



NORTH KILWORTH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT DROP-IN EVENT

FRIDAY 28 NOVEMBER 2014

CONSULTATION RESULTS



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1. Background

a) Project Brief

*Your*locale was commissioned by North Kilworth Parish Council to assist the Steering Group in the delivery of a drop-in event on Neighbourhood Planning at the Belgrave Village Hall on Friday 28 November 2014 between 12:00 pm and 7:30 pm.

The aim of this event was to help inform the community on the progress of the Neighbourhood Plan and to gain some initial feedback from residents on their views about emerging policies – including Local Green Space and environment; heritage; facilities and services; traffic and transport; housing and design; business and shops and leisure and community facilities.

b) Publicity

The drop-in event was promoted in a variety of ways:

- Leaflets and flyers were produced and circulated through the Village and left in public places (i.e. the Village Store)
- Steering Group members promoted the event
- Banners and posters were placed across North Kilworth in the lead-up to the event.

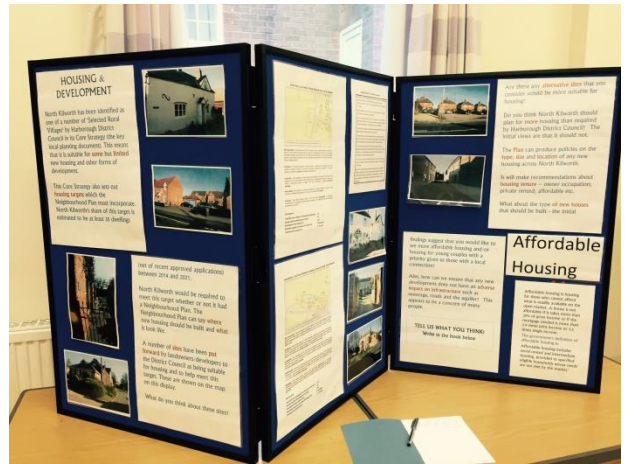
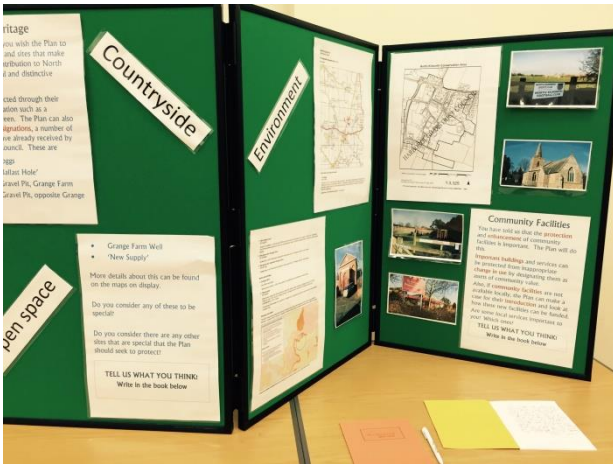


2. Format of Event

a) Process on the day

Sign in	Steering Group members welcomed attendees on arrival and asked them to complete a contact sheet which recorded details of where the individual lives and age range/gender of attendees.
Introduction	Several display boards were made available to view. The format of the event was explained to people who attended.
Background	The first displays introduced Neighbourhood Planning and described the process that is being followed by North Kilworth Parish Council.
Consultation on key issues	<p>A series of display boards were spread across the room, each of which focussed on a different topic related to planning and development, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Local Green Space and Environment▪ Housing and Design▪ Businesses and Shops▪ Heritage▪ Traffic and Transport▪ Leisure and Community Facilities <p>Having read the displays, attendees were asked to comment on each topic using note books supplied.</p>
Visual maps	Attendees were given the opportunity to record local green space of importance to them by placing 3 green dots on a map of Great Easton that represented an area valued for its visual amenity and 3 blue dots on sites valued for their recreational use.

Display Boards



b) List of attendees (separately recorded)

Age range of attendees:

25-34 – 2

35-44 – 3

45-54 – 7

55-64 – 10

65-74 – 26

75+ - 3

3. Results

Employment – businesses and shops	
Questions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is business development needed? • Where might new business development be located?
Total responses	16
Comments	

- Jobs within the village are an essential ingredient of community life for the young, immobile or for whatever reason unable to join the commuter, dormitory lives group.
- The extension of the boundary seems quite logical and does not impinge on the conservation area – development within these new areas would seem to be appropriate.
- To enforce that existing business premises are protected from any other form of development is a bad idea, what if that business cannot operate profitably due to market changes, is it to be left to rot?
- Moving the boundary north of the Lutterworth/MH Road is sensible as it would allow enforcement without impacting on the conservation area or village centre. – needs a crossing through!
- Some business required if more people in the village to avoid more commuting.
- Yes, would like to see the plan include a village boundary. The proposed extensions to the boundary to the north of the Lutterworth Road seem logical.
- I agree with the above comment. If land is developed it should form part of the village boundary, especially if the conservation boundary ceases to exist.
- Need good Broadband for people who work from home.
- You bet! And for OAPs to watch SMART TVs.
- Completely agree!

