

West Bergholt Neighbourhood Plan



Consultation Report on Surveys carried out at key stages of West Bergholt Neighbourhood Plan – May 2018

CONTENTS

1	INTRODUCTION	1
2	2013: BASELINE SURVEYS	2
3	2015: ISSUES AND OPTIONS SURVEY	15
4	2016 DRAFT NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN SURVEY	29
5	CONCLUSIONS AND NEXT STEPS	37

APPENDIX A 2013 Baseline Survey (Residents) written responses

APPENDIX B 2015 Issues and Options Survey written responses

APPENDIX C 2016 Draft Neighbourhood Plan Survey written responses

This report has been prepared by Alison Eardley Consulting for the West Bergholt Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group.

© 2018 Alison Eardley Consulting and West Bergholt Parish Council

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 The West Bergholt Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group ('the Steering Group') was established in 2013 to give the community of West Bergholt the opportunity to prepare a Neighbourhood Plan ('the Plan') for the parish of West Bergholt (Figure 1). The Neighbourhood Area was determined by Colchester Borough Council (CBC) in 2014.

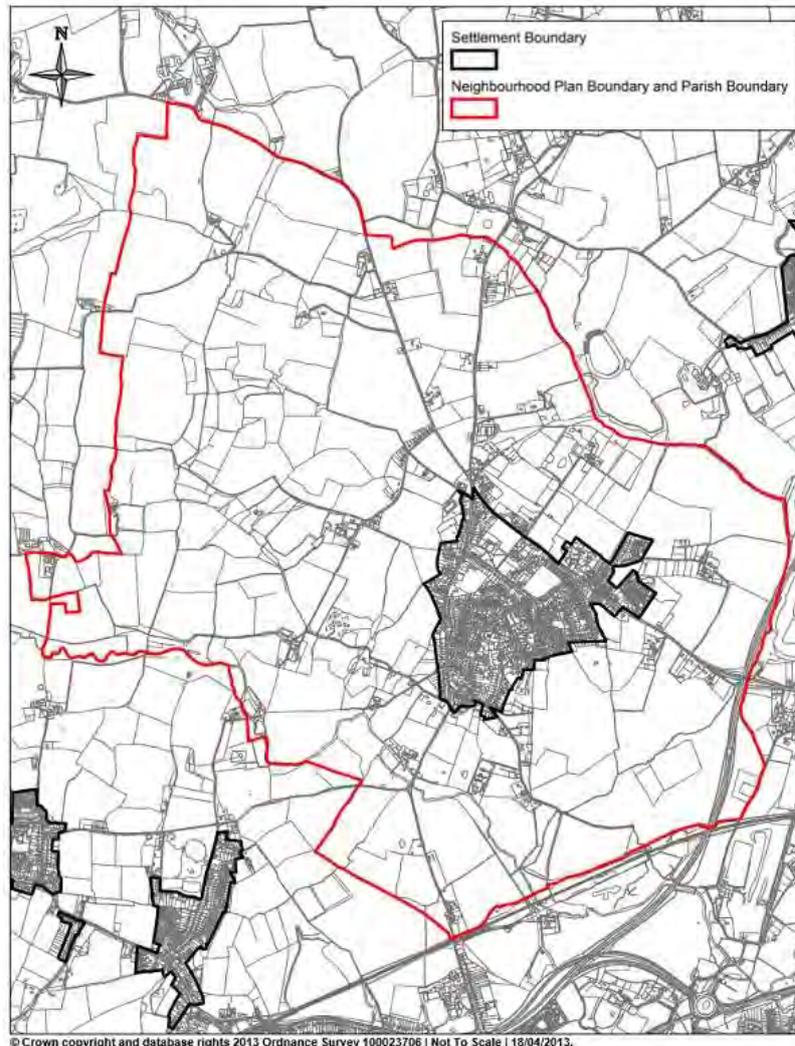


Figure 1: West Bergholt Neighbourhood Area

1.2 This Consultation Report summarises the findings from the main consultation surveys that the Steering Group undertook between 2013 and 2016 and how these have helped to shape the emerging Plan. The surveys that have been analysed are:

- 2013 Baseline surveys (Parish questionnaire, Young people's questionnaire, Business questionnaire)
- 2015 Issues and options survey
- 2016 Draft Neighbourhood Plan survey

2 2013: BASELINE SURVEYS

At the very beginning of the Neighbourhood Plan process, the Steering Group felt it would be useful to garner the views of the community on a range of broad issues that might be relevant to the emergent Plan. Three questionnaires were produced, designed to target three target audiences in the parish: residents, businesses and young people. The findings of the surveys are detailed below.

Residents Questionnaire

- 2.1 The questionnaire sought views from the local community on the following topic areas: Social and Community; the Environment; Community Safety; Community Amenities and Commerce; Sports and Recreation; Communications; Transport and Highways; and Housing and Planning. It also provided an opportunity for local residents to share any other views they might have about the future of West Bergholt.
- 2.2 The survey was delivered to every household in the parish, 1,398 households, and was also available to complete online. Additional paper copies were available from the Post Office.
- 2.3 A statistical analysis of each question is provided in the separate Powerpoint document. Summaries of each topic area are provided below. Appendix A contains a detail of the free text answers received, by question. Summaries of these are provided in the relevant section to which they refer.

Who completed the survey?

- 2.4 468 surveys were completed which equates to 34% of all households in the parish or 14% of residents (based on 2011 Census figures). This is felt to be a good return rate for a survey.
- 2.5 Looking at the age groups completing the survey, Figure 2 illustrates how this compares to the overall age split in the community. It can be seen that there was a higher than average number of older residents who completed the survey, with 80% of respondents aged 45 years and older. Those under 18 were targeted directly with a Youth Survey, which will be examined later in this document, so can be set aside for analysis purposes at this stage. Clearly however, there was under-representation of responses from the 18-44 age bracket. This is not unsurprising as this is can be a very difficult demographic to engage with as they tend to be in work or with young families and short of time to fill out surveys. The Steering Group acknowledged this and made efforts in the engagement plan to target this group in different ways, for instance by putting together targeted events and workshops.

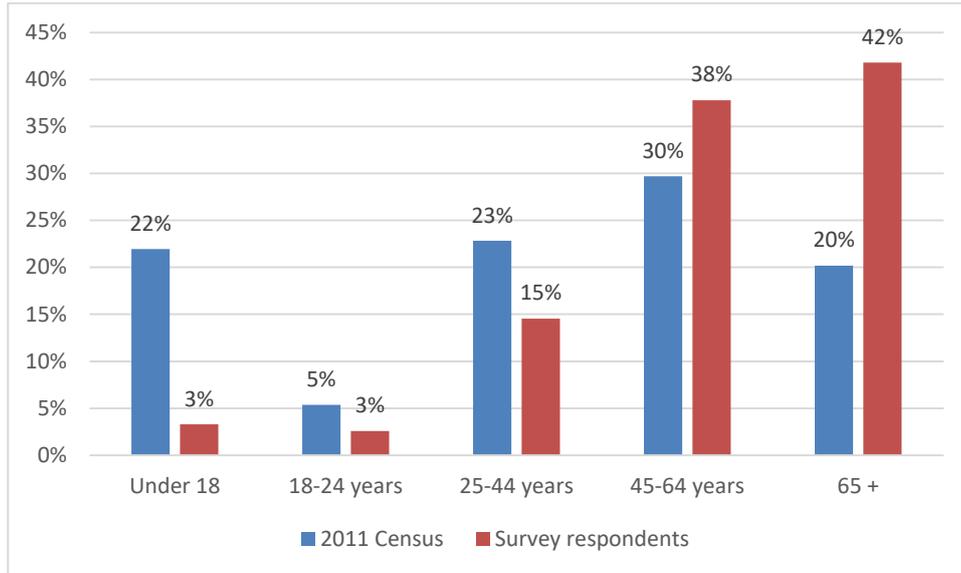


Figure 2: Age of respondents compared to Census 2011 age data

2.6 Figure 3 illustrates the employment status of those completing the survey, when compared to the Census data. This again shows an over emphasis on the older, retired bracket and also those working part-time.

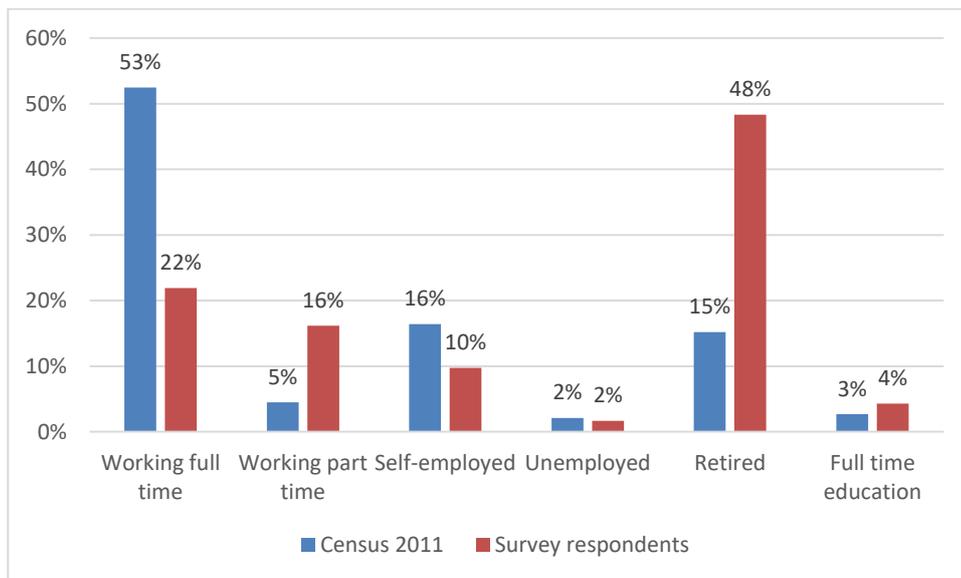


Figure 3: Employment status of respondents compared to Census 2011 data

2.7 The female to male ratio of responses produced a fairly even split, with 56% of those completing being female and 42% male. The geographic spread of responses was focussed in the village itself but there were responses from some of the more rurally located residents. Figure 4 illustrates the length of time respondents have lived in the parish, with over half having lived here for over 16 years.

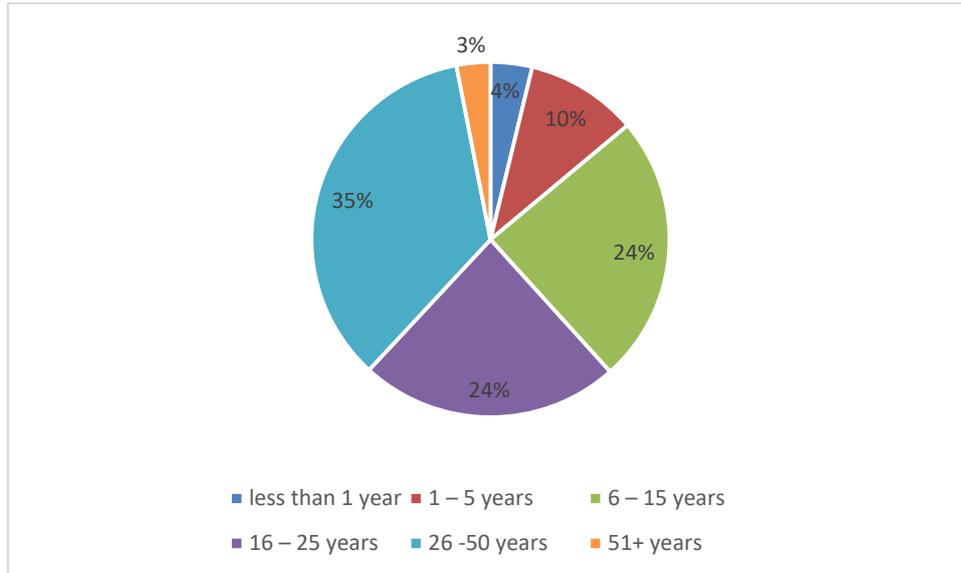


Figure 4: Length of time respondents have lived in West Bergholt

Social and community

- 2.8 This section of the survey sought to understand how important leisure and social activities were to people in the parish, examining what activities were currently undertaken and whether there was a need to publicise these more or offer new activities, for instance for young people.
- 2.9 The number of people regularly taking part in a club, society or other village activity was fairly evenly split between those who do and those who do not. When compared against the age of the person answering, and bearing in mind that the numbers are higher overall for the older age bracket as they make up the majority of the survey response, the spread is fairly even throughout the ages. This is shown in Figure 5.

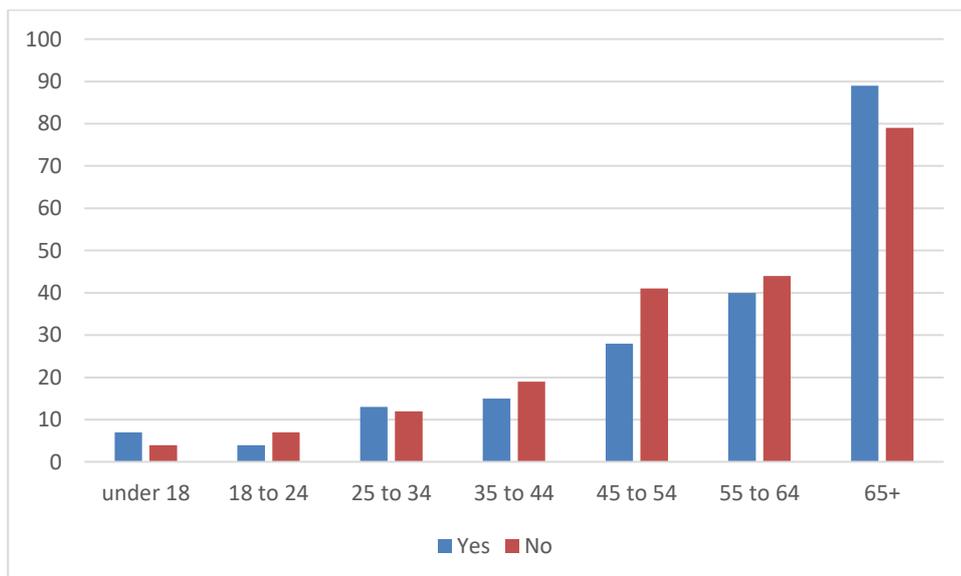


Figure 5: Number of people by age taking part or not in local activities

- 2.10 The tendency towards slightly higher numbers of residents not taking part might suggest a need to offer more activities based on local need and targeted to particular ages or to simply publicise

what is already there. Over half of the respondents felt that additional publicity would be a useful exercise. 65% of respondents felt that more should be done to engage younger people in local activities. Suggestions included a skate park and youth shelters.

- 2.11 When looking at the activities undertaken, as shown in Figure 6, the most commonly cited were: the church, gardeners club, history club, the youth group and the flower club.



Figure 6: Local activities undertaken commonly cited in the survey

The Environment

- 2.12 Three broad questions about the importance of the environment were included in the survey. The overwhelming majority of respondents felt that existing open spaces and important wildlife and landscape areas should be protected. When asked about the need to create new spaces, however, the response was slightly more mixed. Whilst 43% agreed that this would be helpful and just 19% disagreed, 36% were unsure. Comments about this included the need to improve existing space rather than create new ones.
- 2.13 The parish is set in a rural landscape and within the settlement envelope there is a good network of accessible open spaces, including playing fields, the Village Green and smaller pockets within residential. It does not, however have a formal park or garden and any new areas for development would need to consider how they contribute to the overall green space.
- 2.14 Allotments were mentioned in the comments as valued assets. One person suggested relocating them to create additional space for housing in the village centre.
- 2.15 Much mention was made of the need to address dog fouling and littering, solutions including more bins and signage.
- 2.16 Some people mentioned the need to encourage native species, in open spaces, along the edges of allotments and on the grass verges.
- 2.17 96% of respondents agreed that the identity of the parish should be maintained and not, for instance, become a suburb of nearby Colchester, just to the south east of the parish boundary.

Community safety

- 2.18 Understanding how safe the community feel, in terms of crime and anti-social behaviour and also road safety, is helpful when considering how the neighbourhood plan might develop policies to further enhance safety. Approximately 90% of respondents felt that the parish was a safe place to live, in line with local statistics¹. Despite this, two thirds of residents felt that the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme should be reintroduced. The main area of concern relating to safety was on the roads, with 72% of respondents concerned about the potential for traffic incidents. Whether this concern is validated is unknown, however perceptions of lack of safety need to be addressed. Some of these might be through Community Actions as opposed to planning policies per se.
- 2.19 Many people commented on the relative merits of street lights in the context of safety with much disagreement on the best approach.
- 2.20 One respondent raised concerns about the increasing number of people buying to let in the parish and the fact that this can attract residents who are not as invested long-term in the community. This might be an issue to consider in the Neighbourhood Plan when determining housing tenure.

Community amenities and commerce

- 2.21 This section of the survey sought to collect initial views on whether the existing provision of community facilities and retail/ employment opportunities was sufficient. In terms of community facilities, there was a fairly even split among respondents when questioned about the need to expand the village hall, as shown in Figure 7. In the free text comments, some people called for an expansion of the current hall to house multiple groups simultaneously, another called for improvements to the toilet facilities.

