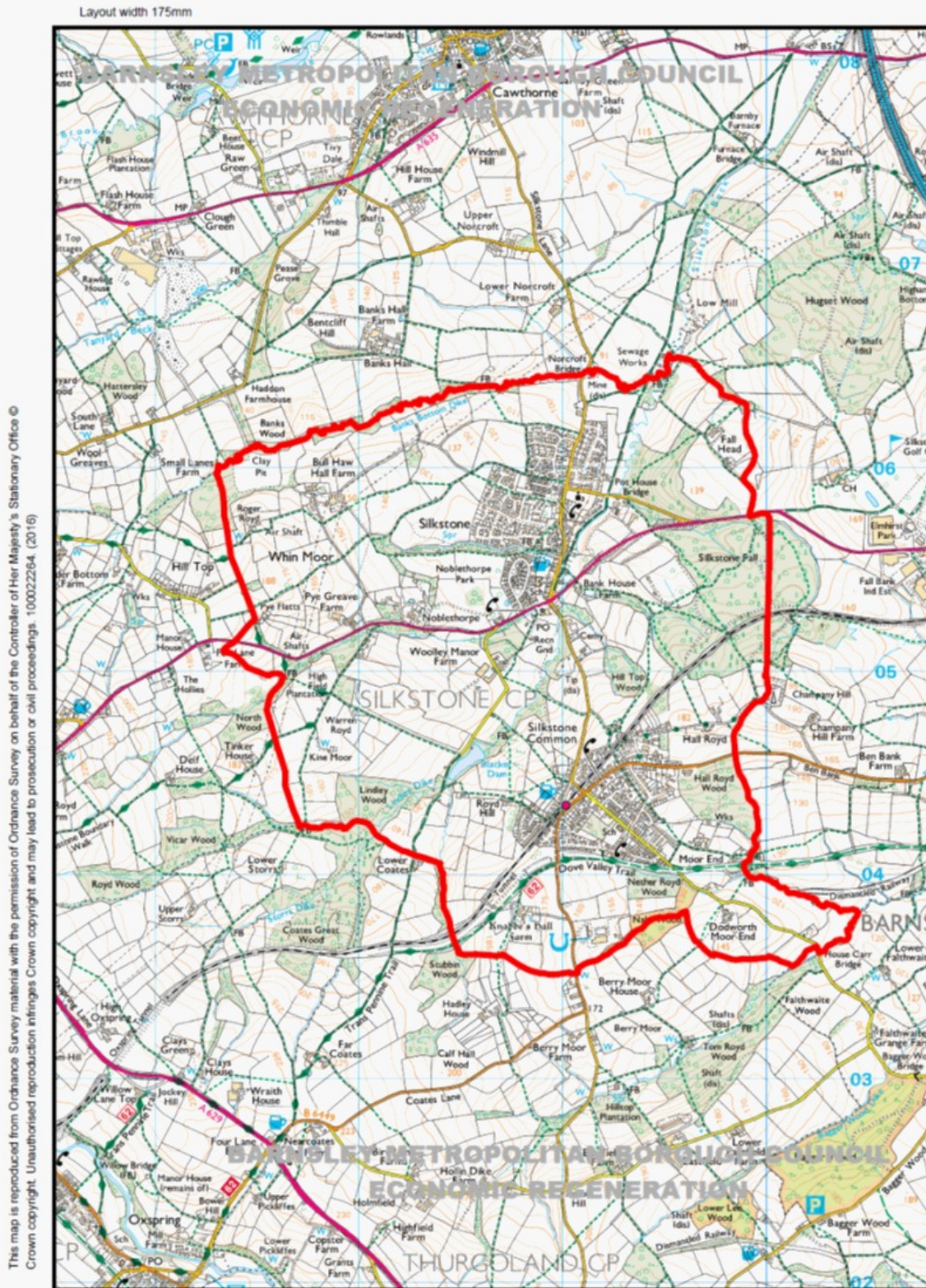
Please use the response form at the end of the Newsletter to give us your views. There are numerous ways to return your response form – you'll find details on page 8. Thank you in advance for taking the time to read the newsletter, completing the form, and returning it to us. **Richard Leech, Chair Silkstone Parish Council**