- Very sensible to extend the building line north of A4304, infilling with extant and proposed developments. Also along South Kilworth Road to the West
- Completely agree!
- Provision of fast broadband to the Village is essential for NK and the next 20+ years.
- For businesses to survive good broadband is essential.
- It had been agreed that businesses were appropriate on the Dairy and Station sites - not interfering with the village, but offering employment. It surely was a mistake to allow industry to be so close to houses on the Leicester Lane. This should be a concern because it is setting precedence for more "to appear". I hope that the spinney – which is public, is not being sold along with the rest of wrights land. When he first appeared on the site he started to remove the hedge, the PC whole and told him to reinstate it – he did.
- The village boundary on the West, South and East must be maintained. It is sensible to extend along the A4304 on the North side of the road. A crossing should also then be established to help pedestrians across the road.

Open Space and Environment	
Questions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please tell us what land in North Kilworth you think is special
Total responses	13
Comments	

- Having a design statement is admirable as long as it is upheld by H.D.C which is not always the case.
- The view across to the village from the South Kilworth road is fantastic and every effort should be made to protect it which may be difficult as it is privately owned and new owners may have different views upon this.
- The green areas from south Kilworth Rd, through Wright Lane to millennium Green, The Green, and Boggs are an essential part of the village's character, as is Stoney.

- Field between Stoney and Millennium Green needs to be protected from development – for the sake of wild life preservation as well as appearances and views over the valley from both sites.
- I agree with the proposed areas for development which protects the smaller ‘green lung’ areas.
- There is uniqueness about the current village layout surrounded by fields – long may it continue.
- The open land on Stoney should be protected from any development. Also millennium green.
- Obviously it would be much more beneficial to have a building boundary. If North Kilworth can put it in their plan then all will be good.
- I think the Bosworth approach to the environment is as it ought to be in these times of austerity.
- Giving away public land for private means is a huge disappointment for future generations and must be avoided. However, it appears many are trying to acquire rather than share.
- Wide verges were a hallmark of the Conservation status and I am disappointed that the Conservation area is diminishing.
- Protection of area opposite Wash Pit i.e. Close Paddock is a central and important green space. Important to character of village environment. Development here would rob it of its unique character and loose valuable trees, and could create major problems with traffic access.
- I agree with the proposed open space addition. They make good sense. A good compromise. The addition to the Millennium Green would be of great benefit to wildlife and the wetland and works with nature. Harborough original green space proposals were derisory.

Housing and design

Questions

- Where do you think new housing should be located?
- What should any new development look like?

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What type of housing is needed? • Should we plan for more housing than required? • Should the design statement be incorporated into the Neighbourhood Plan? • Should the design statement be amended?
Total responses	24
Comments	

- The affordables need tenants – open for applications today to the Parish Council.
- I have placed my name down only one contact from Nottingham House. Nothing more.
- Future development needs to take account of larger areas of off-road parking to avoid verge erosion and inaccessibility for large vehicles/emergency services.
- Affordable housing could need some business commercial premises to avoid reliance on commuting.
- Well done to the parish council for managing this
- The areas identified so far as building areas look reasonably suitable, not too deleterious.
- More housing than HDC require should certainly not be provided - we are losing green space at an alarming rate and it should stop. Developing where there are open views across county is unacceptable.
- If there has to be new housing then the sites suggested seem sensible. It would be good if new development reflected the character of the village and architectural style.
- If affordable housing is to be provided (in addition to the Gandy Site) how can it be ensured that this goes to local residents? I.e. why should Kilworth fill up space for non-village general public?
- Land rear of western cottages – please clarify the “HSE gas pipeline consultation area” is this still relevant?
- It is vital that the aquifer has major thinking where places dwelling are concerned. My deeds and any other where Belgrave were involved say quite specifically that the underground streams must not be tampered with. Many coming into this village never see their deeds (with a mortgage) and maybe don't want to if they wish to build. I suggest these streams can be contaminated very easily and the recent

accidents give this credence. The aquifer and its environs are too important to have houses and so on impinging upon it. We may rue the day.

- I think the Marina residential berths should count towards the village commitments on new residences. This should then limit the number of new houses that need to be built on valuable, non-replaceable, Greenland.
- Existing development and the marina residential berths should be included in the allocation.
- I do not think that North Kilworth should plan for more housing than required.
- Should resist more development if the village school can't promise to be able to take in village children.
- Sewerage/drainage and broadband – can they sustain any more development.
- As per 2000 village plan – all well documented but enforcement is the key.
- Design is a matter to be adhered to but is a matter of personal taste also.
- Terrific.
- Brick colour to complement existing buildings.
- Yes the neighbourhood plan needs to incorporate the design supplement and it needs to be enforced.
- Will innovative designs of homes be considered?
- Has external wall claddings to existing buildings for energy efficiency been considered?
- Sympathetic materials and design should be a consideration and consent – we have had good and bad in recent year. Good.