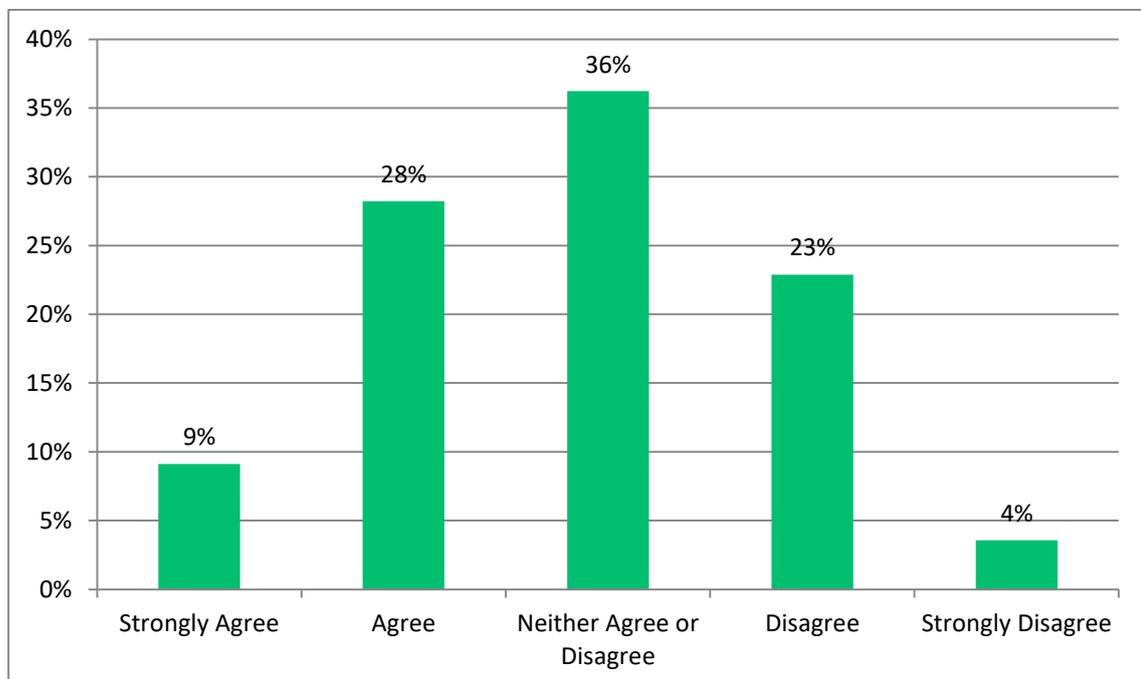


Figure 7: Is it time to consider a new or expanded village hall with modern facilities?

¹ Essex Police collect monthly crime statistics for Colchester (<https://www.essex.police.uk/your-area/colchester/>), which are used by the West Bergholt Parish Council to illustrate local crime.

There was more support – just over 52% - for the creation of a community café in the village centre where people could socialise. Lots of positive comments were received about this, with suggestions for it being located in the John Lampton Hall, in the front of the Co-op, or a new part of an expanded village hall.

2.22 With regards retail and commerce, the majority of people felt that the parish would benefit from having a regular Farmers’ Market (of which there has previously been one), whilst the need for more retail amenities generally was supported by just a third. This might be symptomatic of the nearby proximity of Colchester as a place to shop, and also the changing habits generally of shopping, for instance the use of supermarkets and online.

2.23 Approximately half the respondents felt that it would be helpful to encourage the controlled expansion of commercial areas to support local employment. 73% of local residents in the parish are in employment, and Figure 8 illustrates how far they are travelling to reach their workplace. Just 5% work within the parish boundary (not at home), with a third then commuting out to nearby towns, most likely Colchester, and then a further 30% further afield. Providing more opportunities for workspace locally might help to restrict this out-commuting. It might also offer the 12% working from home an opportunity to expand locally, rather than seeking opportunities elsewhere. The majority of those commuting to work are using their car (45%), so creating opportunities within the parish might help to reduce this.

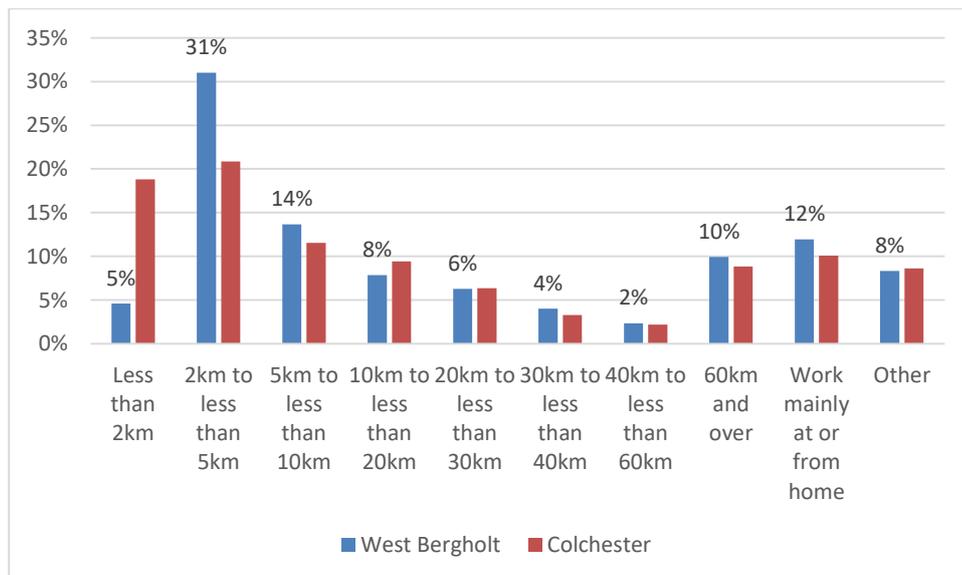


Figure 8: Distances travelled to work by West Bergholt residents compared to the Borough average

2.24 Within the comments section, a respondent mentioned the difficulty in accessing GP appointments quickly and asked for this to be addressed. Numerous commenters spoke of the poor Broadband signal in the parish.

Sports and recreation

2.25 This section of the survey sought broad views on existing and future recreation and sports provision. Examining playing fields, tennis courts and children’s play areas, just 29% of respondents indicated they use these. This is possibly due to the majority of older people

answering and a different result might have been gained from different segments of the community. Indeed when questioned further, many respondents mentioned playgrounds, for instance, in the context of taking their grandchildren. Most people used the free text box to indicate which of the three activities mentioned (playgrounds, tennis, sports fields) they used as opposed to other facilities, as illustrated in Figure 9.

Park Orpen Hall Field Playground Children's Play Area Maltings Tennis Courts Grandchildren

Figure 9: Most commonly cited facilities and activities

- 2.26 Teenagers were felt to require additional recreational facilities – such as shelters and a skate park - and this was explored further with young people via the Youth Survey, covered later in the report.
- 2.27 Just 23% of respondents wanted to see more outdoor facilities for recreation, while 52% wanted more indoor activities. Figure 10 indicates the range of activities desired locally, although again this should be caveated in the context that the survey was answered by predominantly older people.

Skate Board Specific Netball Cafe Swimming Pool Adult Field Access Club Better Play Equipment Sports Table Tennis Park New Hall Court Young Children Facility Play Area Basketball Footpath Gym Ages Village Exercise Young People

Figure 10: Most commonly desired facilities and activities

- 2.28 There was a suggestion that a field or purpose-built sports facility on the outskirts of the village would be helpful to enable a range of sports during the day and into the evening if floodlit.
- 2.29 Overall, it is clear that recreation and sport is important locally and there is certainly scope to improve both the existing facilities and offer new ones. This will be an important consideration when looking at potential development sites in the Neighbourhood Plan and when determining how any developer contributions, e.g. Community Infrastructure Levy, might be allocated.

Communications

- 2.30 In line with previous findings about the need to publicise better local activities, so the need to publicise the local website was also supported, although many people mentioned the range of publicity materials available including the newsletter, bulleting and parish council meetings.

- 2.31 Lots of people were keen to see more events around the parish, suggestions including an annual summer fayre (beyond the school one), antiques fair, craft sales and book signings.
- 2.32 Residents were asked if they feel sufficiently involved in local decision making. Whilst 52% felt that the opportunities existing to feed in their views, only 43% felt involved in the actual decision making process. The Neighbourhood Plan will be an important tool to improving the way local people can actively help to shape decisions about the way the parish will develop into the future.

Transport and highways

- 2.33 The survey sought feedback on the types of transport used by local people, revealing that 80% regularly use their car, with 24% saying they are regularly a passenger. This is perhaps not surprising given the rural nature of the parish, and in the context of the fact that many people of working age commute outside the parish, including to reach the station. Incidentally, of those using the railway station, located in nearby Colchester, 39% use their car and 36% use the bus. The 11% cycling might be supported by providing new or improved cycle infrastructure which could be addressed through the emerging neighbourhood plan.
- 2.34 Reassuringly, 64% of local people regularly walk and 24% cycle. Whilst 47% agreed that the pedestrian environment was adequate, notably 29% disagreed, 18% strongly disagreeing. Specific comments about this included a call for a cycle path along the Bergholt Road, off-road cycling paths to nearby villages and the need to maintain footpaths from overgrown vegetation. Neighbourhood Plans can make a real impact on promoting more non-car modes of transport, particularly within the neighbourhood area and between key facilities and amenities.
- 2.35 51% of people regularly use the bus and 66% agreed that the existing bus service is adequate. There may be scope to consider how any new developments are connected to the bus network.
- 2.36 Of the destinations most travelled to, Colchester was the most common, cited by 89% of respondents. 37% needed to regularly get to the A12 to reach further away destinations such as Ipswich and Chelmsford.
- 2.37 According to the results, the road network was the area most in need of attention, with 75% of residents feeling that maintenance is inadequate. Road maintenance is not something that can be addressed by planning policy, but can be detailed as an associated action to lobby for. Speeding traffic was also cited as a problem and the majority of respondents felt that a 20mph limit would help. Equally car parking along certain junctions was something that 86% of respondents felt needed to be tackled.

Housing and Planning

- 2.38 The final section of the community survey explored issues around future development and housing. 96% of respondents said they would like to be involved in influencing the quality, pace and location of any new housing with just 4% wishing to leave such decisions in the hands of developers. When considering what level of new housing might be needed within the parish over the next 15 to 20 years, the majority of respondents wished to see the minimum required, or housing based on demand. The types of housing felt to be required were:

- homes for first-time buyers and young families,
- low cost homes (the average house price for 2017-2018 was £350,999²)
- warden assisted residences
- homes for 'downsizing'

- 2.39 51% of respondents felt that any new housing should be developed in small clusters and 70% wanted to limit development to within the existing village settlement. 28% saw merit in allowing development beyond the village boundary, as long as it met a particular need. Indeed this was reflected in the comments with some people saying it was difficult to find homes to meet their particular needs in terms of size and cost.
- 2.40 Respondents commented on the need to maintain the 'village feel' and its distinct identity, particularly from Colchester. There was also an emphasis on the need to ensure that supporting infrastructure and amenities was provided along with any new developments.

Youth Survey

- 2.41 Alongside the Community Survey, a Youth Survey was distributed to the local schools in the parish to garner the views of younger residents.
- 2.42 A statistical analysis of each question is provided in the separate Powerpoint document. Summaries of each topic area are provided below.

Who completed the survey?

- 2.43 123 surveys were completed, 64% by boys and 36% by girls. 85% of those responding were attending junior school, aged between 9 and 11, with the remainder of secondary school age.

Local clubs and activities

- 2.44 Just over half the respondents were members of the youth club, with the most popular other clubs being football and cubs/scouts. Specific mention was also made of the tennis club and the church group, Wired.
- 2.45 When asked to rate the current quality of various facilities and services in the parish, all were rated 'good' or 'very good', the youth club scoring particularly highly. 'Advice on health and wellbeing' scored least highly and whilst the library scored well, it did not receive as many 'very good' ratings as other facilities, potentially indicating room for improvements.
- 2.46 Respondents were asked to give their views on which facilities should be improved. The majority suggested the library, reflecting its lack of 'very good' ratings noted above, although all facilities and were felt to be worthwhile to upgrade. The most important service to improve was health and wellbeing advice. Specific comments received were:
- A call for a permanent, or more frequent library, that also sells books and is better promoted. It could also offer a meeting space and place to do work.

² www.rightmove.co.uk

- A skateboarding park.
- More clubs – including athletics club and clubs for older children/teens.
- Sheltered locations and meeting places for young people around the village.
- More publicity about what there is to do.
- More activities for girls.
- More advice in schools.
- One person said that there are enough sports clubs and noted the Orpen Hall provides sufficient meeting space.

2.47 86% of the respondents said they feel safe in West Bergholt, reflecting the findings of the Community Survey.

2.48 When asked about what was needed in West Bergholt going forward, the following was mentioned:

- A skatepark, or flat covered area for and smoother pavements for skating.
- More sports activities and events.
- Superfast broadband.
- More clubs – an art club?
- Safer roads, particularly at school time.
- Astroturf pitch.
- More things in the park.
- More access to the MUGA e.g. during the summer.

Business Survey

2.49 The final survey distributed in 2013 was to local businesses to get an early understanding of the types of challenges facing them.

2.50 A statistical analysis of each question is provided in the separate Powerpoint document. Summaries of each topic area are provided below.

About the businesses

2.51 13 businesses completed the survey, with a fairly even split between those based from home and those on commercial premises, as illustrated in Figure 11. Not every business answered every question, therefore the feedback, while very valid, needs to be treated carefully.

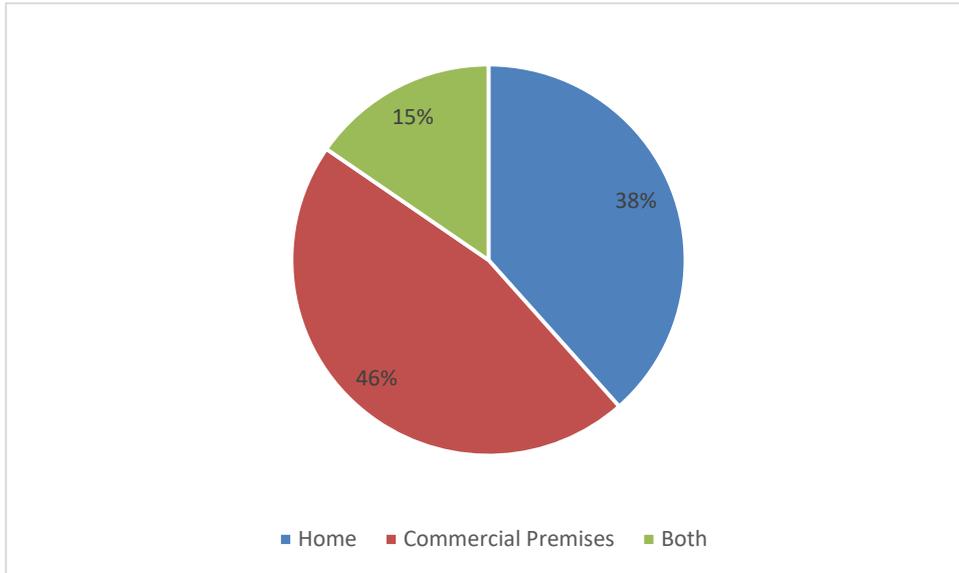


Figure 11: Location of businesses completing the survey

- 2.52 One third of the businesses served primarily a local market and two thirds a regional market. Two of the respondents traded to Europe and one world-wide.
- 2.53 The majority, 46% were self-employed with no staff. A further 24% had 1 to 3 staff and the remainder were larger employers. There was an even mix of established and newly formed businesses represented. Figure 12 indicates where the workforce for the businesses originate from.

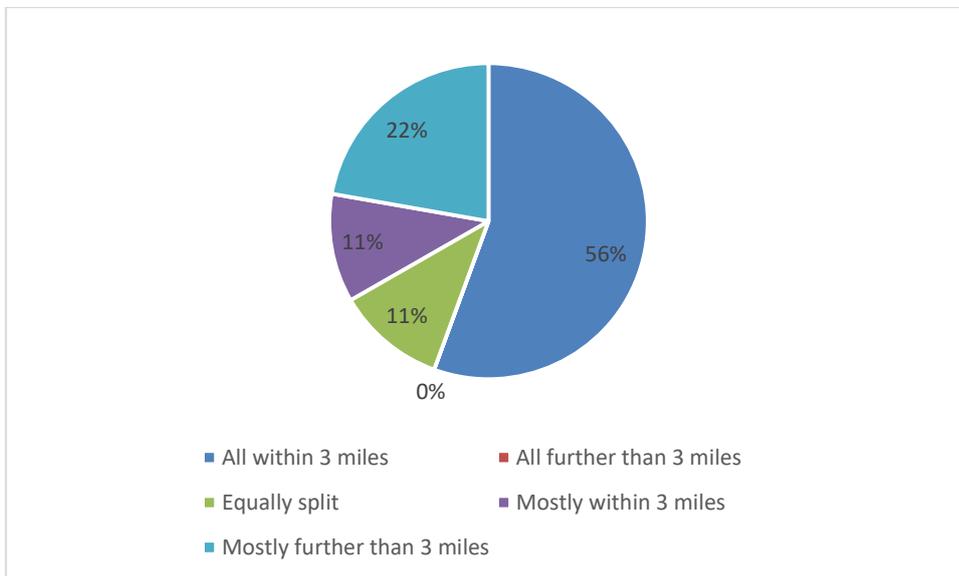


Figure 12: Distance staff travel to reach employer

Business needs

- 2.54 The majority of respondents chose to locate their business in West Bergholt because it is where they live. This is clearly not surprising for the home-based businesses, but is useful when considering that the other businesses had a potentially larger choice of venues to choose to locate

in. 18% said that the transport links had influenced their decision, with one commenting that West Bergholt offered cheaper sites than some of the surrounding industrial estates.

- 2.55 Most of the businesses said that it was easy to recruit staff. One said it was poor, but it is not clear what the particular issue was.
- 2.56 Those businesses employing staff stated that the majority of their workforce arrived to work by car.
- 2.57 Car parking was felt to be good for 60% of businesses and adequate for the rest. One owner commented that it was likely to be the lack of parking that might restrict future growth, indicating the importance of this feature to businesses.
- 2.58 12 of the 13 respondents said that that broadband speed was adequate for their business. Other services noted as key for businesses were:
- Fast internet
 - Stable power/electricity supply
 - Water on site
 - Telephone
 - Postal service

One business suggested that better public transport would be an important factor in a business relocating to West Bergholt, presumably to enable staff and/or customers easier access and to negate the need for parking.