01226 791679

[leechrch@richardleech.co.uk](mailto:leechrch@richardleech.co.uk)

# Designated Neighbourhood Area and Parish Boundary

The policies in the NDP only apply in the area shown on the map below. Other relevant maps, for example, proposed protected views and location of proposed Local Green Space are available in the draft NDP at [www.silkstoneplan.co.uk](http://www.silkstoneplan.co.uk)



# NDP Draft Vision and Objectives for Silkstone Parish up to 2033

In the consultation on the Issues and Options, respondents expressed support for the areas of concern identified. 95.7% of respondents agreed with the proposed draft Vision and Objectives. Several detailed comments were received and are reflected in the revised draft Vision, Objectives and Policies now proposed in the draft NDP. Visit [www.silkstoneplan.co.uk](http://www.silkstoneplan.co.uk) to see the full details.

## Draft Vision

To maintain the character of the villages by ensuring that any development is sensitive to the existing built and natural environment but recognises the need to support 21st century living in a sustainable way

## Draft Objectives

### Housing

Objective 1, Housing: To support the development of housing provision to meet local needs that is in keeping with the character of the surrounding area (see NDP Policies H1, H2, H3 and D2).

### Green Space, Heritage and Sustainability: Built Environment:

Objective 2, Green Space, Heritage and Sustainability: Natural Environment: To protect, enhance and develop the Parish's wildlife and biodiversity, natural assets and amenity areas, including the Trans Pennine Trail, the green belt, green open spaces, woodland, open farmland, and community allotments (see NDP Policies NE1, NE2 and LGS1).

Objective 3: To protect and enhance the Parish's built industrial and residential heritage and history (see NDP Policies BH1 and D2).

Objective 4: To support climate change and carbon net zero objectives and to promote resource efficiency in all new development (see NDP Policy D1).

### Activities: Leisure, Recreation and Tourism:

Objective 5: To support the protection and improvement of community leisure, sports and recreation facilities (see NDP Policy R1).

Objective 6: To support the development of a sustainable local economy, with particular emphasis on maximising local tourism assets (see NDP Policy RD1).

### Access: Travel and Infrastructure:

Objective 7: To preserve and improve accessibility and connections to the Trans Pennine Trail, the Waggonway, local beckside, local footpaths and bridle paths (see NDP Policy T1).

Objective 8: To better manage local traffic to reduce highway congestion and increase road safety (see NDP Policy T1 and the Parish Council Actions proposed in Appendix 5 of the draft NDP).

Objective 9: To support better access to local public transport networks (see NDP Policy T1 and the Parish Council Actions proposed in Appendix 5 of the draft NDP)

## Responses and Resulting Policies

This section summarises the consultation response to the Issues and Options paper, and the policies we are now proposing in the draft NDP. Visit [www.silkstoneplan.co.uk](http://www.silkstoneplan.co.uk) to see the full detailed analysis and policies.

**Housing:** The Issues and Options Consultation showed that over half of residents have concerns about the Barnsley Local Plan policies being sufficient to guide decisions about housing developments. Residents expressed a high level of support for local planning policies in the NDP. In particular, residents felt more smaller and affordable housing should be provided, as well as freeing up family houses by meeting the needs of older people to downsize. The draft NDP proposes a Draft **Policy H1 regarding the criteria for new housing development in Silkstone Parish** to meet those aspirations. The policy also talks about design policies so that the height, density, scale, detailing and materials are sensitive to the surrounding area.

Residents were also concerned about the impact of backland development. **Draft Policy H2 therefore addresses residential development in rear gardens**, focusing on ensuring there is no impact on the character of the local area nor unacceptable increases in housing density. The draft NDP also considers the possibility of developing sites for affordable housing schemes in the future. Draft Policy H3 supports Rural Exception Housing in the Green Belt to meet local housing needs in the Parish, but subject to detailed criteria about affordability for local people, high quality design, low landscape and visual impact and access to local services.