Community Facilities	
Questions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are some local services important to you? Which ones?
Total responses	4
Comments	

- The unapproved, unlicensed activities on Pincer Lane needs prompt action by the regulatory bodies. They are riding roughshod over the rules and making a mockery of the system, which others are obliged to follow at great cost. The unauthorised

abstraction of gravel is a threat to the aquifers emerging in the village and potentially opens the way for unauthorized waste tipping. We want action!!!

- They have been doing it for years ever since the 'barn' became a house 6 months earlier – I did think a barn with upper storey windows was odd!
- Community facilities and local services are different from one another. The local services to be protected are the milkman, the bus service, the postal service – the powers-that-be need to remember there are many in this village who would be mortified if these were allowed to disappear.
- Community facilities we have are useful but going to the ends of the earth to say “keep the pub” at public expense may sometimes to be a step too far. We are not given good information on which to place judgments.

Transport and Access	
Questions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do you have views on how transport and access can be improved?
Total responses	7
Comments	

- Reports of 5 car crashes between Gandy development and Sibberfort junction in last month. Hedges x2 and road signs at Sibbertoft turn destroyed.
- I agree with the comment regarding crossings, the A4304 is very busy during rush hour and crossing is a risk at these times.
- Also! Regarding footpaths and verges, I personally clipped the trees on the corner of the A4304 and South Kilworth road as they hung over the pavements.
- Footpath needed on north side of A4304 on Dairy cottages, especially if there are further developments on this (north) side of the road.
- There are still many relying on public transport and as one gets older and leave the car behind it needs to be updated. Once an hour was wonderful, but to go to the doctors for 2 hours in Bosworth is disappointing and depressing.

- Parking on the roads has become endemic. Although people have driver, they don't use them. Even in Church St. the new houses have made garages into sheds and this throws vehicles onto the roads – and parks. Under these paths are streams and could become damper If continually have heavy vehicles on them. Parking on footpaths also endangers children going to school. There appears to be encouragement telling those buying property that this is a Conservation Area and that the street scene should be uppermost in the village character.
- Will regard to heavy traffic on main road, was it wise to back Welford and HB is not wishing to have traffic from A14? Result, when there's a problem it all comes on the A4304.
- Footpath to Walcote, but in particular to Kilworth House Hotel. Also on north side of Main Road as far as Dairy cottages.

Heritage and Conservation	
Questions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What sites are special? • What other sites should we seek to protect?
Total responses	11
Comments	

- Stoney is an important open space with views over to Welford which are critical to preserving an important aspect – both out of and toward the village from the SE.
- Very much agree.
- Field between Stoney and Millennium Green – a link between the 2 from the stand point of preserving an important view to the east. So incorporate this field in the marked open spaces area?
- Field between Millennium Green and Stoney should be preserved as open space. If it was built on this would damage the Millennium Green as a nature reserve. The preservation of the view is also important.
- The views from the South Kilworth Rd over to Kilworth House hotel should remain open and not developed. The view is beautiful and should remain so.
- Will the Conservation area Boundary be added to the proposed Settlement village area?