- 2.59 Just over a quarter of the businesses were part of informal local business networks, for instance other businesses they knew locally and would cross-refer to.

Future business plans

- 2.60 70% of the businesses felt that their current business premises was not going to meet their future growth needs. Reasons given were:
- Working from home isn't ideal for meeting clients
 - Larger office space is required for future expansion (with storage area)
 - Not enough parking
 - We get enquiries from people wanting to rent small business units
 - We need to build a new office to accommodate our growing business
 - We would like a bigger premises in the future
- 2.61 In the near future, respondents mention that faster internet would be helpful, more stable electricity supplies, availability of both retail and small scale business units was cited.
- 2.62 When asked whether West Bergholt has the potential to offer more business opportunities, the following comments were received:
- There need to be more business units available

- We need controlled development in established business zones
- We need more offices to rent
- We need more light industrial units
- There is a lack of retail units and no real village centre

2.63 Overall, despite the low number of respondents, some very helpful feedback was received to help shape the potential content of the neighbourhood when considering business development.

3 2015: ISSUES AND OPTIONS SURVEY

3.1 Having taken on board the initial comments received, the WBNPSG and Working Groups assembled a draft vision, objectives, key issues and proposals to address these. In March and April 2015, an “issues and options” consultation was undertaken which aimed to present these issues and priorities for the community to gain feedback. This was an important stage as it would inform the development of the draft Neighbourhood Plan, in readiness for final round of consultation before the Regulation 14 draft Plan could be finalised.

3.2 The consultation comprised:

- a public meeting;
- exhibitions held on two Saturdays;
- an invitation to village societies to have a personal briefing;
- a paper and on line questionnaire;
- an article in the Village Bulletin; and
- website pages on www.westbergholt.net

3.3 This section of the report provides a summary of the findings of the questionnaire, with the statistical analysis available in separate Powerpoint document.

Who completed the survey?

3.4 231 surveys were completed, equating to 17% of all households in the parish or 7% of residents. There was an approximate 50:50 split between males and females completing the forms. Just under two thirds of respondents were aged over 55 and 55% were retired. This again reveals the challenge in encouraging younger members of the community to complete the surveys. Three quarters had lived in the parish for at least 6 years.

Support for the Neighbourhood Plan

3.5 Encouragingly, 98% of respondents agreed that it was important/very important to have a Neighbourhood Plan. Figure 13 illustrates the support for the various components of the Plan. Having a say in decisions affecting the parish, deciding where new development should be located and protecting the environment were felt to be most important. On the other hand, there was less outright support for encouraging more employment.

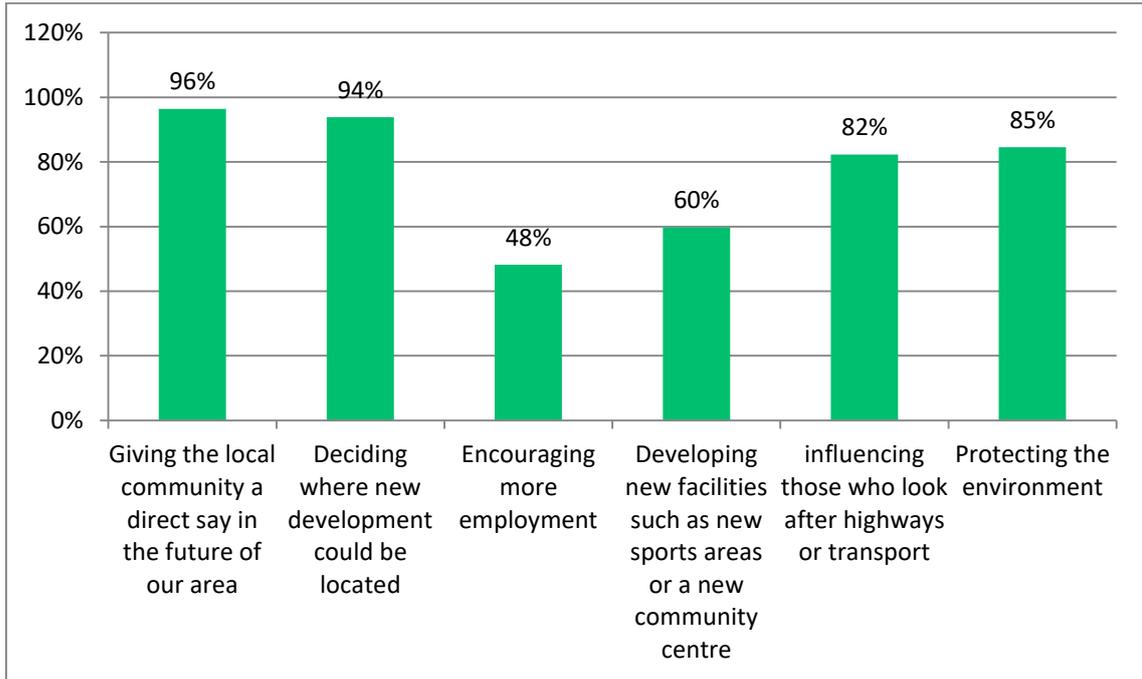


Figure 13: Support for the main reasons to have a Neighbourhood Plan for West Bergholt

3.6 Bearing in mind the information gathered from the previous round of engagement, the draft vision for the parish was: **“By 2025 West Bergholt will be a prosperous community which has taken control of its destiny through local decision-making, which has achieved a sustainable mix of development, and where the combination of the natural environment and the quality of the built provide an attractive location for residents, businesses and visitors alike.”** Figure 14 illustrates support for the vision.

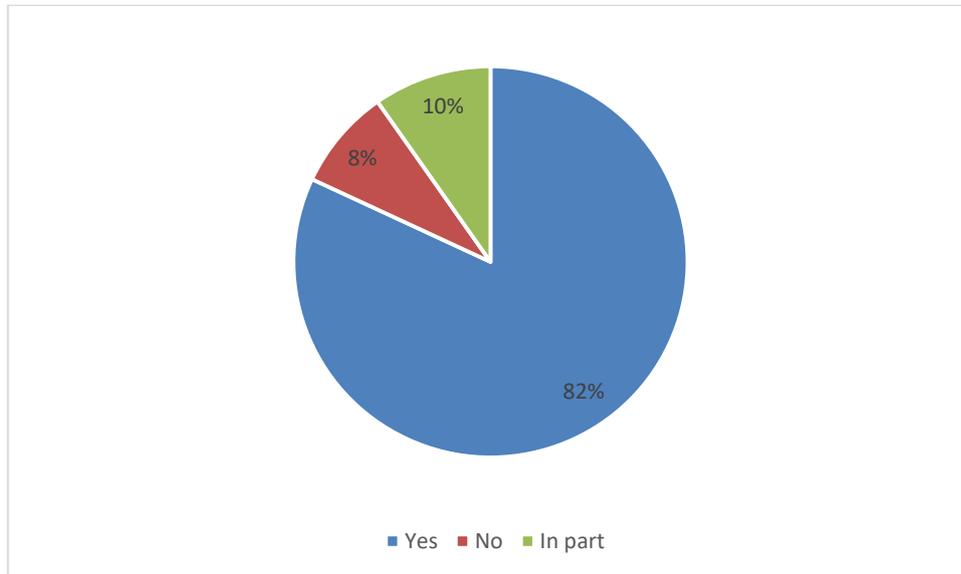


Figure 14: Do you support the vision statement for West Bergholt?

3.7 Those not supporting the vision gave the following reasons, grouped by topic:

Comment received	Potential response
We don't want development/ change to our village setting	The Neighbourhood Plan cannot stop development, rather it can shape it. Without a Neighbourhood Plan, development will inevitably take place, but the community will not have any control over it.
We should mention 'safety' in the vision statement	'Attractive location' encapsulates many themes, including safety, which is a specific policy area in the Plan.
Some proposals for specific text changes.	These will be considered for the next iteration of the vision.
Concern about the inclusion of businesses and potential for these to create more traffic	It is felt important to ensure that businesses can flourish in order to ensure a sustainable community.

3.8 Appendix B contains the full set of responses to this question.

3.9 The survey continued by asking respondents to provide feedback on the Plan Objectives, related Issues and Proposals. The findings are summarised below. Respondents were invited to add additional comments; these are summarised in the sections below and contained in full in Appendix B.

Community: clubs, societies, volunteering and mechanisms to strengthen the community

Draft objective: *To improve and extend opportunities for all age groups to take part in a wide range of activities both recreational and as volunteers. Promoting and raising awareness of these to increase participation.*

3.10 84% of respondents agreed with draft objective. The following issues were raised in multiple comments:

- Need to ensure that there are sufficient venues and volunteers to enable an extended offering.
- The proximity to Colchester might make it difficult for the parish to offer lots of its own separate activities.
- More needs to be done to address the gap in provision for teens.

Identified Issues:

- 1 With the increasing pace of life and pressure on our time, it becomes harder for existing volunteers to maintain their roles and to persuade others to take up duties providing services that are taken for granted by so many.
- 2 Across the UK communities need to consider how they step in where traditional providers such as councils withdraw their support due to funding cuts.
- 3 There is a need to enable all sections of the community to participate in activities that reduce social isolation, strengthen communities and create opportunities for interaction.

3.11 83% of respondents agreed with the identified issues. The following points were raised in multiple comments:

- It will be important to vet volunteers.
- It's often the same pool of (often older) people volunteering. We need to encourage younger people to get involved.
- Is there scope to link up providers to establish events?
- We should not have to rely on volunteers.

Proposals:

- 1 Create a means of identifying when an organisation is struggling for support.
- 2 Create a database or contact list of people so that a growing pool of volunteers can be developed.
- 3 Co-ordination of meeting venues to enable groups to meet easily.
- 4 Further opportunities for older children and young adults.
- 5 More publicity for existing groups.
- 6 Examine funding opportunities.
- 7 Maintain and enhance community centre(s) or similar.

3.12 82% respondents agreed with the identified issues. The following points were raised in multiple comments:

- Greater clarity in the phrasing of the proposals called for.
- We need to identify who is going to lead any new activities first.
- Funding is the most important issue to resolve.
- Provision for teens and young adults should be prioritised.
- Uncertainty about creating a database of volunteers

Environment: the quality of our built and natural environment, its protection, enhancement and improvement

Draft objective: To maintain the distinctiveness of the Parish and its identity by protecting the natural and built environment for the enjoyment of future generations and to explore opportunities to create new areas of recreational open space.

3.13 84% of respondents supported the draft objective. The following issues were raised in multiple comments:

- There is adequate recreational open space already in the parish and this needs to be protected from development.
- Keep the village separate from Colchester.
- Uncertainty as to whether new spaces are needed. We should focus on improving what we have already.
- We should protect the rural parts of the parish, the wildlife and the landscape.

- New development should be in-keeping with the surrounding context.

Identified Issues:

- 1 It is essential that future proposals do not adversely affect the positive aspects of the existing environment that we all enjoy. In addition, they should provide the opportunity of improving our environment.
 - 2 The quality of the built, manmade and natural landscape should not be taken for granted and our plan needs to provide a balance between preservation, functionality and enjoyment.
- 3.14 91% of respondents agreed with the identified issues. The following points were raised in multiple comments:
- Allotments are a unique feature of the village centre and should be protected.
 - Hedges need to be protected.
 - ‘Preservation’ implies no change, perhaps better to use ‘conservation’, which embraces active management.
 - We should mention special landscape areas such as the Colne Valley countryside.
 - We should mention special heritage assets such as St Mary’s Church.
 - We need to maintain our woodlands and countryside.
 - Is flooding an issue that should be mentioned?

Proposals:

1. Policies to protect what we have (including existing areas of public open space, woodland in private ownership, special landscape areas to the south east of the village).
 2. Projects to improve what we have (e.g. additional footpaths or the need for further areas of open space).
 3. Design guides to ensure new developments enhance the environment.
 4. A community register to protect important community buildings.
- 3.15 81% of respondents agreed with the identified issues. The following points were raised in multiple comments:
- Design guides must not be too restrictive or stifle innovative design.
 - Is the special landscape area to the south east or south west of the village? Why are other parts of the village not given equal mention?
 - We need to beware ‘overdeveloping’ ‘access’ to the countryside.
 - Protecting what we have should include areas of the village itself.
 - We should protect wildlife corridors.
 - The allotments should be protected.

- Footpaths and cyclepaths, to provide access within and beyond the village, should be a priority.
- Existing green spaces must be safeguarded, including the Lorkin and Poors Fields.

Planning and Housing: the quantity, quality and provision of new dwellings in the parish

Draft objective: *To support limited expansion in the parish and involve the local community in all aspects of development through consultation and active involvement to determine new housing needs.*

3.16 83% of respondents supported the draft objective. The following issues were raised in multiple comments:

- Support for just limited expansion in the parish.
- Developments should be small, i.e. smaller than six units per site.
- The current infrastructure is insufficient to support new housing.
- We need to avoid coalescence with neighbouring towns, i.e. Colchester.
- ‘Limited’ needs to be further clarified.
- The parish must retain its distinctive identity.

Identified issues:

1. Concern about infill.
2. Concern about the village sprawling over its natural boundaries towards Colchester.
3. How to control and influence the type, quality and location of any new dwellings.
4. Being able to influence the number of new dwellings proposed.

3.17 89% of respondents agreed with the identified issues. The following points were raised in multiple comments:

- Infilling needs to be undertaken carefully so as not to compromise the character of the village.
- Hedges should be retained where possible.
- Coalescence with Colchester must be avoided.
- More affordable homes for first-time buyers are needed.
- Adequate off-street car parking is essential for any new housing.
- Brownfield sites should be prioritised when considering any development.
- The ageing population will need suitable housing, such as care homes.
- Supporting infrastructure – GPs, schools etc. – must be in place to support any growth in housing.

Options:

1. **Maximising the control the community has over the type of development provided.** Up to 25 new dwellings to be accommodated within the existing village envelope. Additionally, outside the village envelope, up to 75 new dwellings of type, style and numbers deemed as necessary to meet the Parish's needs.
2. **Maximising the control the community has over the type of development, but allowing a greater number of dwellings.** Up to 25 new dwellings to be accommodated within the existing village envelope. Additionally up to 125 houses to be accommodated by extending the village envelope in several locations to accommodate small areas of new housing; dwellings of type, style and numbers deemed as necessary to meet the Parish's needs.
3. **Allowing developers to put forward their own plans** for the type of dwellings they wish to provide. Up to 200 houses to be accommodated by one or two larger extensions to the village envelope.

3.18 Figure 15 illustrates the relative support for the three options. Option 1 was the most supported, followed by Option 2.

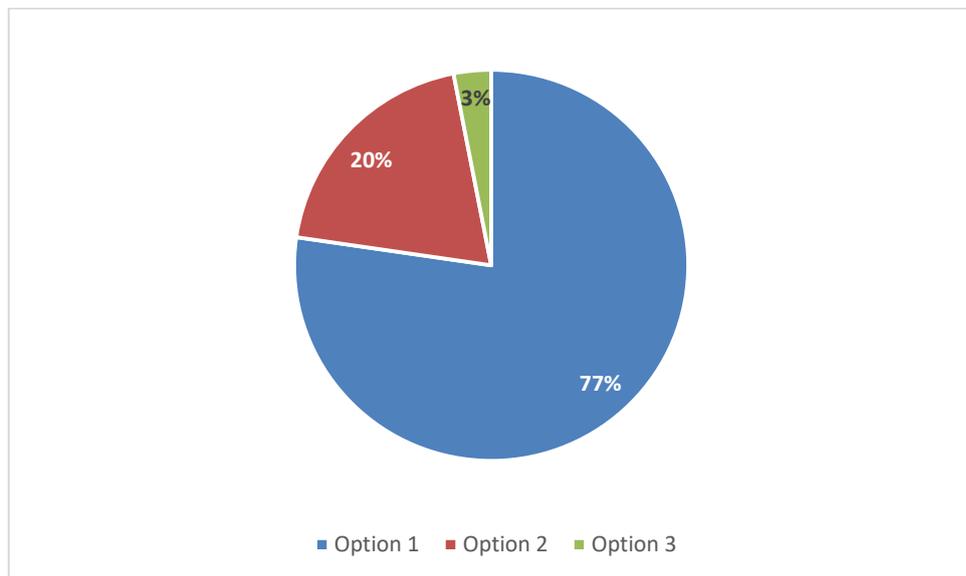


Figure 15: Support for Options 1, 2 and 3

3.19 The following points were raised in multiple comments:

- Developers should ensure that supporting infrastructure is in place.
- A time period for delivery should be noted³.
- It is difficult to choose an option without an idea of potential locations of new developments.
- No development is preferable.
- Any development should be small-scale.
- We need to plan carefully and learn lessons from previous 'mistakes'.

³ NB the timescale will coincide with the overall lifespan of the Neighbourhood Plan.

- The existing village envelope should be retained.
- Option 3 would spoil the village feel.
- It's important to develop the right sort of houses, such as affordable, smaller properties for first time buyers and those wishing to downsize.

Transport: moving around in the parish

Draft objective: *Maintain and improve existing accessibility by bus, walking and cycling. Introduce 20mph zones or streets. Improve maintenance of our highways, pathways and verges.*

3.20 83% of respondents supported the draft objective. The following issues were raised in multiple comments:

- 20mph zones received mixed views. Some said they are not necessary and will only work if policed. Others felt them to be vital.
- Restricting car-parking using yellow lines will only push the problem to another location.
- Improve lighting on the busiest roads.
- Support for improving footpaths and cyclepaths. Improving the footpath to the church would enable more people to access that venue.
- A bus stop/shelter is needed on 'Pitts' Corner, Colchester Road.
- Road maintenance is important.
- Horse riders need to be considered.