**Green Space, Heritage and Sustainability: Natural Environment:** Responses on the Issues and Options showed the high value placed on the Parish's attractive countryside and landscape and the need to protect and enhance it. Features such as the network of footpaths, hedges and woodland, and stone walls are particularly valued, and residents made suggestions for enhancing these features. The proposed design codes also identified the value of landscape, and the need to protect views at key locations. The importance of ensuring separation between the two villages was also emphasised. The draft NDP includes **Draft Policy NE1 Protecting and Enhancing Local Landscape Character** to help ensure that the distinctive landscape character features of the Parish are protected, and opportunities are taken to enhance the local countryside so that it can continue to be enjoyed by all.

**Wildlife:** Closely associated with concerns about the natural environment is the desire to protect local wildlife. The Issues and Options consultation showed significant support for including a policy to protect and enhance local wildlife, and to identify opportunities for biodiversity net gain. Again, residents had a range of suggestions for how local biodiversity could be enhanced. **Draft Policy NE2 Wildlife** gives detailed support for protecting local wildlife and habitats in any development. In addition, the design codes include guidelines on Sustainability and Climate Change to support biodiversity.

**Local Green Spaces:** Whilst Silkstone and Silkstone Common are both surrounded by Green Belt, the smaller areas of open green space within the built-up areas of the villages are locally valued. Where these sites have particular local significance, the NPPF allows local communities to protect them from development by designating them as 'Local Green Spaces'. A number of sites were set out in the Parish Design Statement in 2007, and the Issues and Options consultation asked residents to comment on these and any others that might be considered as Local Green Spaces. In the draft NDP, **Draft Policy LGS1 Local Green Spaces** proposes eleven sites for designation, with more detailed consideration and justification in **Appendix 2 of the draft NDP**.



**Green Space, Heritage and Sustainability: Built Environment:** Silkstone Parish has 24 Listed Buildings including the Grade I Church of All Saints and Grade II\* Knabbs Hall, which are already protected through local and national planning policies and other legislation. The area has an interesting and important heritage linked to its industrial past and particularly coal mining. The NDP process allows other important local features and buildings to be included on a local list of important non-designated heritage assets, and this was supported by nearly 90% of respondents in the Issues and Options consultation. **Draft Policy BH1 Conserving and Enhancing Heritage Assets on the Local List** proposes candidate buildings and structures to be non-designated heritage assets, with the **Local List set out at Appendix 3 to the draft NDP**.

**Sustainable Design:** In the Issues and Options consultation, a number of residents commented on the importance of responding to the climate emergency. Plans should promote more sustainable development, which minimise resource consumption and carbon emissions and is climate resilient, increases almost daily. **Draft Policy D1 Sustainable Design** sets out a range of sustainable measures to be provided in developments, including energy and resources efficiency, provision of open spaces and green infrastructure. This reflects the measures identified in the proposed design codes.

**Local Character:** The importance that any development reflects the character of the surrounding area was a key consideration in the Parish Design Statement, reflecting concerns raised by local residents. The proposed Design Codes take this into account and provide up to date and detailed guidelines for development in the Parish. In the NDP, **draft Policy D2 Promoting High Quality Design and Responding to Local Character** refers to the need for all development to be sympathetic to the distinctive character of the relevant **Character Area, provided in Appendix 4 to the NDP**. The policy sets out principles that should be addressed in any new development or in the conversion of historic buildings.

**Community and Recreation Facilities:** The responses to the Issues and Options consultation showed that the wide range of local recreation facilities in the Parish are highly valued by residents. Over 90% of respondents supported a policy in the NDP that would support investment in local recreational and sports provision. Respondents made several suggestions about promoting improved use and maintenance of existing facilities, provision of more indoor space (or wider use of existing facilities), and improved provision for walking and cycling. Various proposals were also made on how better use could be made of Silkstone Common Recreation Ground. **Draft Policy R1 Supporting Suitable Improvements to Local Recreation and Community Facilities** therefore supports proposals for improvements in existing recreation, sports and community facilities in Silkstone Parish where they widen the choice of local sports provision, provide opportunities for informal activities, and promote healthy and active lifestyles for all.

