

BRIXTON PARISH COUNCIL
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT POLICY STATEMENT

1. Brixton Parish Council recognises the importance for local people, groups and communities to have a voice in contributing to the debate and decisions on issues faced by the Parish Council. These include the impact of global and national recession, climate change, and reduction of fossil fuels as well as the recent plans for the new town of Sherford within the Parish.
2. Community engagement acknowledges the diversity of our Parish and the importance of the need to provide appropriate opportunities for local people, organisations and communities to participate at whatever level they wish to influence service delivery, decision making and policy development of the Parish Council.
3. Through community engagement Brixton Parish Council aims to ensure that, where applicable, people living within Brixton Parish will be informed about and involved in the process of decisions that affect them and their community.
4. Brixton Parish Council's objective for Community Engagement is to coordinate, develop and sustain opportunities for local people and groups to have their say about what happens in their community through
 - i. Communication of information
By providing information through a variety of communication methods which will include Parish Council meetings, the Brixton village website, the Brixton Magazine, notice boards, Parish Newsletter and a Welcome Pack for new residents.
 - ii. Consultation and engagement
By ensuring that any issues which have a significant impact on the Parish/community and for individuals/groups will be the subject of public consultation; promotion of the use of a variety of different options to collect views and opinions across the Parish e.g. questionnaires, ballots, information sessions, consultation events, etc., and work in partnership with other agencies e.g. the Schools, Police, Primary Care Trust, River Yealm Harbour Authority, Yealm Estuary Management Group, South Hams District Council and Devon County Council and neighbouring Parish Councils.
5. Who is responsible for Community Engagement?
The Parish Council is responsible for the effective management and governance of community engagement.
6. How will we measure our achievements?
The Parish Council's Action Plan for community engagement will be regularly reviewed throughout the financial year.