Identified issues:

1. Poor environment for cycling with lack of cycle ways.
2. Car dominated environment with parking and safety issues.
3. Basic but sometimes unreliable bus service; a poor standard of highway maintenance.
4. Lack of pedestrian road crossing points; missing lengths of footways and many in poor repair.
5. Lack of information on the local public rights of way.

3.21 79% of respondents supported the draft objective. The following issues were raised in multiple comments:

- Car parking at junctions needs to be addressed as it's often dangerous.
- Street lighting should be improved.
- Need to consider horse riders.
- The bus network should be extended to cover more of the parish.
- Cars should not be allowed to park on pavements.
- More cycleways are needed.
- Residents need to start using buses if they are to be safeguarded.

- HGVs should be restricted from various areas.
- Mixed views about 'missing' footways, some saying this isn't an issue, others saying they add character.

Proposals:

1. **Possible bus service proposal:** Real time information on bus stops saying when the next bus will arrive; some form of bus discount scheme linked to increased usage.
2. **Possible motorised transport proposals:** parking restrictions at key road junctions and possibly one way streets; progressively introduce 20mph streets or zones; a parish register of road defects to discuss with the highway authority.
3. **Possible walking proposals:** new footways along Chapel Lane, New Church Road, Colchester Road and School Lane; promotional leaflet covering public rights of way and cycling.
4. **Possible cycling proposals:** links to cycle routes in the area towards the station and Eight Ash Green; a quiet circular cycle route for youngsters to safely learn cycle craft.

3.22 65% of respondents supported the proposals. The following issues were raised in multiple comments:

- Concern about how the Plan can influence buses.
- Real-time bus-stops are unattractive in rural settings.
- Concern about the lack of room on some roads to create new footpaths.
- A 20mph zone near the school would be helpful.
- Horse riders need to be considered.

Business & Commerce: creating opportunities to work and trade locally

Draft objective: *Seek to examine controlled expansion of existing employment opportunities or new opportunities, if scope exists; maintain and where practical enhance the existing offer of retail and eating and drinking facilities.*

3.23 66% of respondents supported the draft objective. The following issues were raised in multiple comments:

- Additional employment sites are not appropriate for a village location.
- Existing facilities are adequate.
- A local café/coffee shop would be a helpful asset and place for people to meet.
- Concern about not having too many betting shops, late-night bars etc.

Identified issues

1. Some business park areas are at the limit of their existing footprints.
2. No zoned areas for expanded employment opportunities exist in the parish.
3. Pubs are at risk from closure without local support.
4. There is no real plan for influencing retail areas in the village.

3.24 63% of respondents supported the identified issues. The following issues were raised in multiple comments:

- Concern that a business park will have a negative impact on the character of the village and that sufficient provision is available in nearby Colchester.
- Smaller, independent shops would be welcome.
- Pubs need to consider their offer to enable them to be more viable.
- Broadband and mobile coverage needs to be improved to encourage businesses into the parish.

Proposals:

1. Identify the business parks in our plan with land zoned for expansion.
2. Promote businesses on the website.
3. Maintain a community building register which includes local pubs and other important community buildings.
4. Promote enhanced retail opportunities within the village as these present themselves.

3.25 52% of respondents supported the proposals. The following issues were raised in multiple comments:

- Concern that business parks will create more traffic, pollution and HGVs.
- Could existing buildings, e.g. pubs, house events or other community activities.
- Concern that a small village isn't the right setting for a business park.
- A café/coffee shop would be welcome.
- Zoning business areas might help to restrict any negative impacts such as traffic.
- Car parking must be provided.

Village and Parish Facilities: creating opportunities for the community to interact

Draft objective: *To provide improved community facilities which support local groups especially in the areas of community buildings, telecommunications and meeting areas.*

3.26 88% of respondents support the objective. The following issues were raised in multiple comments:

- Call for faster broadband
- Some confusion over the meaning of this objective with more clarity called for.
- The village is well-supplied for venues.
- Can Heathlands become more involved in village matters?

Identified issues:

1. Meeting areas for all uses are fragmented and there is no central co-ordination booking system.
2. Village Halls are at near full capacity.
3. Broadband service needs to be enhanced.

3.27 79% of respondents support the issues, with the following key comments contributed:

- Agreement that broadband needs improving.
- Concern that the existing halls are sufficient and the focus should be on upgrading them rather than creating more.
- Concern that a central co-ordination booking system is overkill.

Proposals:

1. Remove the deadlock to expansion by moving and consolidating ball game and recreational sports areas.
2. Larger village halls to meet future demand shortfall.
3. Enhancements to the church & chapel halls and scout hut.
4. A broadband service providing sufficient bandwidth for all.
5. Weather proof “meet and greet” facilities at Bluebells and Heathlands.

3.28 60% of respondents agreed with the proposals. Comments received included:

- Ball game and recreational sports areas should not be reduced in size and need to stay within the village.
- Concern about how the proposals might be funded.
- Support for improving broadband.
- Is there sufficient room in the village envelope for new facilities?

Sport & Recreation: promoting increased opportunities to get active and participate in sport

Draft objective: *Provide new areas of open space for formal and informal sport and recreation to promote healthy living and lifestyles.*

3.29 73% of respondents agreed with the draft objective. Specific comments received included:

- Agreement by many that this is needed but concerns about where.

Identified issues:

1. Existing facilities inadequate for future needs or growth
2. Facilities established by chance of history not strategic planning
3. Limited Growth – unlikely to meet future demand as it currently stands
4. Football dominates the available recreation fields
5. Lorkin-Daniell playing field has limited free capability
6. Football is noisy and needs space – at odds with the current setting
7. Children’s play areas - expansion & enhancement limited by space.

3.30 58% of respondents supported the identified issues. The following issues were raised in multiple comments:

- Sports beyond football need to be considered.
- Are there locations near to residential homes for facilities to either be relocated or newly sited?
- Plans for the cricket club should be considered.
- Children's play equipment, particularly at the Orpen Hall site, could do with upgrading.

Proposals:

1. New consolidated and dedicated sports field – minimum of 10 acres, located close to the village.
2. Dedicated sport and fitness pavilion and changing facilities.
3. Relocate existing football areas to make room for enhanced children's play activities
4. Introduce a skate park.
5. Promote the many footpaths on our doorstep through circular walk guides to enable improved access to Essex Way, Fordham Community Forest and neighbouring parish areas.
6. Recreational cycling opportunities, perhaps converting some footpaths to bridleways to enable cycling as well as walking or introduce permissive paths with the agreement of like-minded landowners

3.31 54% of respondents supported the identified issues. The following issues were raised in multiple comments:

- Support for bridleways.
- Uncertainty about a skate park.
- Footpaths should be better signposted.
- Large sports field may not be needed?
- How will children access any new facilities, especially if they are located outside the village?

Community Safety: create an environment which promotes a feeling of safety whatever the circumstances

Draft objective: *Maintain the feeling of a safe community where crime and perception of crime is low and where the chance of being the victim of a traffic related accident is minimised.*

3.32 95% of respondents supported the objective. The following issues were raised in multiple comments:

- Speeding is a problem.
- A greater police presence is needed.
- Parked cars near to the junctions create an unsafe environment for pedestrians.

- Street lighting should be on all night.

Identified issues:

1. Perception about crime and safety are as important as reality.
2. Information about crime is important to you.
3. Past incidents of anti-social behaviour have been cause for concern.
4. Neighbourhood Watch Scheme has dwindled.
5. You want to know that the police can respond quickly.
6. You are concerned about road safety, crossing the roads especially for children.

3.33 91% of respondents agreed that these issues were relevant. Specific comments included:

- Perceptions about crime should be backed up with facts.
- Road safety is a key issue that needs to be addressed.
- Enforcement by the police is required to reduce crime.
- Speeding and badly parked cars create unsafe environments.

Proposals:

1. Seek to progressively introduce 20mph zones and streets.
2. Liaise closely with the police on crime trends to inform our community about emerging threats.
3. Inform Safer Colchester Partnerships of growing issues.
4. Work with voluntary groups to identify vulnerable households.
5. Revive interest in a NW scheme.

3.34 75% of respondents agreed with these proposals. The following issues were raised in multiple comments:

- Traffic speed needs to be addressed but mixed views on 20mph zones and concern that they only work if policed.
- Reinstating the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme is important.
- The police need to be more visible on the streets.

Communications: keeping the community informed through a wide range of media and promoting two-way dialogue

Draft objective: *To improve communications through a range of activities with our website and social media at its core to provide residents with a means to be involved and consulted on village affairs.*

3.35 89% agree with this objective. Additional comments received included:

- Slow broadband can cause issues with accessing online media.
- Older residents do not always have access to computers.

Identified issues:

1. Over 50% of those participating considered that greater publicity is required on the range of village and parish activities and how to participate.
2. Less than half of residents felt involved in decisions.

3.36 83% of respondents felt these statements were accurate, with comments including:

- There is a lot of publicity already and it's up to individuals to make sure they access it.
- A more frequent village newsletter might be helpful.
- Can information be posted on boards in local shops?

Proposals:

1. Broadband delivery to the village and ideally to every home.
2. Increased community volunteer participation.
3. Explore the opportunities, and use existing outlets, that have modern media electronic displays i.e. chemist & doctors' surgery.
4. Annual Community event that involves everyone!
5. More volunteer affiliated groups to support the Parish Council.
6. A notice board in Pocket Park on the Truman site.

3.37 79% of respondents supported these proposals. Additional comments received can be summarise as:

- Broadband is vital and should be featured higher up in the priority list for the Neighbourhood Plan.
- The village bulletin is very helpful.
- Increasing community participation might be difficult in practice.
- Support for community events, but needs good participation from all.
- Concern that noticeboards might be vandalised.

4 2016 DRAFT NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN SURVEY

- 4.1 The information gathered from the 2015 Issues and Options survey were analysed and led to the creation of an initial draft of the West Bergholt Neighbourhood Plan. This went out for an informal consultation locally in 2016, in order to gather input to finalise the Regulation 14 version of the Plan.
- 4.2 A programme of evidence gathering took place in parallel which enabled the group to evolve the Vision Statement to be:

“By 2032 West Bergholt will be a prosperous community which has taken control of its destiny through local decision-making, which has achieved a sustainable mix of development, and where the combination of the built and natural environment provides an attractive location for residents, businesses and visitors alike.”

The following objectives were included:

- **Creating a sense of community:** To improve and extend opportunities for all age groups to interact and take part in a wide range of activities and improve communication between and across community groups
- **Caring for our environment:** Maintain the distinctiveness of the parish and its identity by protecting the natural and built environment for the enjoyment of future generations and to explore opportunities to create new areas of accessible open space.
- **Enhancing and expanding community amenities:** Provide improved community facilities which support local groups especially in the areas of sport and recreation, community buildings, telecommunications and meeting areas.

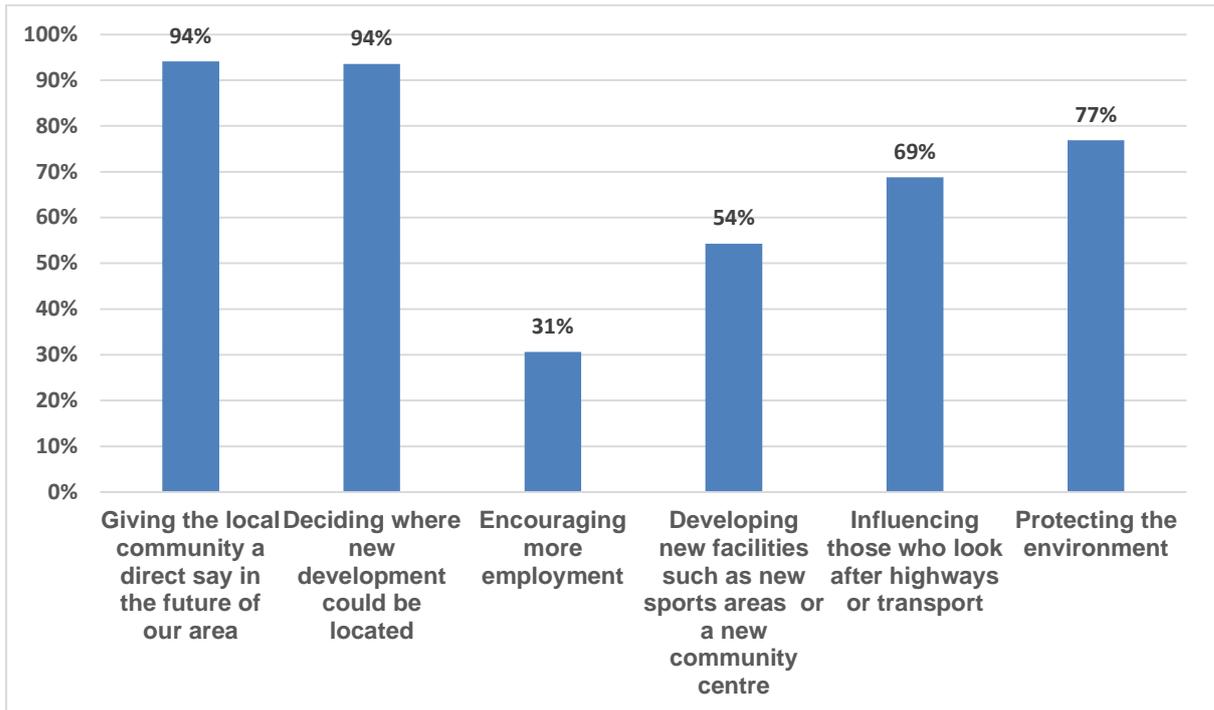
Integrating sustainable communities throughout the parish: Support limited expansion in the parish and involve the local community in all aspects of development through consultation and active involvement to determine new housing need.

Who completed the survey?

192 surveys were completed, equating to 14% of all households in the parish or 6% of residents. There was an approximate 50:50 split between males and females completing the forms. 85% of respondents were aged over 45, further revealing the challenge in encouraging younger members of the community to complete the surveys. 85% of respondents had lived in the parish for at least 6 years.

Support for the Neighbourhood Plan

- 4.3 There was overwhelming support for having a Neighbourhood Plan, with just short of 100% agreeing that it is very important/important for West Bergholt to have a Plan.
- 4.4 The survey sought views on which aspects of Neighbourhood Plan were considered most important, as set out in Figure 16.



4.5 The draft policies themselves were couched under 11 themes and the consultation sought feedback on how well each policy was supported. The statistics in full are contained in the separate Powerpoint document. A summary of the support for the policies is provided below with a commentary.

General village & Community Policies, maintaining a vibrant society with great community facilities

Draft Policy	Support
Existing community buildings of value will be retained.	97%
The village hall complex will be further developed as a community resource.	91%
Village societies, clubs and other community based organisations will be actively promoted. New community members will be informed how to participate through the website and notice boards.	96%

Commentary

- 4.6 The draft policies within this theme were very well supported. Many commented that as the population grows, so the village hall complex will need to be adapted accordingly, along with the expansion of other clubs and societies. There was a call for a focal point for the community, perhaps a role that could be further fulfilled by the village hall complex as it evolves.
- 4.7 Respondents felt that it would be helpful to identify which community buildings in particular were valued and how 'value' is measured as this can mean different things to different people. This may be taken forward using the Community Right to Bid, where assets of community value can be listed with a view to their safeguarding for future generations.
- 4.8 The final policy here is perhaps better defined as a community aim. One respondent mentioned that St Mary's Church had produced a Welcome Pack for new residents that might helpful in developing this.

The Environment: the quality of our built and natural environment, its protection & enhancement

Draft Policy	Support
Existing areas of public open space will be managed, maintained and improved to promote regular use and community enjoyment.	98%
Special landscape areas will be declared for the areas of the parish to the south east and west of the village envelope.	88%
There will be a general presumption against the removal of mature native trees in the village envelope.	88%
Streetscapes will be enhanced through planting and good verge and hedge management.	96%
'Character areas' of the village will be declared and protected from degradation through separate policies in the Village Design Statement.	88%
New areas of open space will be created within the village, all open spaces will be enhanced through a biodiversity action plan which seeks to improve the conditions for wildlife.	88%
Important historic and character buildings will be protected from changes which reduce or compromise their aesthetic appeal.	94%
The despoiling of the environment by littering and dog-fouling will be controlled.	100%

Commentary

- 4.9 The environmental policies received overwhelming support across the board. Many of the comments simply added further support and detail to the policies, for instance protecting features such as hedgerows and trees. There was some comment about the need to protect against 'over-management' of the environment.
- 4.10 There was concern about the extent to which the Plan can enable some of the policies to happen, such as the creation of special landscape areas and village character areas.
- 4.11 Many comments were received in support of the control of littering and dog-fouling, however there was some concern about how this might actually happen. This is perhaps an example of a 'Community Aim' as opposed to a policy, which would need to be reflected in the final draft Plan.

Planning & Housing: the quantity, location, quality and provision of dwellings

Draft Policy	Support
The number of dwellings proposed will be no more than 120, of which 20 will be sited within the current village envelope.	87%
Development sites within the expanded village area are to be centred in the areas north east of Colchester Road, opposite the Poor's Field & the Treble Tile.	78%
Only a mix of 1, 2 and 3 bedroom dwellings of varying tenure, including 12 dwellings for affordable rent and/or shared ownership will be permitted within the expanded village envelope.	78%
No changes to the dwellings built within the expanded village envelope will be permitted; so as to maintain the availability and supply of the required mix.	73%
Should development occur along Colchester Road, a landscape buffer of 10m width will be introduced to retain the existing semi-rural feel to this part of the village.	89%
All new properties should be contemporary in design and built to high insulation standards.	71%

Exception housing sites for affordable housing will be supported provided all relevant NP policies are met and such sites are outside the Special Landscape Area.	67%
---	------------

Commentary

- 4.12 Whilst there was overall support for the draft policies, this section received the most comments. A few commentators suggested that 120 new houses was too high, noting the amount of traffic this might produce. Others suggested that any new build of this number should be undertaken in smaller clusters around the village boundaries.
- 4.13 There was some concern about limiting the size of new housing to 1, 2 or 3 bedrooms, with a suggestion that a modest number of 4 bedrooms homes would help provide a good mix of housing.
- 4.14 A number of respondents questioned what was meant by ‘contemporary’ design and there is perhaps scope to define this more clearly in the Plan. On the theme of design, road layout was also mentioned as being an important consideration, along with car parking provision and low energy solutions, such as electric car-charging points. The inclusion of green spaces and planting with new developments was supported to help retain the rural nature of the parish.
- 4.15 A number of commentators felt that provision for sheltered accommodation should be included in the Plan, particularly given the aging population.
- 4.16 Affordable homes were, on the whole, welcomed. One commentator suggested that a Community Land Trust could be a useful tool to providing truly affordable homes and this might be an action that the Steering Group could investigate.