**Rural Employment and Tourism:** Over 80% of Issues and Options respondents agreed that the NDP should include a Policy which supports rural diversification and the visitor economy. Residents supported proposals for local crafts and clean / light industries, improving signage and facilities linked to the TPT, walking and cycling and parks, enhancing local food and drink provision and holiday accommodation, and promoting local heritage. **Draft Policy RD1 Supporting Rural Diversification and Tourism** expresses support for this, particularly in the rural area between the two villages. **Appendix 5 to the draft NDP** also identifies actions for the Parish Council, for example, improvements to signage and publicity related to walking and cycling, and to seek to respond to concerns about traffic, parking, lack of public toilets and litter.

**Access: Travel and Infrastructure:** The Issues and Options consultation asked for views on an NDP to improve accessibility for all, encouraging developments to link to the PROW network and to support travel by walking and cycling. 100% of



respondents supported this. This is now reflected in Draft Policy T1 Improving Access and Sustainable Travel. The policy incorporates principles in the Design Codes that support sustainable travel and accessibility.

## How to respond

**This section summarises how you can respond to the Regulation 14 consultation. Visit [www.silkstoneplan.co.uk](http://www.silkstoneplan.co.uk) for more information.**

The Draft Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) for Silkstone Parish is published for formal public consultation for 6 weeks from Monday 28th February 2022 until Monday 11th April 2022.

The Draft Plan has been prepared by a steering group of parish councillors and local residents. It sets out locally relevant planning policies and proposals to help guide new development in our parish and will be used alongside the planning policies set out in the Barnsley Local Plan, adopted in January 2019. It takes into account the responses to the consultation on Issues and Options which took place from 5<sup>th</sup> April 2021 until 17<sup>th</sup> May 2021.

*We need to know the following:*

- **Do you support the draft vision and objectives and draft planning policies?**
- **Is there anything you object to?**
- **Do you have any comments or suggestions for changes?**
- **Is there anything important that you think we have missed?**

Please respond to this consultation by completing the response form on pages 7 & 8 and placing it in one of the boxes provided at the Co-op Store at Silkstone Cross, Silkstone Pharmacy, High Street, and Cottage Bakery, Ben Bank Road, Silkstone Common. You can also return it by post to the Clerk to the Parish Council at 8 The Meadows, Silkstone Common, Barnsley S75 4SG.

You can also submit comments by email to [npsc19@gmail.com](mailto:npsc19@gmail.com) or complete the online form on the NDP website at [www.silkstoneplan.co.uk](http://www.silkstoneplan.co.uk). Response forms can also be downloaded from the NDP website.

You can also submit your comments by email or letter, using any of the contact methods set out above.

Further paper copies of the response form and the NDP are available on request from the following steering group members: Ian Turner (07941 741896), Debra Smith (07443 221784), Alan Thompson (07870 191873), Derek Liddell (01226 790509), Meryl Liddell (01226 790509), Sue Williams (07796 260567). You can also discuss the NDP with any of these steering group members.

### *Drop In Events*

Drop in events will be held from 10am to 2pm on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2022 at the Huskar Rooms, Silkstone, and 10am to 2pm on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2022 at Silkstone Common Methodists Church. These sessions will be an opportunity to talk to members of the Steering Committee about any issues raised in the Draft Plan.

**Note:** If Government restrictions on gatherings associated with Covid-19 are in place, these drop-in sessions will be held virtually using Zoom on the same two days. You will need to register for those sessions by contacting [npsc19@gmail.com](mailto:npsc19@gmail.com)

# Response Form

Name: .....

Organisation: .....

Address: .....

Email: .....

Tel. No: .....