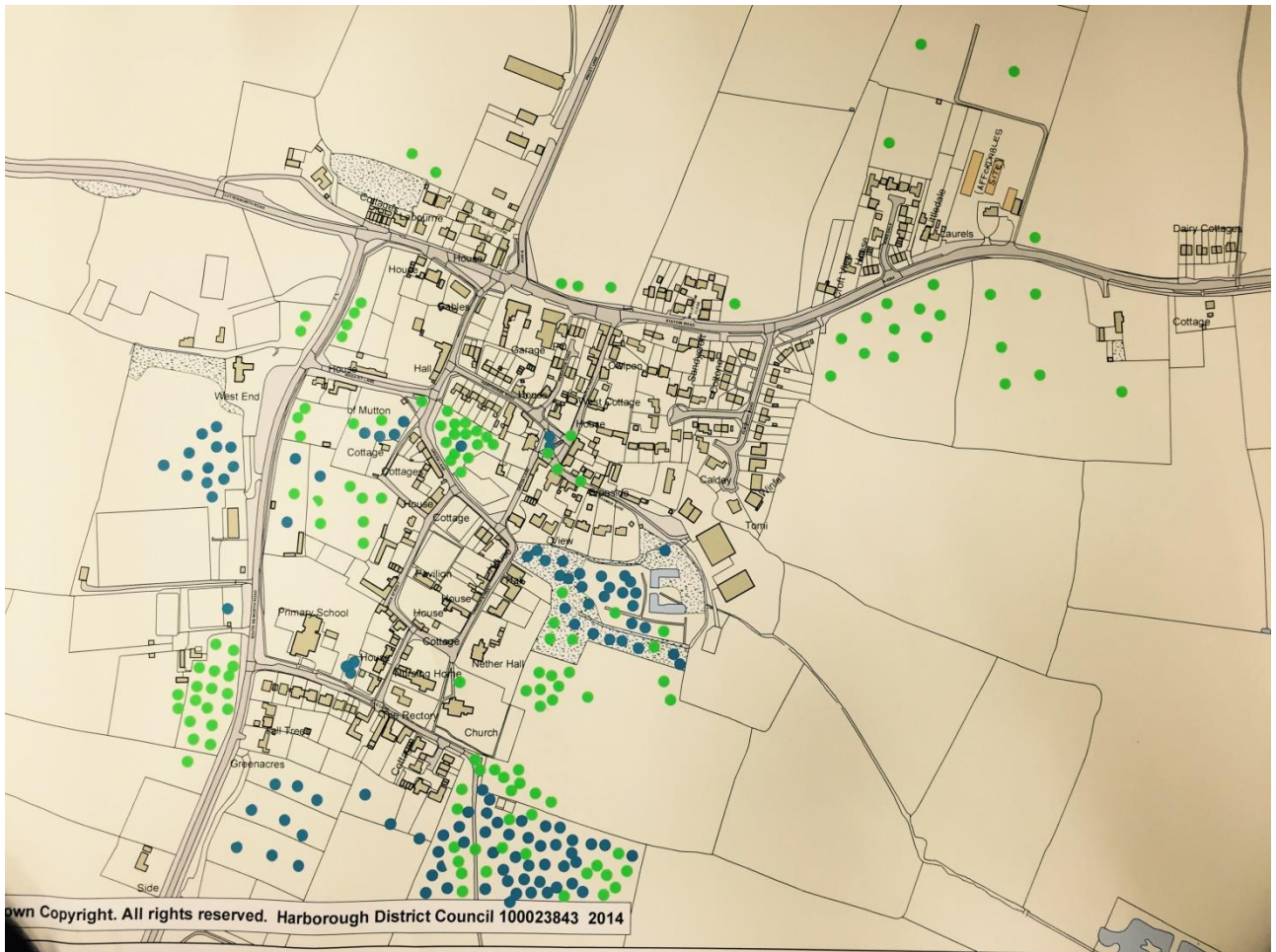
- Land adjoining South Kilworth Rd should not be developed as it will decimate important view.
- The aquifer is of vital importance and anything that diminishes it at all should be stopped. This is why housing should be on the outside as the village to try and preserve the character.
- The importance of the aquifer cannot be overstressed. Any future building should not simultaneously damage the aquifer. The aquifer is easily contaminated since the protective clay layer is very thick and it supports a variety of wildlife and eventually ends up as drinking water.
- Suggest that the proposed new village boundary becomes part of the Conservation Area.
- Millennium Green is very special. So special I think all dogs should be banned. It's fast becoming a dog walking area.
- Church commissions land on Stoney also very special. Needs to be protected.

Green Spaces

Task:

- Place up to 3 blue stickers on the map in an area of open space that is important for leisure and up to 3 green stickers in a place with a good or important view

Results



Summary of findings

Many comments were made reflecting a wide range of opinions, however, people who attended the consultation event demonstrated a consistency in a number of key areas:

Employment – It was acknowledged that improved Broadband access would be beneficial for those operating businesses in the Parish (and others!). There is support for small-scale business development in appropriate locations. The extension of the Village Boundary for development (housing/employment) to the north of A4304 was welcomed.

Housing and design – there was no expressed support for exceeding the minimum housing numbers required by HDC. The need for some new housing was acknowledged and the sites identified were considered suitable. Concern was expressed for the impact on any new development on the Aquifer and the need for off-road parking was referenced. The need for affordable housing was acknowledged and availability for local people was identified. The prevailing view was that the design statement should be incorporated to help with enforcement.

Environment – Most respondents identified specific sites for protection (i.e. Stoney; Millenium Green) as well as important views. The proposed Green Space additions were welcomed. Respondents commented that existing green areas were an essential element of the villages character.

Heritage – Further views and open spaces were identified for protection.

Community Facilities – The need to protect existing services (bus, postal service etc.) was identified as was the retention of viable local facilities.

Transport and access – Issues to do with the heavy traffic on the A4304 and the dangers of this road were referenced along with problems with the frequency of public transport; the need for better footpaths and parking on the roads.





Yourlocale
December 2014