

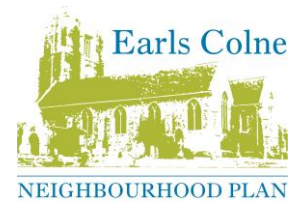


Earls Colne

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Public Meeting – 16th July 2019

Agenda



1. Background & progress so far
2. Residents Questionnaire – Summary of results to date
3. Ramsey & Honywood Students Questionnaire – Summary of results
4. Proposals for dealing with population growth
 - Earls Colne Primary School
 - Pump House Surgery
5. Earls Colne Business Park – Outline of proposals
6. Proposed Neighbourhood Plan – Overview of content
7. Programme
8. Discussion

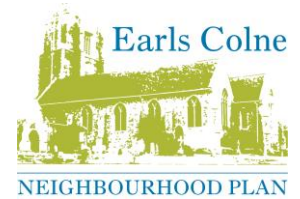
Background and Progress So Far

What is a Neighbourhood Plan?

- The Neighbourhood Plan is part of a central government initiative introduced in 2011 under new legislation called the “Localism Act”
- It allows small communities to have a greater say in how their local area evolves and allows residents to identify concerns and prioritise future investment
- The plan has to be prepared by the Town or Parish Council together with volunteers from the local community and must be supported by the majority of residents
- Before being finally adopted it is the subject of a referendum.



Why is a Neighbourhood Plan important for Earls Colne?

