

# HONEYSTREET SAWMILL

Sawmill Newsletter 1, January 2016, from Alton Parish Council

## ***COMPLETE THE SURVEY – HAVE YOUR SAY!***

Big changes are planned for the Honeystreet Sawmill, with a proposal to build up to 25 houses on the site along with offices, studios and a possible open space. The owner, John Dunford, is soon to retire, and it appears it is not possible to find a buyer prepared to continue to run the operation as a timber yard. The choice is, therefore, to maintain the area – some 3½ acres - in its current status, with some other industrial use taking over the site, or to permit a change of use to housing, plus a number of jobs.

Some will remember that this was first aired at a Village Meeting in March last year. Since then the Parish Council hopes to put through a process which will allow local residents to decide. The procedure, still relatively new, is called a Neighbourhood Development Order (NDO). Basically it means that a proposal is developed in consultation with local residents and is then put to a local vote. If the vote is in favour, the plan goes ahead. If not, it doesn't. This is an alternative to the more usual planning application system where, though local residents can voice an opinion, it is up to the local council, Wiltshire, to decide.

The detail of the scheme is still to be settled, and the NDO rules require residents to be consulted throughout. This survey – copy attached - is a first step, to seek general opinions about the site.

Would you like to see houses built there, and if so how many? Would you rather it stays as a spot for some kind of industry? Are you worried that it could lie empty and derelict? Now is your chance to give your view in confidence, no name or address required.

Please complete both sides of the survey page and keep it handy.  
Copies will be collected on or soon after January 22.

For more information go to the parish website  
[altonsandhoneystreet.org.uk](http://altonsandhoneystreet.org.uk)