Transport - moving around in the village and wider parish area

Draft Policy	Support
Parking will be controlled and the environment improved for cycling and walking.	93%
Traffic will be directed towards main roads.	84%
Cycling and walking will be promoted and will be considered within the planning of all infrastructure projects.	93%
Parish bus services will be promoted and improvements sought. New minibus services will be introduced where practicable.	90%
Roads and pavements will be maintained to a high standard.	99%

Commentary

- 4.17 The draft transport policies were very well supported, although there was some concern about the extent to which they are feasible within the planning framework. Again there is a need to separate out planning and land-use policies from community actions, such as promoting bus services, and this will need to be reflected in the final document. Equally, there was concern about how some of the statements might be enforced, such as parking control.

- 4.18 Car parking, cycling and walking, addressed in the first draft policy, were felt to be separate issues requiring separate policies.
- 4.19 The need to define ‘Main Roads’ was raised, and this might be best reflected in a map of the parish, noting key motor vehicle routes for the purpose of new development.

Business & Commerce: creating opportunities to work and trade locally

Draft Policy	Support
No new business parks to be formed within the parish.	75%
Any expansion of the existing business parks is to be sustainable, limited and appropriate for the location and associated infrastructure.	92%
The conversion of commercial premises into residential property will be resisted so as to preserve the employment opportunities which exist in the village and wider parish area.	79%

Commentary

- 4.20 The comments received about business and commerce largely welcomed the policies although there was some concern that business should not be stifled locally, particularly where it will enable local employment. The first draft policy in particular was felt to be somewhat negative. This is a slight shift in local opinion since the last survey, where local people were, on the whole, cautious about encouraging new business beyond village retail.
- 4.21 There was support for encouraging local shops and services as well as developing small scale business units (start-ups) in existing farm buildings.

Sport and recreation: promoting increased opportunities to get active and participate in

sport

Draft Policy	Support
New sports activity areas will be developed as opportunities arise. Consolidation of sports activities may take place as a result.	80%
The Lorkin Daniell playing field will be managed to allow improved access to recreational activities.	89%
The Poor's Field will be managed to allow improved access to informal recreational activities.	89%

Commentary

- 4.22 The policies were well supported. There was some query about the use of the word ‘consolidation’ with some raising concerns about the potential reduction or loss of facilities. This may need further clarification.
- 4.23 Some people mentioned the need for new tennis courts. There was some concern about the improved use of the Lorkin Daniell playing field, which was viewed as an important green space. These commentators suggested that this green open space, and associated trees, should not be lost to buildings and hard surfacing etc.

- 4.24 There was a call for more seating areas for older people.
- 4.25 A couple of comments related to the football club and the need for a new improved site to be found. This might be something to consider further in the Plan.

Community Safety: create an environment to promote a feeling of safety whatever the circumstances

Draft Policy	Support
Neighbourhood Watch schemes including Speedwatch and Farm Watch will be encouraged and supported.	91%
Road safety issues will be highlighted through regular monitoring of issues and plans of action developed with the relevant agencies to rectify problem areas. Particular attention will be paid to areas around Heathlands School and the Co-op.	98%
Anti-social and other behavioural issues will be reported to the authorities and measures developed with the Police and the Community Safety Partnership to reduce their incidence.	99%
Crime and fear of crime will be monitored and remedial actions discussed and devised with the police and other community safety groups.	96%

Commentary

- 4.26 Whilst the draft policies received overwhelming support, it is clear that the majority of them are not planning and land-use policies, rather they would be better defined as community actions. For instance, the roll-out of neighbourhood watch scheme and Speedwatch, although there may be scope to incorporate design policy that would help to make these schemes easier to operate.

Communications: keeping the community informed via a range of media & promoting two-way dialogue

Draft Policy	Support
A West Bergholt communications forum will be established consisting of a mixture of age groups and skills to help ensure all groups within the community are represented.	89%
The village bulletin publication will be reviewed on a regular basis to ensure its continued value to the community.	95%
Communications will be consistent and opportunities made available for residents to give feedback.	91%
The website will be developed as the principal means of day to day communication and information, although printed information will be maintained via monthly newsletters and through traditional methods such as notice boards.	91%
Encouragement for the improvement and development of broadband services.	95%

Commentary

- 4.27 As noted in previous sections, some of the statements are community actions as opposed to planning and land-use policies, and this will need to be reflected in the final Plan.

4.28 Access to high speed broadband was supported with some seeking a choice of provider.

Policies to control or manage new development

Draft Policy	Support
Any development in the expanded village envelope must provide all necessary social, physical and green infrastructure.	96%
Any expansion of current business parks will be expected to make a positive contribution to their appearance and improvements to parking and access arrangements.	88%
All development will be encouraged to enhance the quality of life and the wellbeing of the local community and promote diversity and enhance community cohesion.	84%
All new development will be in accordance with the Village Design Statement.	93%
New areas of development will incorporate areas of public open space within their curtilages.	92%
New consolidated sports areas will be expected to provide for a wide variety of sports. Clubhouse facilities and parking must be provided, and the facility must have good accessibility to other parts of the village.	88%
All areas of new housing will be designed to reduce the incidence of burglary and other crime.	85%
Where new residential streets are proposed these should be 20 mph speed limit zones.	88%
Compliance with Essex parking standards will be sought from all proposed new or adapted dwellings.	87%
An information pack detailing village facilities, clubs, organisations and amenities will be made available for new residents.	84%
All new developments to incorporate the means of readily accepting fibre optic broadband.	89%
Developments must be safely located with regard to vehicular and pedestrian access with adequate visibility being created.	97%
The developer should provide or contribute towards appropriate measures which will assist walking, cycling, public transport and other highway improvements to principal village facilities.	94%
Where development would add to traffic congestion in the village or inappropriate traffic on rural lanes, proposals should be brought forward to mitigate any traffic impact or contribute funding towards village transport safety schemes.	95%
New development should include secure cycle storage and ideally storage for children's buggies and mobility scooters.	74%
Development proposals must maintain or enhance existing public rights of way.	96%

Commentary

- 4.29 The draft policies in this section were well-supported.
- 4.30 Many commentators stated a desire for the infrastructure to be in place to support any new development. This includes infrastructure related directly to the new development such as adequate car parking, superfast broadband and sufficient storage space e.g. for wheelie bins. It also encompassed the wider infrastructure such as sufficient school places, GPs, provision for sport and recreation and enhanced opportunities for walking and cycling. One commentator noted the need for additional burial space locally.
- 4.31 Many people welcomed a focus on speed restrictions.

5 CONCLUSIONS AND NEXT STEPS

- 5.1 The West Bergholt Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group has undertaken a significant amount of engagement with local residents. This has provided the local community the opportunity to help shape the initial vision and objectives, and enable this to be further worked into a series of policy themes.
- 5.2 Feedback received has been consistently reflected in the emerging Neighbourhood Plan policies, which have gained a positive reception as a result.
- 5.3 This report has focused on the findings of the surveys that were undertaken throughout the process. Whilst these have captured predominantly the views of older residents in the parish, the Steering Group has acknowledged that the younger residents are harder to reach and has addressed this by holding targeted conversations with groups and individuals to assess their views against the overall feedback.
- 5.4 It will be important for the Steering Group to consider which of the policies relate specifically to planning and land-use and which constitute wider community aims, perhaps to be funded using developer contributions. This should be reflected in the final draft of the plan, which will assist the community in understanding the policies that would ultimately form part of the Local Plan, and therefore influence planning decisions, in readiness for the referendum.
- 5.5 There is also a need to consider providing more effective definitions throughout the text, perhaps with the use of photographs where relevant. Examples of terms that have caused debate include 'contemporary design', 'main roads', 'consolidation of recreational facilities' and 'business park'.
- 5.6 The use of mapping and photographs to illustrate what is meant by the individual policies would also provide further clarity for readers.

Appendix A

2013 Baseline Survey – Free text responses

Residents' Survey

Question A1 I participate in a club, society or other village group activity on a regular basis?

Book Group
Cubs, Cricket Club, Babysitting Circle, School
"Football Club
Social club"
I don't, but my children currently attend the
Baby & Toddler Group, Girl Guides, Youth
Club and Wired and have participated in other
clubs in the past.
The Orpen Players (amateur dramatic group)
Pilates
A leader at Wired Youth Club
"History Group
Allotments"
social club
WEA
Cricket
Zumba fitness
NOT REGULAR BUT HAVE VISITED TODLER
GROUP AND AEROBICS CLASS
Book club and children attend youth club
book club
scouts and cubs
Youth football MUGA
Bergholt Youth Group
"Church Coffee Morning
BYG (child)"
Zumba
The Orpen Players Amateur Drama Group
based in West Bergholt.
Model Group
flower club
Parish Council
BYG, Bergholt Heath YFC
Friends of Hillhouse Wood
Care Network
Village Bulletin Team
West Bergholt Cricket Club
Railway modelling club
History group, WI, Flower club
Coffee morning, women's fellowship
Brownies, BYG
Care network volunteer driver

Friends of Hill House wood, Methodist quiz,
organise lifeboat collection
Football club
Gardening club, church, Orpen players
Knitting group, craft and quilters, scout
jumble sale, coffee morning
Flower club, WI
Football
Gardeners Assoc
History Group, Orpen Players
Friendship club, Methodist coffee morning
and fellowship, 3T's
Garden club
Tai Chi, Italian
History group
Zumba
History group, Speedwatch
Indoor bowls, WI, Gardeners club, Colne
Valley flower club
Short carpet bowling, Zumba, knitting circle
BYG
Brownies
Wood working party
Flower club, Badminton
History club
Pat's pals
Hill house wood member
Bowls, friendship club, WI, Tai Chi, Gardeners
club
Gardener's association
Hillhouse wood
Garden club, history group, flower club, care
network volunteer
WI, Gardeners Assoc.
Local history group, WEA
Bluebells, Brownies, BYG
Gardening club, history group, flower club,
care network
WI
BYG, Brownies
"Fitness class
Church activities
Old church friends cttee"

Gardening club
Bluebells pre school
Allotments
Blue bells
Church open mornings
St. Mary's church
Baby clinic
Snow patrol
Horticultural Assoc
St. Mary's church, gardeners association,
tai chi
History Group
Allotment cttee
Craft and quilters
Beavers
I would like to get more involved but am quite
new to the area
West Bergholt Toddler Group
Pat's Pals
Admin support to Scout Group
Deliver village bulletin
Youth Football
Treasurer for youth football club
First responders, Brownies
Care network service user
Gardener's association, Reading Group, Tai
Chi
"Bluebell woods
Friends of the old church"
"Pats Pals
Gardeners club"
"Churches friendship club
Methodist women's fellowship"
Friends of Hillhouse Wood
Zumba fitness
Slimming World
Little stars stay and play group, Brownies
WEA
West Bergholt History Group"
WEA, Gardeners, Pats pals, bible study,
Methodist church
"NP plan steering group
Patient Representative Group"
WI, Speedwatch
"Ladies Tennis Morning
West Bergholt Sports Club Committee"
Hill house Wood, St. Mary 's Church,
Heathland's governor,
Youth Club
Allotments
Bluebells

Church activities
Chappel coffee morning
Football club and Social club
Pilates
Friends of Hillhouse Wood
Snow clearing
Neighbourhood watch
W.I.
Play reading group"
St Mary's church
Gardeners'club
BHYFC,
Little ducks singing group
BYG
Social Club
First responders
WI, Flower Club
WI, Friendship club
Delivery of village bulletin, History group
Local history group
Care Network, Gardener's club
Church related and Youth Club
BYG, BHYFC
Friendship club, Flower club, Methodist coffee
morning
Beavers, Cubs, Guides, Football club
Friend of Old Church
5Ts
WI
WEA, History group
Gardeners club
Gardeners club
Craft and quilters
WI, Friendship club, Bowls club, Gardener's
club
Pilates
gardeners club
Pilates
Care network
Friendship club, 5T's
WEA, Allotment
WEA, Care network, Toddler Group, Pilates
Youth club
Youth club
Pilates
Football
Our son attends Cubs, cricket,
I attend flower group"
Youth club, zumba
WI

WEA, Gardeners club, Craft Group, Ladies Badminton
Toddler group, Little ducklings singers, Bluebells pre school
Book Club
WI
Community Speed watch
Snow clearing, Orpen Players, Plant sale
WI
Flower club, Care network
WEA, Col and Dist. Model Rly club, Gardening club
BYG
WI, Flower arranging
Social Club
WI, Friendship club, Methodist Ladies Fellowship
Allotment holder, Tai Chi
Gardeners Association
Book club.cricket,football
St Mary's Church
BHYC
Parish Council
Badminton
St. Mary's Church
Play group
Friendship club
"West Bergholt baby and toddler group
Little stars stay and play
Little ducks singing"
Badminton, History, Gardeners Club
Tai Chi
Youth club
Youth club
Guides, Brownies, St.Marys's church , School
Methodist Church

Slimming world
"Babysitting Circle
Loosely West Bergholt based book group"
Friends of Hillhouse Wood
I am a newbie - we moved to 98 Chapel Road on 7/6/2013
Tennis
Brownies- Young Leader
St. Mary's (Old) Church, History Group
none
Orpen Players
Football
Church coffee morning, BYG
Cubs
Bergholt Youth Group
Bergholt Heath Youth Football Club
Anglican church and allotments
First Responders
My eldest daughter attends Brownies, and my youngest is on the waiting list for Rainbows.
Gauge 0 Guild meetings
Gardening Associations
BYG
"Little Stars Baby and Toddler Group
West Bergholt Baby Clinic
Little Ducks Signing Group"
"Little Stars baby and toddler group
West Bergholt baby clinic
Little Ducks signing group"
allotments
Parish Plan, Neighbourhood Plan, Parish Council, WBSC, Friends of Hillhouse Wood, Allotments
Book Club
Gardening Association
5 T's, NP

Question E1: Which facilities do you use locally?

Children's play area and occasional use of the tennis courts
play area and field with grandchildren
Playing fields for walking
Play areas, would like to try tennis courts and badminton club. Be good to promote sports other than football.
"Tennis courts
Playing field"
childrens' play areas
Grandchildren use the play area.
"Tennis Courts

Children's Play Area"
All three above.
Children's Play area with my grandchildren
Childrens play areas
field,and play areas
Children's play areas
CHILDRENS PLAY AREA
Children's play area
"MUGA
fields and play area"
Childrens play area

children's play area, will be playing netball in tennis courts in the near future.
But will when time allows. Want to use tennis courts.
children's play areas
But I did used to use them
All
Playing field
children's play area mainly whilst supervising young children
PLAYING FIELDS CHILDRENS PLAY AREA
Poors field
Playing fields with children and occasional tennis court
Playground, tennis court, playing fields
Poors field, or pen field, tennis courts
Playing fields and play area
Play areas
Children's Play area
Cricket field, children's play area
Playing fields, tennis
Brewery playground
Children's play area
Playing fields
Children's play areas
Children's play area
Maltings Rd Play area
Play area
Play area with grandson
Children's play area
Playing fields, play area
Children's play area
Children's play areas
Playing fields and parks
Maltings Park, Orpen Hall Park
Orpen Hall children's play area
Children's play facilities
Poors field, Orpen field, Tennis Courts
Children's play area
Play area and tennis courts
Children's play area
Play areas
Fields, playground
Play area
Field and play areas
Play areas
Play areas
Tennis Courts
Play areas
Playing field, children's play area, tennis court
Playing fields
Playing fields and children's play area
Children's play area
Playing fields
Tennis courts, Children's play area
Playing Fields, Tennis Courts

Play areas, fields
Play areas
Play area, Tennis courts
Children's play area
Children's play area
Children's play area
Tennis courts, football
Playing field for football
Children's play areas in Orpen and Maltings
Play areas with grandchildren
Village Hall
Grandchildren use play area
Children's play areas
Children's play area
Tennis courts and Field
"Poors Field
Orpen Field"
tennis courts
Play area with grandchildren
Children's play area and playingfields
Tennis
Children's play area
Children's play area
Play parks
Play park
Play areas - as I am a child
Orpen hall play area
Orpen field and Poorsfield for informal sporting family activities
Both play areas although the playground near the doctors was dirty and the swings covered in bird poo the last time we visited. I have advised Colchester council to clean them.
Poors field
My son plays football on the Poors Field and my children go to the main park.
Playing fields
Tennis courts
Children's play areas
Football field
parks
none
Playground outside Orpen Hall
field and children's area
Lorke Daniel Field
Tennis court
Playing field
Poors field
Poors Field, Orpen Field, MUGA
playing fields and children's play areas
Tennis courts, poors field goals, goals at the bottom of the orpen
playing fields, children's play areas
Children's playground near Orpen Hall
Playing children's area
Tennis courts

Question E5: What other facilities would you like to see locally?