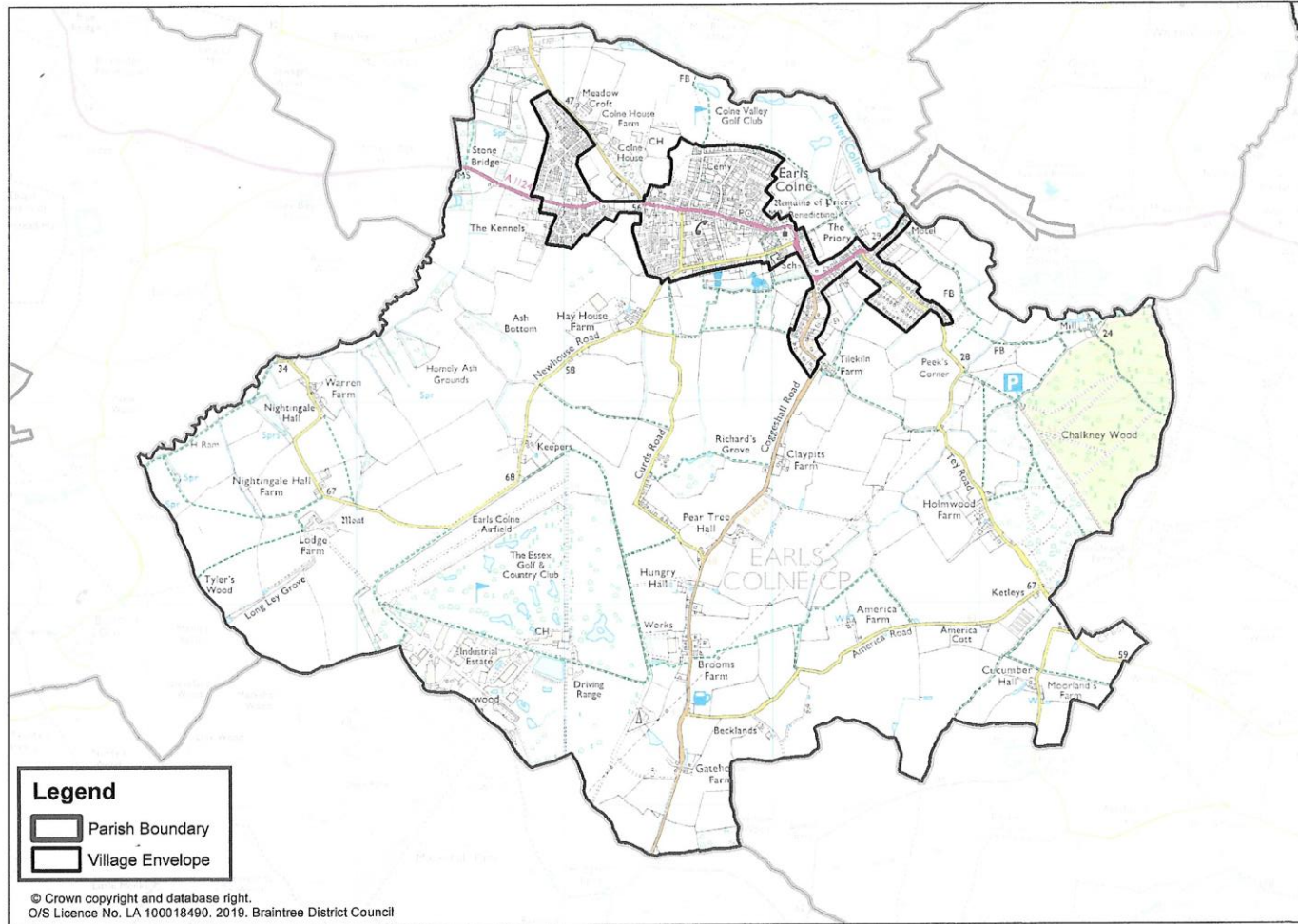


- We are all aware there is increasing pressure from central government to build more and more new houses. (around 1,00 every year in the Braintree District alone)
- In our village there are already plans approved or going through the approvals process for a total of 320 new houses.
- We need greater influence on the location and nature of future developments in our village.
- We need to have a say on the expansion of local services (education, health and recreation) to adequately serve a significantly increased population.