PLEASE NOTE THAT YOUR DETAILS ARE REQUIRED TO CONFIRM YOUR RESPONSE BUT WILL NOT MADE PUBLIC IN ANY FORM

**Data Protection - please indicate your choice with a tick ✓ .**

**I do** consent to my contact details being provided to Barnsley Council so that they can keep me informed about the next stages in the NDP process.

<input type="checkbox"/>
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**I do not** consent to my contact details being provided to Barnsley Council

<input type="checkbox"/>
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*Draft Vision and Objectives?*

1A: Draft Objective 1: To support the development of housing provision to meet local needs that is in keeping with the character of the surrounding area .

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
No	<input type="checkbox"/>

1B: *Comment*

5A: Draft Objective 5: To support the protection and improvement of community leisure, sports and recreation facilities

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
No	<input type="checkbox"/>

5B: *Comments*

2A: Draft Objective 2: To protect, enhance and develop the Parish's wildlife and biodiversity, natural assets and amenity areas, including the Trans Pennine Trail, the green belt, green open spaces, woodland, open farmland, and community allotments.

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
No	<input type="checkbox"/>

2B: *Comments*

6A: Draft Objective 6: To support the development of a sustainable local economy, with particular emphasis on maximising local tourism assets?

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
No	<input type="checkbox"/>

6B: *Comments*

3A: Draft Objective 3: To protect and enhance the Parish's built industrial and residential heritage and history.

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
No	<input type="checkbox"/>

3B: *Comments*

7A: Draft Objective 7: To preserve and improve accessibility and connections to the Trans Pennine Trail, the Waggonway, local beckside, local footpaths and bridle paths'

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
No	<input type="checkbox"/>

7B: *Comments*

4A: Draft Objective 4: To support climate change and carbon net zero objectives and to promote resource efficiency in all new development

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
No	<input type="checkbox"/>

4B: *Comments*

8A: Draft Objective 8: To better manage local traffic to reduce highway congestion and increase road safety

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
No	<input type="checkbox"/>

8B: *Comments*

9A Draft Objective 9: To support better access to local public transport networks

Yes	
No	

9B *Comments*

16A Draft Policy BH1 Conserving and Enhancing Heritage Assets on the Local List

16B *Comments*

Yes	
No	

10A Draft Policy H1 Criteria for New Housing Development in Silkstone Parish

10B *Comments*

Yes	
No	

17A Draft Policy D1 Sustainable Design

17B *Comments*

Yes	
No	

11A Draft Policy H2 Residential Development in Rear Gardens

11B *Comments*

Yes	
No	

18A Draft Policy D2 Promoting High Quality Design and Responding to Local Character

18B *Comments*

Yes	
No	

12A Draft Policy H3 Rural Exception Housing, including Affordable Housing

12B *Comments*

Yes	
No	

19A Draft Policy R1 Supporting Suitable Improvements to Local Recreation and Community Facilities

19B *Comments*

Yes	
No	

13A Draft Policy NE1 Protecting and Enhancing Local Landscape Character

13B *Comments*

Yes	
No	

20A Draft Policy RD1 Supporting Rural Diversification and Tourism

20B *Comments*

Yes	
No	

14A Draft Policy NE2 Wildlife

14B *Comments*

Yes	
No	

21A Draft Policy T1 Improving Access and Sustainable Travel

21B *Comments*

Yes	
No	

15A Draft Policy LGS1 Local Green Spaces

15B *Comments*

Yes	
No	

*Feel free to add extra comments on additional sheets of paper.*

Thank you for your time and interest.

Please return this form **by 5pm on 11<sup>th</sup> April 2022:**

- By email to [npsc19@gmail.com](mailto:npsc19@gmail.com)
- By post to the Clerk to the Parish Council at 8 The Meadows, Silkstone Common, Barnsley S75 4SG
- By using one of the boxes provided at the Co-op Store at Silkstone Cross, Silkstone Pharmacy, High Street, and Cottage Bakery, Ben Bank Road, Silkstone Common