Tennis club, badminton club, Bridge club, Chess club
Cycling track, Basketball/Netball, sports other than football!
Proper youth club
More Pilates, aerobics etc
skate board park. Cycle routes round village away from roads
Consider making Mr Penrose an offer for the field opposite the Treble Tile and move the junior football club onto a new pitch, then combine the facilities with the cricket club, which is in need of enhanced changing facilities.
No keep our village as it is . Keep your nose out of it. Just leave it and us alone
Meeting place for young people i.e. Internet cafe
THE PARK IS NOW VERY DATED AND COULD DO WITH UPDATING, I AM SURE MANY PEOPLE WOULD BE HAPPY TO HELP WITH FUND RAISING FOR A NEW PARK
I think that a new hall would be great for indoor sport in winter and our british summer!
Skate Park - Poors Field
assault/fitness course for all ages - Poors field (possible collaberation with school?)
There is enough open space/play areas for all
I would like to see the football fields both adult and junior located to a new purpose developed location. The current locations can then be released for other child or recreational activities.
Better sports field facilities - with toilets
Gym/squash court/badmington court
Restart the table tennis club, basketball club
Skate park, basketball hoop/ court
Footpath walking group
Park, village green, Skate park
Skateboard park
goal nets, more shelters, swimming pool, better tennis courts
Picnic tables in recreation areas
Tap dancing/dance studio
Skateboard park
Hockey, basketball, skateboarding
Skate park/ramps
Better play equipment
Bowls
Consult those that might use facilities
Skateboard park
Skateboard area and extend play area
Skate park for teenagers
Gym or swimming pool

Swimming pool
Educational opportunities, long list of subjects, Cites Wormingford as an example
Youth club
Swimmingpool
Better children's play area
A gym at reasonable fee for members - maybe specific sessions for elderly and youngsters
Anything that is an attractive alternative to young people rather than congregating on the Heath or outside Co-op
Skate park
Fitness trail round sports field
YES
all weather astroturf with floodlights. multi sports facility.
A specific area for young children to cyle and scooter would be very welcome.
Skateboard park
swimming pool
Skate board and BMX track
Skate board area
Much better support for youth football fields and amenities
Skateboard equipment
Swimming pool
gymnasium/ exercise room maybe incorporated into a new hall
Some form of gymnasium/excise facility
Netball posts, basketball
Indoor sports area perhaps linked to the School to enable a better Badminton court / Five a side football.
Sports gym
Tennis Club for young children?
more tennis courts
swimming pool?
One more court added to the tennis courts so that they can be used for tournaments.
More football fields
Village netball teams - youth and adult
More sports classes
Cycle paths, Squash Court
Croquet, table tennis
Skate park, better play equipment
Basketball
Bowling
Various sports
Improved sports and social club
Sports and Social Club
more playground equipment

Swimming
Basket ball. Netball
Basketball, Netball
More access to yoga, zumba general keep fit classes in the evening as I work full time
squash court
Public gym as part of new village hall
I would like the tennis courts to be resurfaced.

I would quite like to see table tennis being an option to hire in the Orpen Hall, a system similar to the tennis courts would be good.

gym
Rock wall
BMX track
Skate park

rugby pitch, multi-use astro-turf facility with the use of a hockey pitch, tennis courts, football pitch, Allow access to BounceAbility, the trampoline centre - excellent exercise for all ages.

I think there is always a greater need to keep the young people occupied, but honestly, I have no idea what to suggest; my children are too young at the moment.

swimming pool

Additional sports pitches for football and a floodlit multi play facility for football, hockey, netball etc

I would like to see some "permissive paths" to supplement the public footpath network in the surrounding farmland

Community cafe
skateboard park

Final Comments

Social and community

Youth facilities - it is less about facilities more about facilitated activities e.g. youth clubs, film clubs etc.

Small attractive seating areas for older people e.g. in conjunction with community facilities e.g. churches, greenspace, village halls, shops etc.

Annual social/community event?

Lack of facilities for teens

The Youth Clubs, activities and outdoor environment is great plus we are only a short distance from Colchester so teenagers are well provided for.

I think that the Heathlands fare should be the village fair. Make it more open so people can set up a stall and sell their arts, crafts and home grown and made food. The money from stall rental should go to various projects round the village not just the school.

Cycle park / skateboard park for teenagers

I'm too old for active sports, but would love to watch cricket. Our cricket club could do more to facilitate spectator interest.

Our village has a good proportion of elderly and disabled people. Not all of them have family close by and maybe would benefit from a local reputable handyperson being available for minor household work, such as changing tap washers, fitting shelves, pictures or mirrors, decorating and gardening or even advice about how to do DIY. I realise there is a handyperson scheme available through a Swan Housing and Colchester Borough Council partnership but it is time-limited and takes a long while to get organised. Such people do not want to wait many months and often have insufficient funds to pay a reputable builder to do such things (also builders make little profit from

them and do not tend to accept such work). One with the backing of the parish council but not necessarily funded by the Parish Council may be the way forward. (I would be happy to be involved with such a scheme, having been closely involved with the Borough partnership one for some years, if it was considered appropriate)

What do young people have to do, needs to be addressed.

Build a skateboard park & another shelter.

Move football away from play area because of the bad language

We have moved back to the village after 28 years and are impressed with the amenities and friendliness.

Teenagers and young families "They are the future of the village

Environment

Encourage young people (possibly) in the village to dispose of their litter - chocolate wrappers, crisp bags - somewhere other than along the road! I expect it is a small minority though

Don't need more open space but do need existing spaces enhanced e.g. have meadows at the margins, look after the trees, more trees.

Allotments - Plant small native trees in boundary strip to create well-defined edge to the allotments, encourage open days and community greenspace at perimeter or heart of allotments.

Over aggressive trimming of verges in the rural parts of the village especially when the wild flowers are out. E.g. Hall Road area

Dog walkers clearing up the waste in Hall road and area near to woods.

Consider relocating the allotments as they occupy the village centre and this area could be used if considering more local businesses or amenities. There seems plenty of land adjacent to Colchester Road that could house the allotments, but I don't know who the owners are.

No foxhunting in local fields.

New ""shoot"" area in Stitching Wood needs debating.

There are still too many people allowing their dogs to foul without clearing up

Increase number of dog fouling waste bins and also prominent signs/notices reminding dog owners of potential penalties.

Community safety

I am aware the local primary school is highly thought of and looks to be a very attractive place but the recent expansion of pupil places has engendered a few potential and actual problems.

Don't add more streetlights - the lack of them helps REDUCE crime.

Additional street lighting in streets and lanes not yet provided for would be an asset.

Colchester Borough Council should be persuaded to stop placing young unemployed men into housing in Armoury Road or Erle Havard Road, who have no interest in the community and behave in anti-social ways.

I have lived here since 1969, I came here for the lovely quiet friendly pretty village it was, in my time I have seen West Bergholt change dramatically, not for the better. People buy homes and rent them out with not a care for the neighbours. I feel threatened in my own home. I don't feel safe anymore but to sell my home I would have to take a much lower than it is worth price, and then might not be able to sell then I would not be able to buy a decent home again. This I find very wrong I feel penalized for buying my own home and I have had to work very hard for years and pay taxes all my working life for what to happen in my later years, be afraid to even go out into my own back garden. There must somehow be a law that should stop this persecution, bullying, whatever you might call it. I never thought all those years ago that Bergholt would end up like this. I feel extremely sorry for my very elderly neighbours around me who feel the same and there is nothing we can do. I would like to see Bergholt become the place we all loved back again, some law and order in the village. I thought retiring would be fantastic not like this, I wonder what I worked for all those years. I hope someone can help with this very important issue, and stop this bullying of the elderly and let us have our later years safer please.

Due to recent rental increase within the village has allowed anti-social behaviour to become a major problem for some residents. Not only do they have to suffer abusive behaviour but the price of their properties have now devalued. West Bergholt is not the nice peaceful place it once was. Also as regards to first time buyer homes????? These are given planning permission for local village young people to get on the property ladder but once built are actually for the builder who built them to rent out to anyone any age from anywhere! So they are actually for a pension gain!!!! Also the owners not having to live near them so as not to suffer anti-social behaviour themselves!!!!

I think people who are doing the anti-social behaviour from an early age with many a visit and record from the police shouldn't be allowed to keep getting away from it!!! It's not fair on law abiding tax paying homeowners!!! We are just left with a bill to pick up the price of the damage they have caused whilst also losing money on properties because they feel they have no option but to move house to get away from it.

Reference to proposed safety measures in New Church Road. I believe the scheme may be overkill and a lesser measure would be at least as effective. At this time there are not any signs within the folly or roadway of any kind. Perhaps this should be addressed before the character of the locale is destroyed.

Keep mobile police van presence and occasional patrol especially during evenings in school/summer holidays.

Please do NOT increase street lighting.

Grossly inadequate pavement lighting

I also feel unsafe at times walking with my children at pick up times from the school

Our WB Neighbourhood Watch committee finally dissolved through frustration at the poor communication from Essex police! If anything major happened in the village we read about it in the newspapers first. To re-start this initiative there must be two-way communication - NHW should not be seen as policing on the cheap!

Community amenities and commerce

There seems to be a need for multi-purpose village hall complex that could be used by various organisations simultaneously

I enjoy the village pubs/eateries but wish more people would use them (including the Indian)

Much improved access to Broadband either by extending Cable from Colchester or BT land lines.

Broad band provision barely adequate.

A cafe and a judicious increase in commercial outlets could help provide opportunities to come together. The only place to do this currently is at the front of the Co-op at the weekend, unless one is free to attend the church coffee morning during the week.

We have 3 pubs offering a varied choice of food and drink.

It would be lovely to have a community cafe or teashop - but I can't see where it would be as there are no suitable commercial buildings for it in the centre of the village and there also needs to be a significant tourist attraction (which we don't have yet) to help it maintain viability in this tough economic climate. (I have considered opening a craft shop with attached tearoom but can't find suitable premises locally and so have given up the idea now).

Why was the Co-op allowed to extend its opening hours on Sunday until 10.00 pm when all other supermarkets shut by 5.00 pm? It encourages more traffic of young people to buy alcohol.

A village cafe sounds like a good idea - if it was organised in the John Lampon Hall, say on a Saturday, other events could be held in the Orpen Hall at the same time e.g. Farmer's Market, hall open for people to play badminton, information day on village groups etc."

With regard to coffee shop, don't forget that the Treble Tile is open for coffee most days and probably relies on that top up business. Also regular church coffee mornings at both St Marys and the Methodist.

Unless they have been modernized, the toilets in the old part of the village hall desperately need looking at, they always look grubby, cracked and outdated and I can't believe they are adequate for the use of the play group. I feel the preschool would be better off in their own purpose built accommodation, then the village hall would be free to serve the wider community and you wouldn't have to look at expanding as there would be a lot more free space/time for community bookings like activity classes, fitness, and even a community cafe! I think a public toilet for the playing

fields/children's play area would be a great benefit for the community. I have seen some that are part of the village hall building with a door accessed from the outside, open 8.30 - 8.30pm in the summer and 8.30 - 5.30pm or dusk in the winter. Much better than fouling the bushes for the children! I strongly feel this village would benefit from a skate park. It would be something for all the children whatever their age. My son knows of lots of friends who would use and enjoy such a facility. At present we have to travel to other villages like Marks Tey and my son says 'if they have one why can't we??' In fact my son would be very happy to help with ideas, planning and could probably find some like-minded friends to help too.

I like the idea of a community cafe but think it should encourage older people as well as the 'mums' who can tend to take over coffee morning venues and might scare off other users. If the cafe was an add-on to the village hall then it could also be used as a base in the evening for teenagers and perhaps turned into a Music Cafe encouraging live performances like open mike events and karaoke or similar. My last thought is about the junction and crossing near the Co-op and also by the school. I feel these areas are an accident waiting to happen as it gets so congested with cars turning, people crossing and cars stopping that it's sometimes very difficult to keep track of what's going on. I've seen near misses where by the grace of god, good breaking and good luck no one was hurt but feel these odds aren't good and something more needs to be done before someone is seriously hurt. Many thanks for reading my ramble, I genuinely hope it gives you some ideas for the village. If the skate park idea takes off, please contact me as my son and I would be very happy to help. If I am still available (not working) I would also be willing to volunteer to help out in the community cafe.

There is the need for a friendlier community centre. This village at the moment is labelled by many as a commuter's village. Because of the layout of the village it is understandably difficult to create a focalised centre. A better village hall with more amenities around or in it (café, one or two shops) might be a solution. More activities for teenagers would be beneficial too.

I would be open to the idea of a community cafe, provided it did not become a Costas or Starbucks. I think that villagers would use a cafe and it would be a nice way to meet people. I would also like them to reinstate the Farmer's market which used to take place outside The White Hart. I really enjoyed that, but it was only open twice since I've lived here. I would happily buy everyday essentials if the market were reintroduced.

A shop like browns would be brilliant as it sold everything as small as it was a coffee shop selling homemade cakes and fresh grown fruit and veg would be fantastic and money could be ploughed back into the village for various uses.

We have been living in West Bergholt for 8 months and are looking at Internet providers but have found that West Bergholt does not provide a strong signal. Therefore we would like to encourage the introduction of fibre optic broadband.

The village hall should not be replaced. The interior can be improved and if it is not big enough perhaps the extension at the back should have been made bigger at the time.

There are a number of community sized venues in the village, run by volunteers, which enable the wide variety of clubs and societies serving the local area. It is important that these continue and are supported but I see benefits from re-developing the Orpen Hall so it provides a venue for the village

to gather for events such the Remembrance Service and to provide a suitable venue for the Concert Band and Orpen Players to perform locally and for those clubs needing space such as the Badminton Club. Therefore the Hall needs to be larger to cater for such events without affecting the role of the smaller venues. Whether the social club area can be replaced by a more suitable community facility that can be used by more of the village is another challenge.

In connection with the above, it may be appropriate to re-locate the football club to an area of land north of the B1508 (potentially opposite the Treble Tile) where they and the Cricket Club can jointly develop a proper sporting pavilion and facilities. This would release the Orpen field (which may be smaller as the result of enlarging the hall) for more ad-hoc and informal sporting opportunities.

Doctor surgery is very well placed but is not easy to get appointments when you need them, I would like to see some help with this as the doctors here covers a wide area, therefore getting in to see your own doctor especially is very hard i have to wait a month to review my medication.

Sports and recreation

I think there should be a field on the outskirts of the village specifically used for sporting events such as football, rugby, cricket, running etc. This would not only allow these clubs to expand/ new ones to be created without putting strain on the already scarce resource but would also mean places such as the Paws Field and Orpen could be used by everyone else.

Would like to see a purpose made sports facility on the outskirts of the village that allows all types of sports to be played with changing / toilet facilities, flood lighting etc. Includes youth and adult football, tennis, rugby, cricket, running.

More play equipment for children. More clubs for 10-15 year olds after school and during holidays. I can remember when my girls were young there use to be a club during the holiday where the children could do wood work, cooking, arts and crafts, and various other things. My children loved it, and it was also a chance to meet others within the village as it was also grandparents who took their grandchildren so it was great meeting the older members of the village. Really great time was had by all. Play areas could be divided into sections for the older children and they should have a say in what they would like.

Communications (including events)

We could do with more events that appeal to all cross-sections of our community, either centred around the village hall and multi-use games area or hosted/sponsored by one of the village pubs.

It would be good to see the Orpen Hall used more regularly for one-off or regular monthly events such as Farmers' markets, craft shows, antiques events, book signings, gigs, village fetes etc. plus it would raise a bit for the village coffers! (I believe there are companies who could run some of these on behalf of the village for a small fee).

I believe that residents/businesses have every opportunity for publicity/involvement if they want it i.e. website/Village Bulletin/attending PC meetings. They don't because they choose not to.

The village would benefit from all sports clubs being included in development plans rather than just focusing on Tennis & football at the Orpen. Junior football, cricket & badminton are all played in the village, but don't seem to be included in the recent articles in the Parish Mag.

The village bulletin is good but as it is only published quarterly more use should be made of the newsletter. Could it be made clearer how to submit news to the newsletter - an email contact for submitting news?

I would love to see more use of our Village Halls. i.e. Table Top Sales. Craft Sales. Antiques Fairs etc. similar to Aldham for example. They are a good way to raise funds for local Charities or Clubs

West Bergholt is generally a lovely village with excellent surroundings and a very useful Co-op store and I feel privileged to live here.

Also the website should be promoted more. It would be nice if more of the village groups submitted articles and information to the website / bulletin / newsletter.

Some groups are well publicised but others are not. If there was a village event where all groups could show what they do and give people an opportunity to meet the group members / find out about groups, more people could join in. The summer fete has become very school focused - could there be a village fete on a Saturday held at the Orpen Hall / playing field?

Hold an annual summer/village/farmers market fayre

Not enough consultation with individual residents on issues that directly affect them. Decisions are made excluding residents.

Better promotion and support of clubs financially and by recognition/advertising by the Parish Council, Village cafe/museum to promote village life now and in the past.

Jubilee celebrations were great (there were none in Eight Ash Green)

Most people within the village work, the village bulletin is a great way of keeping people informed and if they feel a need to speak out using the web site is a great way of doing so.

Transport and highways

I feel there is certainly a need for no parking area a little way into New Church Road opp. co-op as it is difficult to get out of that road when cars are parked right at the end without block the incoming road.

My biggest concern is the traffic around the school. With the school expansion, it is obvious that more children will be coming from further afield and will need to drive, but no provision has been made for this. And it is not just parents, many staff have to park on the roads too because the school car park is too small. However, much I hate seeing green fields dug up for car parking, this would be offset by the safety of our children. Restricted parking will stop them parking in front of

the school but will only move the problem somewhere else. Decent parking facilities need to be provided before an accident occurs.

The junction coming out of New church road opposite the co-op needs some double yellow lines (on the left as you face the co-op) to help prevent illegal car parking here.

Speed Bumps or Slalom Single Lane Traffic Flow Restrictions on Lexden Road, to stop Commuters Driving Regularly at 50mph plus in early morning and evening rush hours

A cycle path from Bergholt Road into West Bergholt would be useful as cars go very fast a long here and there are many cyclists which I feel we should be encouraging.