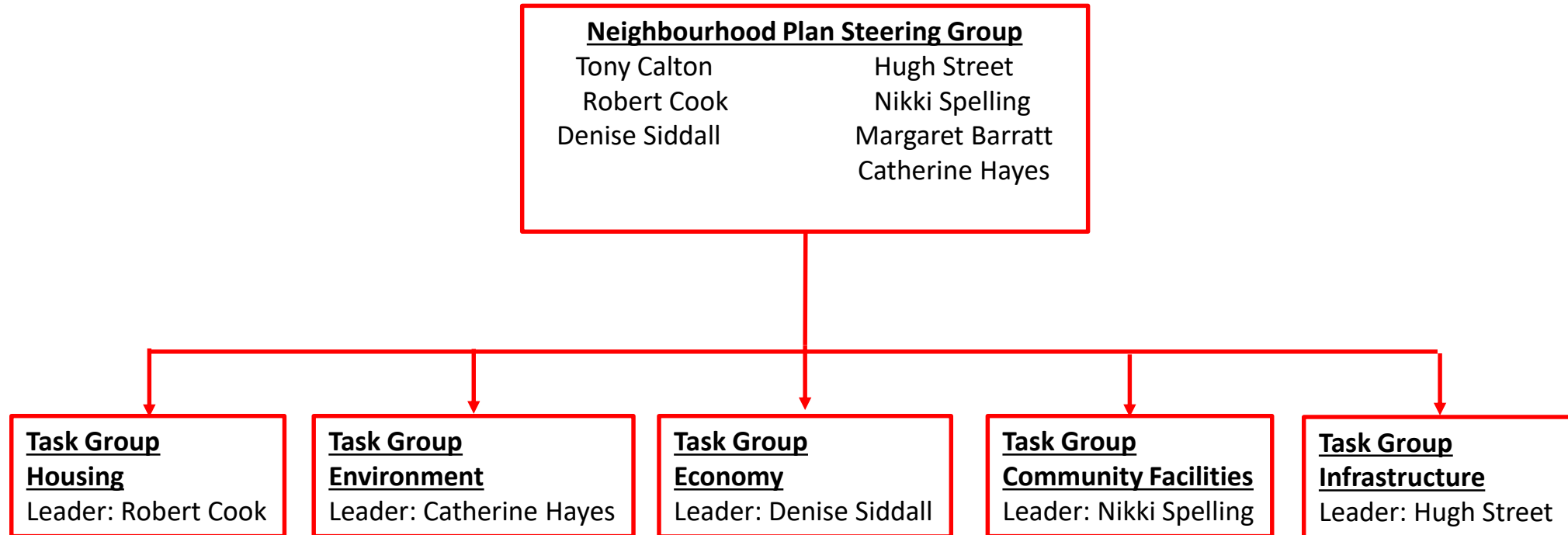
Progress So Far

- ❖ Neighbourhood Plan Project for Earls Colne formally approved by Braintree District Council
- ❖ Geographical extent of plan defined (Parish Boundaries)
- ❖ Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group and five Task Groups established (local resident volunteers)
- ❖ Mission Statement developed
- ❖ Gathering of information in progress by all Task Groups
- ❖ Initial general questionnaire about our village circulated to all residents
- ❖ Projects initiated to get the views of young people from Earls Colne who attend Honyword and Ramsey Schools

Village Boundaries



Neighbourhood Plan Organisation



SWOT Analysis (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats)

Strengths

- ❖ Rich History
- ❖ Lots of services
- ❖ Walking distance to centre
- ❖ Community spirit
- ❖ Pretty (not chocolate box) but still functional Village
- ❖ Place to be proud of
- ❖ Plenty of employment for village size
- ❖ Good leisure facilities
- ❖ Proximity to countryside / walks
- ❖ Mix of people / demographics
- ❖ Good School
- ❖ Chalkney Wood great asset

SWOT Analysis (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats)

Weaknesses

- ❖ Traffic – main road from Halstead to Colchester
- ❖ Parking – not designed for cars
- ❖ Services overstretched with limited capacity struggling to cope with demand
- ❖ Lack of youth facilities / young family services
- ❖ Lack of engagement by residents – lack of cohesion / involvement
- ❖ Lack of village communication
- ❖ Lack of real power for Parish Council and understanding of their role
- ❖ Lack of public transport (at times for commuters)

SWOT Analysis (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats)

Opportunities

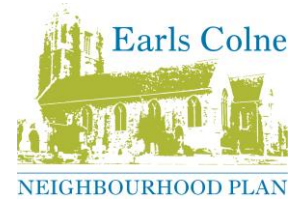
- ❖ Better influence of what is built and where
- ❖ Making a list of what we have and not losing sight of it
- ❖ Influence of local plan
- ❖ Increase environmental sustainability
- ❖ Develop better communication in the village
- ❖ A say over new developments and link with existing
- ❖ Enable village to grow organically without being swamped
- ❖ Greater clarity on what local residents desire

SWOT Analysis (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats)

Threats

- ❖ Over population
- ❖ Village becomes impersonal
- ❖ Losing village feel (size)
- ❖ Over development
- ❖ Loss of identity
- ❖ Integrating high levels of new residents
- ❖ Loss of greenfield land
- ❖ Services unable to cope / decreasing
- ❖ Pollution
- ❖ Type of housing not specific to meet local demands and needs
- ❖ Demographics determined by new housing built

Vision Statement



To protect and secure the rich history, rural environment and community spirit of our village. To enhance Earls Colne as a residential and business community offering wide ranging housing stock, good employment opportunities, local sport and leisure facilities within an attractive, safe and friendly environment.

Residents Questionnaire

Residents Questionnaire

Analysis of Completed Questionnaires Received To Date (Total Number 215)

Approximately 6% of Village Population

Age Groups

Percentage of Total Respondents				
Under 18	18 to 39	40 to 59	60 to 74	75+
1	15	20	40	23

Gender

Percentage	
Male	Female
37	63

Employment Status

Percentage in Each Category						
I am a student	I am not currently working	I am a homemaker	I work from home	I work in the village	I commute to another place for work	I am retired
2	4	4	5	13	21	51

Residents Questionnaire

What do you like most about living here?

