3.35 Postbridge

3.35.1

Postbridge lies on the road between Two Bridges and Moretonhampstead, 5 miles east of Princetown. It commands a central geographical location within Dartmoor National Park. It is an important destination for visitors to Dartmoor. It hosts a National Park Visitor Centre, a large car park with room for coaches, and is the base for walks into moorland and forest and for viewing the well known clapper bridge. There is also a youth hostel operating in nearby Bellever.

3.35.2

The village name refers to the pack horse bridge (formed of large dimension clapper stones) over the East Dart River close to the main road. The cottages and inns that grew up around the bridge, along with ancient tenements nearby, came together to form the settlement and community. The turnpike road established in the 1790s, and the granite road bridge that was built in 1792, gave added importance to the settlement.

3.35.3

There is a limited range of local services and facilities. However, there are pubs, a shop and a village hall, and visitor patronage helps support what is currently on offer.

Conserving the quality of the built environment

3.35.4

The village as it is seen today is essentially modern, with only a few houses dating back to the 18th century. It is a moorland settlement with a layout of loosely knit together buildings, among a setting of trees which form necessary windbreaks. Any further development at this location should not harm the settlement's distinctive character.

3.35.5

There are no specific policies or proposals for this settlement. The policies in the Core Strategy and the general policies of this document will be sufficient for development management purposes.