Traffic travels too fast on Colchester Road, especially at night.

Dog mess on pavements and footpaths ruins the Village.

An off road cycle path to any surrounding village.

I think the 30 mph speed limits particularly at certain times of the day should be more closely controlled for safety reasons.

Restrictions to road side parking, maintenance of footways, reduced speed restrictions in residential areas, pop up shop for local businesses, crafts, etc.

Controlling the traffic around the school. Do people not walk to school anymore?

Car parking is also limited in the village - a small (20-30 cars) village-run car park might alleviate this problem - particularly at school run times - but again there would appear to be no suitable place for it either.

Speed restriction down Hall Road to 20mph. children walk to school, we cycle, runners animals on road in this rural area. Some cars go 60mph which is legal!!!"

Roads should be inspected regularly to identify potholes and maintenance carried out within 6 weeks of identifying problems and this should also apply to unadopted roads within the Parish. Any roads that have been resurfaced should be inspected for their poor condition and the Contractor called back to rectify, i.e. Argents Lane and Armoury Road....both surfaces have come off in places and bear tar is a hazard especially in the heat we have had in recent weeks.

Inadequate public transport for those not running a car. This is especially difficult on Sunday and evenings.

Buses should continue to run on a 30 minute basis after 7.30 pm. Many people commute into London from the village or perhaps socialise after work in Colchester and a gap of an hour between buses so early in the evening is ridiculous.

The bus timetable also needs some adjustment as at certain times the Chambers and the First buses follow each other down the road in both directions.

The proposed traffic calming plans for Church Road seem totally unsuitable as they would introduce lighting in a previously unlit road and completely change the character. It also seems an expensive sledgehammer to crack a very small nut! Very expensive means for a small number of children. Signs to make people slow down, speed bumps or a crossing patrol person seem much cheaper and effective options. My children both attended the village school when there was no footpath along the lower end of the road. There was no problem as most children walked with their parents. The extension to the school should not have been approved without proper consideration of the consequences of bringing in more cars dropping off pupils. Most drivers at school times must be parents so should be driving and parking sensibly. Perhaps the School should educate them. Also there is adequate parking in the Orpen Hall and Treble Tile a short walk away. Yellow lines along Church Road will make life very difficult for the residents and only push the cars on to Chapel Road with even more chaos around the entrance to the Co-op.

I think we need speed warning signs at entrances to the village and more speed checks along Colchester Road. The unrestricted section over the A12 bridge and the straightness seem to encourage people to speed along.

The extension to the village school has resulted in many more children from outside the catchment area travelling in by car. I wonder what effect this has on involvement with the community.

Careless street parking need urgent attention. Major hazard to pedestrians/cyclists. Cause obstruction to public transport/emergency vehicles/rubbish collection vehicles/delivery vehicles to co-op

Living in Church Close it is clear that many parents from the school and users of the Church hall do not believe in the Highway Code's advice for not parking on junctions. We have terrible trouble getting in and out of the Close at certain times and would welcome double yellow lines to try to solve this problem before an accident occurs! We have put up with this for 28 years now!

My main concern is the speed which all traffic travels along Colchester Road. It's only a matter of time before a child is killed at Armoury road bus stop. Even the buses exceed the speed limit! We here screeches every night from people breaking on Colchester Rd roundabout. Please enforce the speed limit and also along Chapell Road. The standard of driving in the village is very poor but otherwise a beautiful place to live.

I believe that speed cameras or solar powered 'slow down' signs are needed on the Colchester Road due to people changing from 60 mph (in both directions) this means that people are speeding when going past the Truman buildings/Ash's store and in the other direction past Blue Owl. During school times these are busy places and something needs to be done to slow traffic down to prevent accidents.

Very concerned about the lack of parking facilities for parents dropping their children at school and for the staff. The school is expanding but nothing has been done about parking. It is not just the parents, the roads are littered with staff cars. Although digging up a green field for parking isn't ideal, surely having clearer roads and a safer environment for our children is preferable. People will always drive to school, so proper provision needs to be made before a serious accident occurs.

Restricted parking around the school roads will ease the burden in that area but will just push the cars to block other roads.

Footpath along the whole length of New Church Road. Better parking facilities, especially near the junction of New Church Road and Chapel Road.

Although being reported to Colchester Highways 6 months ago, there is still a blocked drain in School Lane which causes the road to flood and become impassable on foot (opposite Heathside).

The access to the Poor's Land, used by the builders, is in very poor condition. The new path falls 1 metre short of the road and is treacherous in wet weather. This same path also causes the field to flood after heavy rain as the water can no longer drain into School Lane.

The speed limits through the village, especially Lexden Road, Colchester Road and Chapel Road are rarely adhered to - the 30 limit signs are completely disregarded, and reducing the limit to 20mph would make no difference. This is dangerous for cyclists, responsible drivers and pedestrians. Only traffic calming measures are likely to work, e.g. roundabouts on major junctions as on Chapel Road/Colchester Road. This measure seems to work well on the main road through Gt. Horkesley. Speed bumps or road narrowing with one way priority should be considered.

Damage to the poors land adjoining the school, and a blocked surface drain in School Lane that causes flooding when heavy rain occurs. This has been reported to The Highways authority several times with no result.

A big increase in traffic caused by parents driving their children to school.

Very inconsiderate parking by same, a lot of restrictions must be introduced and enforced. I have a serious worry about emergency vehicles being able to gain access to minor roads (e.g. School Lane) during pick up and drop off times. I would like to see a lot of double yellow lines laid down around the area.

Some rudeness expressed by impatient drivers (not personally experienced but reported by friends nearby)

Dangerously excessive speed through village (this is not related to the school necessarily) especially Colchester Road and Lexden Road. Traffic calming measures should definitely be introduced and enforced.

The potholes this winter have driven me potty

I am pleased with the travel plan around the school but would still like to see 20mph in residential areas

I do wish a strip of Poors land had become available for parking

We do need to ensure traffic does not exceed the speed limits. There is too much parking in potentially dangerous areas- around the school etc.

Road Maintenance. The surrounding area i.e. Argents Lane is very poor. Immediate village is good. Drains need to be kept clear. The drain at the crossroads at the top of Cooks Hall Road has been blocked for months. Also in bad weather Lexden Road gets gritted early but Colchester Road is usually bad and many people in the village need to get to North Station early in the morning.

I have to travel daily to Little Clacton via North Station to drop my husband off for the 6.15 train to London.

Apart from Colchester Road all roads should be 20 miles max

I know for a fact I am not alone in my concerns with parking in the school vicinity and certainly the dangerous speeds of some traffic along the roads mentioned. I sincerely hope the powers that be will take steps to control these problems.

Please could we enforce the speed limit along the Colchester Road as this is totally ignored by most drivers? Also lower the speed limit along Chappel Road please. An accident is waiting to happen outside Armoury road bus stop with the school children with the speed that some cars go past at.

Roads, Speed limits. Road markings, rural road speed restrictions. Verges need addressing

Roads around the school should be time controlled by flashing 20mph signs under the Head teachers supervision as in other areas. Not a blanket 20mph limit for 365 days.

The infrastructure needs to be improved before more accommodation is built in the village. The pressure on Bergholt Road is already very heavy without more traffic coming to the village"

Traffic calming is necessary on Colchester Road, on entry to village at both sides. People ignore the 30 mile an hour signs and enter village at top speed. Children and indeed anyone not quick on their feet are likely to die while attempting to cross the road in these areas.

The post box at the Co-op needs moving to a safer site as motorists obstruct the crossing.

Yellow lines are needed at the junction of New Church Rd and Chapel Road.

Action required regarding church hall users parking in Church Close, often obstructed with no access for dustcart and delivery vehicles, whilst car park is under-utilised.

Creation of decent parking facilities for school 'drop off' Reinstate old car park on Poors Land ??

The post box outside the Co-op should be re-sited to curb motorists stopping on the crossing and hatching.

There should be some double yellow lines at the junction of New Church Rd and Chapel rd.

Parking at the Church Hall should be improved as Church Close is now often blocked to dustcarts, deliveries etc."

Need a FREE village car park. Need dedicated parking for the School at the School. Need to reopen the FREE dedicated car park for the Poors Field & the Heath & the Scout Hall. Put the School/Church road i.e. New Church Road on the Council gritting route. Don't allow new housing developments to

have such narrow roads that cyclist are at risk. Access out of village is very poor, particularly in the winter bad weather - Bergholt Road usually has huge queues at peak times at the Station due to the Traffic Lights bias & Baker's Lane, Newbridge Hill & Argent's Lane are prone to closure/ being impassable due to ice & flooding leaving only 1 route out of the Village. Pressure should be put on Colchester Council/ County Council to sort this.

Road potholes, maintenance needs to be addressed urgently (temporary fixes are a waste of effort & money) a proper program needs to be introduced, publicised and adhered to. More publicity needs to be made for the amenities and how to use them (i.e. the Orpen Hall club seems to be for a minority not the majority of villagers.

Road condition is terrible at the moment. The village old benefit from double yellow lines due to reckless, dangerous parking. We do not feel the village has the room to expand and until the sounding roads are improved (Chitts hill, bakers lane etc.) it would put too much strain on an already busy north station.

"G2 hedges, brambles etc. encroach onto the paths round the village cutting down the space available. The brambles along the allotment both knee height and head height are very dangerous and need to be cut back more often.

The top of Albany Road often seems to be used as a 'car park' thereby reducing the road to one lane as opposed to two at the entry point."

West Bergholt is a lovely village and I love living here. It needs little change. However the traffic is something that should be addressed to make the village a safer and more pleasant place to live.

More speed restriction action-cameras, illuminated signs giving speed of vehicle

The reason we moved to the village is that it is a small and quiet. Although I cannot believe how fast the cars drive though the village and also it's a shame we have been burgled already. That said it's lovely.

Many of the foot paths are in such a bad state of repair they constitute a danger to the public in particular the elderly residence. I highlight the paths both sides of Chapel Road. Indiscriminate parking of cars on foot paths in such a manner that they restrict the flow of moving traffic in particular service vehicles, Refuge collection, Ambulance and delivery Trucks. It also restricts the use of the foot paths causing prams and disable vehicles to use the road to pass by the restriction. Some form of restrictive parking of motor vehicles should be introduced. In particular Lexden Road (school pick ups), Upton Close and New Church Road.

Enforcement at peak times outside school entrance to include issuing of tickets.

I am very concerned about the volume of traffic in the village generated by the school expansion. Parking close to the school and church every day is often dangerous and inconsiderate.

Speed limit on whole of Colchester Road.

Better parking for the Co-op, Cycle lanes with a curb (not just painted on the road.

Parking around the school should be more strictly regulated to make the streets safer and do not disturb local residents.

Speed restriction in Hall Road, the visitors to the woods have no respect for residents and drive at 60mph (they can legally!). Especially those driving down to WALK dogs.

Village development will cause problems for school, health and traffic. More people means more cars

Measures to control the speed of traffic on the 3 main roads through the village, but particularly Colchester Road, are my primary concern.

I feel that the way some people park outside the co-op is dangerous and children often try to cross from between parked cars and are not always well seen by drivers.

The speed at which traffic travels along Colchester Road is something that has always concerned me.

20mph speed limit would promote walking and cycling within the village.

There would be no need for parking restrictions near the co-op if existing national regulations were actually enforced.

I would like to see an INCREASE in the speed limit on the Lexden and Colchester roads.

Potholes should be repaired, not simply patched up so they form again a few months later.

Riding a bicycle Newbridge Hill/Chitts Hill/Argents Lane can be very scary

To increase safety reduce speed limits on roads around school and shops.

Our local roads are a total embarrassing disgrace.

Another bus during the hour would be lovely.

Housing and Planning

WB is an attractive village and it would detract greatly from the village's appeal if wholesale development is allowed. We still need countryside and farmed areas not just more and more dwellings that the environment can't sustain. We live in a desert and additional growth places strain on the facilities. Finally, as a different point, it would be good if the village could put some pressure on the communications companies to provide us with fibre-optic cabling to improve our internet access.

We are looking to move within the village and finding it very hard to find a property that suits our needs (we have sold our house). We are exploring having to move to another village. Whilst housing development can be controversial and upsetting for many residents, it could provide us with the option of staying in the village. I would very much like to have a family and raise my children here.

The Village should be kept as a Village!!

I have ticked 'neither agree or disagree' for those questions where I have insufficient knowledge. I am very concerned at the growth element of the village. The school has already expanded - without any thought it would seem, for parking, extra traffic etc. homes suitable or families with young children would only escalate this problem. ALL the amenities will be stretched if the village continues to grow beyond its means - especially if growth of housing is aimed at young families.

Although WB is not a pretty village it has always had a good community spirit which further expansion could destroy.

The need for new low cost housing, but where to build and how much should the Village expand outside the 'Village envelope'?

I would like to see West Bergholt keep a separate identity in the future. There is a fear that we could also become just like the sprawl of developments from North Station towards the A12.

We value village life and do not wish to see a housing estate - this would then put too much pressure on the village amenities/ school.

Independence from Colchester!

I love living in West Bergholt, I love the fact that there are no street lights, and not many pavements ann the feeling that I live in the country though have the town quite close by. I do not want to see the village ruined by an increase in development and the loss of trees and green land, an increase in traffic and noise. I would welcome improved amenities if done in a way which does not impact on the overall village feel or refurbishments which are far too modern to fit. I have lived here for over 7 years but this is the first time I have been asked to participate in a survey regarding the village.

Restrict back land development and encourage planned development that fits with a defined development plan agreed by the village residents.

I love our village but am aware that it has to evolve but I would like if it should be controlled and agreed by the residence.

I like the fact that lots of houses have no numbers, and would like to keep it that way.

If the village is to maintain its character then there is a need to reduce the amount of "for profit" development which tends to veer towards high density buildings. Would suggest that:

a) In-fill developments are limited to low impact structures (e.g. bungalows), targeted at older persons and require the positive support of neighbours.

b) No dwelling should be allowed to be demolished unless it can be evidenced as not fit for purpose or structurally unsafe.

c) Any replacement dwellings must be on a like for like basis.

These points should ensure the village maintains its mix and uniqueness whilst serving the needs of its community.

Before new houses are even thought about we should look at the infrastructure supporting existing ones, our local roads are an absolute disgrace and an embarrassment to visitors, particularly foreign ones.

Brilliant place! Controlled development needed over the next few years - must not spoil what we have.

I have only lived in the village since July 2012 and I really love it. One of the reasons we bought our house in West Bergholt is because we wanted to feel close to Colchester centre but in a rural setting. It would destroy the village if shops and houses were built and it would just become another sprawling mass, of which there are plenty around Colchester.

Builders access road on Poors field should be put back to how it was before the school works was started. It is a blight on the land and will get worse as weeds grow .Further works of this nature should include a retainer or penalty clause if not completed on time.

More varied size houses should be built but only small amounts.

General comments

Having moved to West Bergholt last year, my husband and I love living here. It's a lovely community and we like the welcoming feel West Bergholt has, especially noticed within the local shops.

Needs more questions on design, appearance

Questionnaire needs to seek views on where new development should be located - this is not well covered

Ditto consideration of impact of growth on school, doctor's surgery etc.

Dog and other noise is a nuisance and is not covered in this survey. Why?

I have lived in the village for over 30 years and within the bounds of reasonable expectation believe that we are fortunate.

We are very lucky to live here.

Consultation ignores the disabled community. Why?

Just leave us alone. Stop interfering our lives.

We are confused by the presence of "formerly known as Bergholt Sackville"" on the village sign, it seems unnecessary.

How could we replace telegraph poles with underground wiring?

Why do we have a reference to the old name of Bergholt Sackville on the village sign? Seems pointless.

Because of our short residency, our responses will be of limited value. Try us again in 2014!

Some of these questions are rather vague and open to manipulation

Maintain village - it is a pleasant place, safe place to live

Appendix B 2015 Issues and Options Survey Comments

Question 6: Do you support the vision statement for the Neighbourhood Plan?

Not interested in any development.

By 2025 West Bergholt will be a self-controlled parish which will be a great place to live.

To consider and protect the interests of residents

Mention safety

You need to set out your proposals in the same way (I.e. V. Important/Important etc). I'm concerned that by ticking the yes box in some areas you may think you have a green light to go ahead without further discussion on prioritizing the order these will be dealt with.

Reword the sentence "quality of the built...." as it makes no sense as written

Too long

Don't want too much change from a village setting

Do we or you have the power to actually change anything?

Don't want too much change from a village setting.

No proposed vision on this form?

Insert after quality on last line "quality of any new build properties blend with existing buildings to provide"

Vision alone is not enough. Infrastructure should be a first consideration.

By 2025 West bergholt will continue to protect its valuable village environment, community amenities and restrict further development unless it is inclusive of the elderly and vulnerable.

Instead of prosperous could it be thriving. It sounds like you are planning to expand the village into a small town. I do not agree to that

Maybe include Keeping Village Environment and Rural Community

Add "and happy" after prosperous

No Vision Statement on this form.

Add informed and democratic between "through" and "local"

The above text assumes too much

A village should not have more businesses.

Business must be appropriate in type and scale to residential nature of the village. No of vehicles should be considered

I'm not sure whether provision for more commercial units is required given our proximity to Colchester and the surrounding villages, where there are units that have remained unoccupied for some considerable time. I feel that new housing should take priority.

Too conservative. The village needs energy

Combination of the protection of the natural environment.....for residents, businesses in keeping with a rural area.

Make sure that the statement is back by clear measurable targets so progress can be assessed.

I am concerned that this plan is for the young and the working. the retired villagers seem to have been overlooked.

I would like more emphasis on minimising new developments, preserving the highly valued village character, (vast majority of respondents supported this) and action to remain unique and entirely physically separate from Colchester without new direct links to the A12.

Do not see the need for further housing development

While I support the principles set out I doubt it is realistic to say "taken control of its destiny", given the powers/decisions of the Borough Council, County Council and National Government. Perhaps "actively taken steps to positively affect its destiny"?