Community spirit, friendliness, range and proximity of amenities/facilities, surrounding countryside & walks, village feel, quiet and safe, clean & well kept, good bus service

Is there anything you really don't like about the village?

Volume of traffic through village, too much approved development, parking, speed, development without infrastructure, parking on church hill, losing village atmosphere, availability at surgery

Residents Questionnaire

Which (if any) of the following do you use?
Please circle the most appropriate answer

- Recreation Club
- Millennium Green
- Colne Valley Golf Club
- The Essex Golf & Country Club
- Earls Colne Public Library
- Local Pubs & Restaurants
- Social Clubs

Percentage in Each Category		
Regularly	Sometimes	Never
14	52	34
12	57	31
4	36	60
12	25	63
30	49	21
49	46	5
30	32	37

Residents Questionnaire

New houses in the village

What are your views on the following statements?

We should encourage further new housing developments in Earls Colne

The main focus should be on building affordable family homes for first time buyers

Preparing a Neighbourhood Plan is important so that we can try to make sure local services are improved to cope with more people in the village

Percentage				
Strongly agree	Agree	No view	Disagree	Strongly disagree
3	12	9	26	49
26	38	16	9	11
63	33	3	1	1

Ramsey & Honywood Schools Questionnaire

Ramsey & Honywood Students Questionnaire

Ramsey School

- 59 Ramsey Students (from years 7 to 10) who live in Earls Colne were asked a range of questions about the village
- What one thing do you like most about living in Earls Colne?
 - *It's a good community*
 - *It's a quiet place*
 - *Good sports places*
 - *Range of shops*
 - *Near to family and friends*
- What one thing do you dislike most about living in Earls Colne?
 - *Too far from other places*
 - *Not much to do*
 - *Needs more places to eat*

Ramsey & Honywood Students Questionnaire

Ramsey School

- Which of these local facilities do you use on a regular basis?

Facility	Percentage who use it regularly
Village Playgrounds	35%
Recreation Club	48%
Millennium Green	47%
Colne Valley Golf Club	15%
The Essex Golf & Country Club	21%
Earls Colne Public Library	25%

Earls Colne Primary School



Earls Colne
PRIMARY SCHOOL
AND NURSERY

The Future

16th July 2019

Inspiring all children to create and achieve

This presentation is the property of Earls Colne Primary School

Admissions

	YR	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Total	No classes
2018-2019	53	60	61	59	58	42	38	371	13
2019-2020	60	53	60	60	59	58	42	392	14
2020-2021	60	60	53	60	60	59	58	410	14
2021-2022	60	60	60	53	60	60	59	412	14

Admissions Policy 2020

- Looked-after children
- The child lives within catchment and has a sibling still attending at the time of admission.
- The child resides within the boundaries of the existing catchment area as indicated on the map available on request from the school
- Children of teaching and non-teaching staff who have been employed at the school for two or more years at the time of application for the school place.
- The child lives out of catchment but has a sibling still attending the school at the time of admission.
- The straight-line distance from home to school with those children residing nearer being given higher priority.

Increasing Roll

- Single age classes
- Increased revenue
- New classrooms

Nursery

- Remodel the Learning Centre
- Increase the Nursery capacity
- Provide other spaces for the school to use such as a library

Solutions

- Staggered lunch break
- Studio for indoor PE or music
- Astro turf pitch (or similar)
- Parking

Pump House Surgery

Pump House Surgery

Information Supplied By Dr. Paul Spowage

- ❖ Planning authorities do not recognise health care as an issue
- ❖ As a practice we are fortunate that our current premises has some room for extra staffing however that always assumes that it is possible to employ extra staff to see patients
- ❖ Due to consistent failure of central government planning around NHS workforce and the likely loss of skilled European labour there is a significant skill shortage in healthcare especially in the south east where living costs are significantly higher
- ❖ We as a practice will only be able to start to employ staff once new patients from the developments have started to register
- ❖ I believe we will be able to absorb this influx although there may be some temporary reduction in service while we seek to employ extra staff
- ❖ I think that an extra 1,000 patients will probably be near the capacity the surgery can manage and if there were more proposed developments we may need to review our practice boundaries as we have patients registered from surrounding villages

Earls Colne Business Park

BACK IN 1940 THE AIRFIELD WAS CONSTRUCTED AND BECAME A HOME TO THE US AIR FORCE

After the War ended, it became derelict for a while, then farmed and the runways broken up. Eric Hobbs bought the Farm in the early 1960's, and carried on farming until the 1980's when the Airfield started to change into a place of work, rest and play.



Over the past 30+ years, the Airfield has changed greatly from a Farm with a small runway, into a thriving hub for people to work and play... Golf, Cricket, Tennis, Swimming, Flying, Running, Biking and a Hotel to stay in.



Home to over 30 Businesses

... employing over 1250 people including
circa almost 200 people from Earls Colne Parish.



There are businesses on the airfield from many areas of business ...
Heavy Industries like Milbanks and Hullmatic Engineering...



To High Tech Companies like Vislink (Gigawave) and Pulsar Electronics.

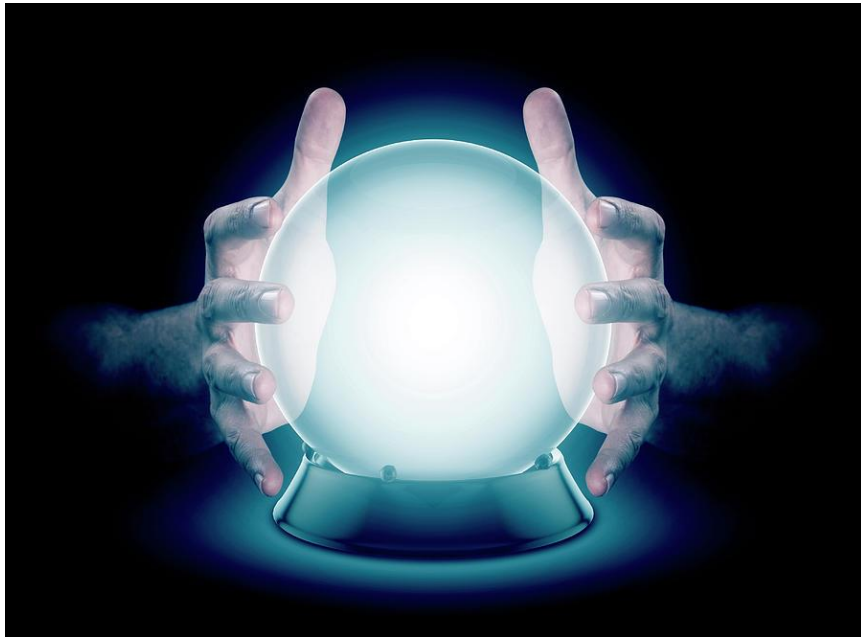


4 years ago we opened a new office venture which has proved very successful and is home to 10 companies offering around 200 office based jobs in modern offices, including The Essex & Herts Air Ambulance operation.



Planning for the Future ?

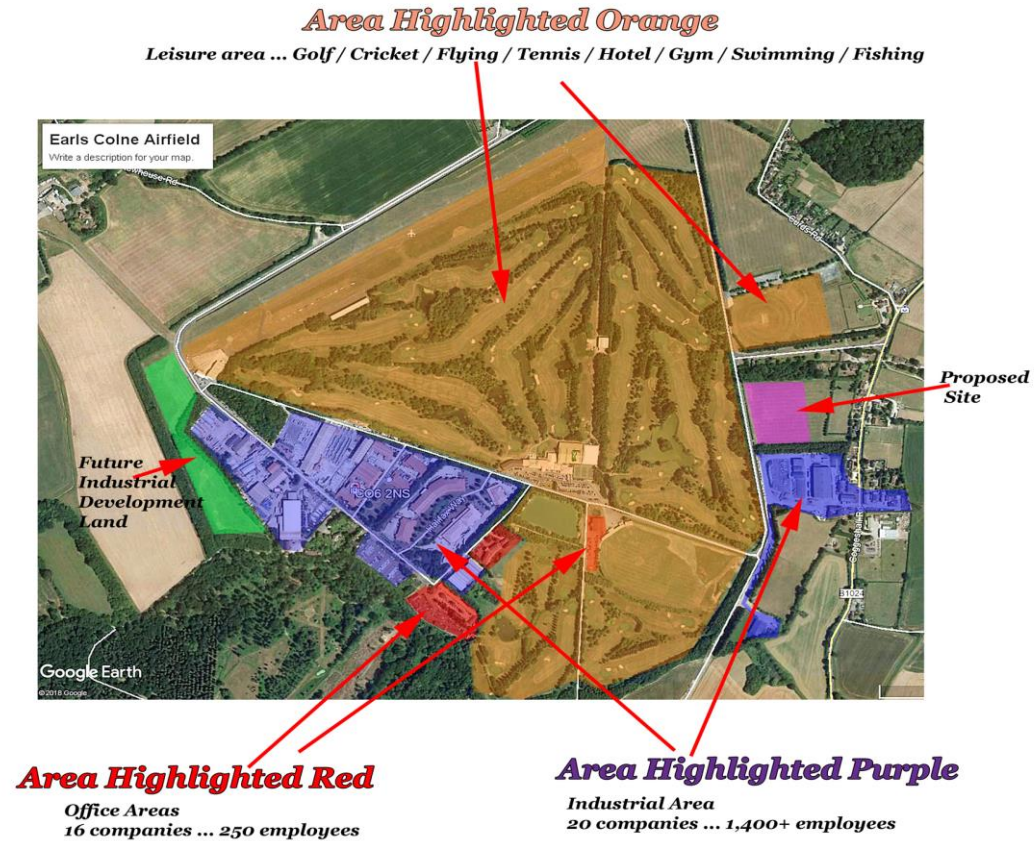
What are the needs of Businesses over the next 25 years ...



The future of Offices seems to be heading digital and “easy in, easy out”, so we are now hoping to add a large Serviced Office facility on the Airfield to provide flexible space for smaller businesses in a High Quality environment.



Upon completion, this space would provide space for up to 300 extra people to work in, without any increase in HGV traffic and on an existing employment site.



The Airfield has seen many changes over the past 80 years.

Wartime



Present



Earls Colne Airfield is a great place to work, rest, play and stay...

Business

Provides Direct Employment for 1200 +
Provides Indirect Employment for dozens more
Provides Business Rates in excess of £1million p.a.
Approx 30 Businesses on site
42 Bed Hotel / Restaurants / Bars/ Conference Facilities



Leisure

*The Essex Provides :-
Golf / Tennis / Swimming / Gym / Aerobics
Also on site :-
Cricket / Running tracks / Cycle Tracks
Kite Surfing / Ballooning / Kids Clubs
C.A.A Flying club*



Community

*Essex Air Ambulance on-site
Allotments for Earls Colne
Young Drivers Scheme Initiative
Have hosted various Shows over the years eg:-
4 Colnes show / Dog Shows / Caravan club events
Charity events / Police & Fire service Training events*



Neighbourhood Plan Content

What the Neighbourhood Plan should include

Section	Details to be included
Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development opportunities and constraints • Sites available and their assessment

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Community Facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Locations of Community Buildings used for education, health, sport, leisure and general wellbeing • Assessment of community facilities and capacity to deliver community services
Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maps showing network of existing walking and cycling routes and possible improvements or additional routes • Main vehicle routes • Access to key destinations • Parking assessment (existing capacity and potential improvements)

Discussion

- ❖ **How do you think we can increase the number of responses to the initial questionnaire**
- ❖ **How can we encourage residents to engage more in discussions about the Neighbourhood Plan?**
- ❖ **What do you consider to be the single most important issue we should cover in the neighbourhood plan?**
- ❖ **Which aspect of village life would you like to see improved?**