Replacement of second half of statement - focus should be on limited additional development and improvements to the amenities and infrastructure that are currently in place

"An attractive location for businesses" this should be limited and directly related to residents consumer needs such as food. We are not a town. Further businesses would increase traffic and not for the benefit of the village.

With regard to "an attractive location for businesses". Would only want to see limited businesses directly linked to residents consumer requirements.

Not sure we need much more commercial land available in the heart of the village ie the existing village envelope, this could be supported further away so as not to impact on current layout and increase traffic through already highly populated areas

Bob Tyrrell does it for financial benefit. his wife makes nasty comments to people as well as him.

""and the quality of the built provide"" does not make sense.

Overall it's a bit wordy and long. It already is a prosperous place, so why bother have that bit in there?"

Perhaps use the phrase "natural and built environment" rather than the somewhat cumbersome phrase you have currently.

I agree with the statement but also think there should be some mention of community - a sense of community, the various community groups that exist, and the importance of supporting these groups so that they can continue into the future. We have a rich diversity of groups and clubs in the village, for all ages and interests and needs, and we should be very proud of them.

Concerned about the use of "prosperous" especially in relation to financial wealth. As a community I believe that we should focus on other aspects of our society.

As a qualitative survey there should be correctly balanced options i.e. 5 choices, 2 for and 2 against with no opinion as the 5th choice.

Community: Objectives

Should also have wording that encompasses paid workers commissioned activities. Need to think beyond current financial restraints!

Match change requirements to availability of venues.

It is difficult to deliver this aspiration. Better to encourage and support the existing wide range of activities in the village.

Before introducing a new activity make sure there are enough volunteer to cover it.

Small scale targeted improvements based on hard evidence of need

I would not like to see the village growing too big or losing its identity.

Being so close to Colchester it will be difficult to create separate WB activities.

There is plenty available for all ages except perhaps a vacancy for children's dance classes which no longer are held at the Orpen Hall.

The village has strong bias towards the retired and preschool. Need more for teens. Research as to what they like doing ie Skate Boarding

The bulletin could be used in promoting and raising awareness of activities by taking up more space.

Important - over 60 year olds

I consider we already have a good range

Specifically excludes equestrian activity by referring to cyclists and pedestrians only

The final sentence "Promoting and raising awareness etc.." should be in the Identified Issues" and/or "Proposals" area rather than it being an objective in itself.

I'd just like to say that I also strongly agree with the issues identified in the Bulletin. Oops - just seen the next question which asks this!

Community: Issues

Pre-supposes a less professional approach to service provision. This is in accordance with a right-wing agenda of using public money to fund/support private enterprise.

Matched perfectly

People these days are basically self-focused and self-centered. The altruism displayed by our forebearers is no longer reflected in life. The "me" generation, risk averse legislation, these areas do not help either.

Vetting for volunteers is important

Need to lobby the council as their decision making is poor and misguided at best.

The same people are doing many voluntary jobs, some quite elderly. They need to train younger people so they are aware of what they can do to help.

I don't believe communities should have to step in in lieu of local authorities or government provision. Raise taxes instead!

Being so close to Colchester it will be difficult to create separate WB activities.

This is exactly why we need to look after what facilities and services we have before planning more and finding hard to maintain.

Maybe emphasise the benefits to volunteers /volunteering

If you work in London as I do, it is difficult to get involved in lock works except at weekends.

Utilising the time of the unemployed to volunteer - finding a way to encourage this.

There are already activities in the village aimed at reducing social isolation, all carried out voluntarily need sufficient GPs and possibly a "walk-in" centre

People should stand on their own feet and not expect government or councils to look after all aspects of life.

But local authority receive money from our rates to pay for social care - if this is transferred to volunteers L A should fund

We need actions, in my view - so maybe arrange some events at the Open tennis courts or the Pools field, maybe with the school PTA ?

See 6 - there is an extreme lack of bridleways in Colchester and given the huge concentration of horses in North Colchester, the issue is compounded here

It should not only be about publicising and increasing participation in current schemes. It is also about reflecting on whether the schemes should change to accommodate the busier lives everyone - especially young adults - lead, so that they can take a part in community life but on their terms.

Societies etc need funds to get going as well as cheap premises.

Too narrow in focus

Community: Proposals

"1. Whatever does ""co-ordinate meeting venues"" mean? 2. Doesn't go far enough - no point examining if you don't use the findings."

Put up more posters on telegraph poles asking for help. Make people feel very welcome. There can be a tendency to be too close knit & make others feel left out.

Surely it is up to the groups to do their own funding? Why is it a matter of public concern? A lot of groups will fold - this is inevitable.

Find the leaders first

Good proposals

Funding is the most important issue without it the other things will be hard to achieve.

Being so close to Colchester it will be difficult to create separate WB activities.

There is a lack of groups for older children and young adults.

Existing halls need to be more available or a new hall built.

Duke of Edinburgh Teenages are always looking for volunteering opportunities - identify local coordinators eg if doing through schools or Explorers.

Perhaps include or expand the bulletin to include a wish/help list.

Include the older generation

I wouldn't want my name included in a database/list of people who are able to volunteer but would perhaps volunteer my help. Not sure coordination of meeting venues will make any difference.

I agree with the proposals but feel that provision for teenagers and young adults should have high priority.

as above - i think some leadership would have positive consequences in the village. there is a worry that it is "all hot air".

see 6 and 7. Specific requirement to address the lack of safe off-road riding.

Opportunities for older children and the publicity of existing facilities vital

The population of the UK is aging and in particular the village should address this with its forward planning. Also there is no indication of needs from residents with disabilities or for carers. I understand that this may have been considered but could not find reference to it.

Communications: we feel that publicity for events etc. in the village is good already, if people bother to look.

Need to find new and better ways for young adults and families to be able to contribute to the community. The wording is about maintaining or tweaking current approaches but getting more participants. That is already appearing unsustainable, we need to think again about how all of our community can contribute and some new approaches.

I'm not convinced of the purpose of establishing a pool of potential volunteers. The real problem is encouraging the volunteering ethos amongst the local population. I can see some potential for support, but the key driver should be to change culture which is much more difficult.

Agree that opportunities for older children and young adults are important. However, equally important not to overlook the needs of the growing elderly population, particularly those who can become lonely and isolated.

we dont not need retail units

I am not in favour of a database of volunteers.

I wouldn't focus on young adults. We are a stones throw away from Colchester, young adults can walk, cycle, get the bus or drive there and we as a village will never be able to compete with the amenities there. Instead I think we should maintain a focus on children, families and the elderly who are less mobile and travel less well.

Environment: Objective

Part of the asset of the village is the many safe central open area. These should emphatically remain as they are.

Adequate areas of recreational open space already.

If more recreational space can't be found it is essential that we keep what we have and it is not encroached on by builders

Need to repair/renew/update existing open spaces too

No to developers. Keep our village safe.

Concentrate on enhancing existing areas rather than creating new.

By keeping it a village Not an extension of Colchester

More space means less infilling

By keeping it a village not an extension of Colchester

not sure we need more open recreational space

Disappointed that more has not been made of the heath as a recreational area

We have enough recreational space. But protecting the natural parts of the village is important . i.e. TPO's

Sounds unclear

Protect the rural part of the village - Cooks Hall, Hall road areas and Essex way, Hillhouse and Stitching wood - make them protected areas for people to enjoy wildlife and countryside

Not sure if we need new areas.

"In Colchester in the past 10 years there has been considerable in fill with thousands of new houses and the consequence increase in traffic on already busy roads. I would not like to see this repeated in WB "

100%

Some properties being built do not seem to match/blend in with nearby properties.

The ideal us great but in reality what influence will members of the village have over future development. Rumours of closing the scout hut smacks of a hidden agenda to develop the area around this and the Orpen field. Such clubs/services to the village and open spaces should be supported and protected.

Refers to footpaths - but not bridleways

The existing recreational space allows green areas and activities to take place within the boundary. They should not be infilled within housing by moving the sports fields outside the village..

Not clear how this objective will not conflict with need for more housing

I am concerned about the new areas of recreational open space, people living nearby will have to contend with a lot of noise from these areas.

It is my strong preference to see the wording amended to "...protecting THE EXISTING BALANCE of the natural and built environment..."

More important to preserve existing than create new.

"Create new areas of recreational space". Is this in addition to what we have or instead of?..We already have a lot of recreational space, do we need more? Are we in danger of spreading ourselves too thinly? Why not focus on making our existing facilities "best in class"?

I would look into underground wiring and removal of unsightly telegraph poles.

Would like more emphasis on rural landscape

Environment: Issues

Development should match the needs of the village in terms of balanced housing types.

Do not mess up the status quo!

The allotments are a unique feature of the village center. The position makes it ideal for all residents and should be retained at all costs, once lost to development it will be irreplaceable.

Where new building is taking place in the village too many hedges and trees are being taken out, spoiling the verdant look of the village. Hedges should be replaced with hedges not fences. Trees are our breathing spaces.

This is the reason we all live in our rural village and not on Greenstead estate

"Preservation" implies no change whereas "conservation" embraces active management Roads, potholes, off road parking and property infilling all adversely affect our natural environment

"Perhaps a mention of Site of Historical importance? eg St Marys church & surrounding woodland and fields."

The Colne Valley countryside between WB and Fordham is extremely attractive. This should be special recognition as it is more attractive than parts of the Dedham Vale AONB

We have to be careful we don't over-intervene in our natural environment. The footpaths in bluebell woods have been over extended the undergrowth over cut leaving no cover or less cover for small mammals and deer.

"Certain areas (as above) must be protected for future generations. education and for visitors. The area around Old St Mary church must be protected and the footpaths and area around Hall Road (Ancient Archery Fields)"

West Bergholt is particularly fortunate in the quality and beauty of its woodlands and surrounding countryside; Particular care should be taken to maintain both for future villagers and the wider community.

In the case of new houses and where built

Create more affordable housing and less houses built for wealthy London commuters

I think it is vital that there is no development outside of the village boundary. There should be a large green belt around the village and ensure that there is no development towards Colchester.

Does not address the lack of safe offroad riding

I would like to see the potential explored for legal protection for those aspects of the village and the areas within the NP that are most valued through a commitment to seek appropriate formal advice from the relevant authorities/organisations such as English Heritage or Whitehall/ECC departments and then to act on it to the fullest extent. I think it would be prudent to use the full extent of legal protections to safeguard the future of the village as a distinct locality from Colchester.

The wording is soothingly broad, but with these issues the devil is in the detail. Balance is in the eye of the beholder. My functionality may be your destruction, building on village gardens may be my answer to the housing need but your destruction of the character of the village. This section feels very weak.

Water runoff and flooding-any potential issues?

Environment: Proposals

I am not at all comfortable with "Design Guides" there should be an openness & willingness to consider any proposed design on its merits. What particular skills/talent/right do the Council have in dictating such matters in advance of an application?

What is the special landscape area to the south east? South west yes, but I haven't seen anything in the south east. Huge farm fields?

I do not get the "new development issue" we need to protect what we have and not encourage more.

leave village as it is

"Improvements - do we need additional greenspace? Bergholt has lots. Active enhancement and management of existing areas instead. Propose buildings/greenspace as assets of community value"

All "good" proposals

Where do you mean by "South East of village"?

See comment above i.e North West of the village

Not sure too many developments are needed

we need our present footpaths respected

We have enough footpaths and must avoid our natural areas being turned into wood theme parks like Highwoods. Blue bell woods is recently becoming cluttered with memorial benches.

Not just South East. Protect the original part of the village. Many visitors enjoy this area of beauty. Many comments from walkers we have spoken to about area around Hall rd, Old Church Land area. The History not just Essex WAY but footpaths/ancient paths - one that people use off hall road to gain access to beautiful countryside

"Over development of land to the north west of the village would be detrimental to Hillhouse and Stitchling Wood. Why is the South East of the Village highlighted and no mention made of other directions! Surely ALL areas around the village are of importance."

More consideration to the existing woodland growth not just focusing on the bluebells. A lot of other growth has been cut back to allow bluebells

The PC needs to be less opaque about its role with the existing areas of public open space in the village.

Create more affordable housing and less houses built for wealthy London commuters

I support option 1 only and really do not think there should be development outside the village envelope.

I do agree with the proposals in general but I would hope that exciting new developments will not be stifled by old fashioned attitudes. Yes, definitely protect the environment but please don't pander to entrenched views of maintaining the status quo in terms of copying what is already there (which does not always offer the best for the local environment).

"One area of protecting and improving is to look at providing 'wildlife corridors' between various appropriate areas.

If the range of bridleways throughout the village is extended then they need to be carefully planned so as not to adversely affect the 'walkability' of public footpaths."

More provision for safe offroad riding

Need a litter plan

With a view to other comments in the document more should have been done to protect ,or even add the land to the orpen field, the land and character of the old doctors house rather than allowing a new development

I would strongly prefer that all legal channels are used to add strength to the policies which I agree with in principle however perhaps could be further strengthened based on the outcome of discussions recommended in my response to Q10.

While all the aims are laudable, they are not really going far enough to address the steady destruction of a rural, village feel by constant infill on gardens. And a new community space will not make up for the urbanisation of all the roads.

No need for further developments

Does this include the allotments. Concerned about Bob Tyrrell facebook comments. Yes, a village green/centre would be great - but doesn't the Lorkin Daniel field provide this? Was he suggesting the village green to be where the allotments are? Or the Nursing home etc?? I seriously hope he is not suggesting a Nursing home and offices where the allotments are?! The centre of the village would just become a mass development and buildings, not in keeping with a village. To what benefit would having a nursing home or offices in the centre of the village be to the residents. Keep these type of developments to the outskirts of the village. The allotments are a thriving part of our community benefiting residents of all ages. Mr Tyrell should explain clearly his views.

I would like particular attention given to footpaths/cycle paths as a safe method to get around the village and access other villages without having to travel along the roads.

"I am totally opposed to any proposals to build on the existing open spaces which the village has.

We do not need more footpaths as these are adequate as they stand."

not sure we need more recreational land we already have two playing fields and the heath. Football activities should probably be limited to one, allowing for the other for more general repurposing. Definately need to protect what we currently have.

The Lorkin Daniel field must be preserved as open space with or without football. The Poors field and all other open spaces within the village must also be preserved at all costs. Any larger scale development must take place outside the existing village envelope.

No need for a community register. It will not protect, enhance or improve the environment of the village and may well have an adverse impact. Where there is a need for a community building, the village and market forces have always found a way of achieving it.

New house designs should be more carefully considered.

Housing and Planning: Objective

I am against expansion, but if there has to be some, the local community should be involved as long as it's not just lip service.

"involve the local community in all aspects of development through consultation, active involvement & decision-making etc."

I do not see the need for any further expansion in village development.

Do not see the need for extra housing - there is ample development going on in Colchester as it is i.e. Stanway etc.

Only small developments (no more than six houses in each development).

why is new housing needed? Colchester is building enough for all! Here the school, surgery, roads and graveyard are full. More needed? I think not!

Limited is the operative word

Support limited expansion

No expansion

No expansion

Do not allow developers to push threwh "Estates" ruining arable land. Countryside and the enviroment in original part of the village. Just fill in on small areas.

Need low cost housing for young people to stay in village

We dont want to be a suburb of Colchester with new housing estates

"Priority should be given to infill within the village envelope before allowing the village to sprawl (In any direction). Where is the provision for planning improvements to infrastructure eg School and Doctor's surgery before adding to Houses provision?"

Not enough infrastructure for anymore housing

Very limited expansion is needed. We need green spaces and more importantly fields for crops and animals as they are.

Villages merge and become towns, towns merge to become cities. It the natural order of development and we shouldn't be overly worried

Consideration to the site of new housing

Also refers to previous comments

Provide a dedicated page on the village website for details of planning applications instead of burying them in the parish council meeting minutes

The word LIMITED in capital letters, we don't want to become a suburb of Colchester

New housing should be kept to a minimum otherwise it will no longer be a village

Listen and act on comments from villagers about new builds or filling in.

The planning authority should control

the village needs more than "limited expansion" -there is a dearth of smaller affordable homes.

what is limited?

The concept of 'garden village policy' is not familiar to me. Is this a broadly accepted term in the planning world and does it suggest a certain ratio of housing density to open green area?

I would remove "to support limited expansion" and focus on involving & consulting community on expansion & development

I would like to understand how the villagers may ensure that their wishes are respected and what additional means are available to achieve this. I would like to be confident that consultations about the future development of the village are not simply asking for opinion on a predetermined outcome which is then taken forward heedless and more in the spirit of consultation which should be co-creation. Who for example has the final say in consultation where the majority of villagers do not agree with future proposals?

No need for new housing

The village does not have the required infrastructure to support any significant development to the village. Traffic and parking are big issues and further development should not be considered until these matters are addressed

Why do we need new housing? Colchester has other areas which are being developed. Leave Bergholt alone! Do not develop to the A12. Any infill deveopment to be of a standard to enhance the village.

faster broadband

"I would add "To support limited expansion alongside an adequate infrastructure in the parish and involve" What is the time scale for these developments?"

No need for expansion otherwise we will lose our identity.

Housing and Planning: Issues

Retain hedges on development sites.

Infilling affects appearance and the feel of the village in a detrimental way.

Concern about roads and parking for these dwellings.

Infill will happen organically, it is necessary to keep it unobtrusive. Why do we need new dwellings & developments? Putting profit to them with no gain to the community.

We need more affordable housing or rented accommodation for people born in West Bergholt.

The planning issue is the most important. However if the village has any influence on planning it will be very welcome.

Redevelopment of allotments to allow a new heart to the village with sheltered housing.

Don't turn West Bergholt into an area we hate to live in through overcrowding.

Need affordable housing for first time buyers

Make sure that garaging and off road parking are a pre-requisite of all new housing & irrespective of size and cost of dwelling

Not just about expanding towards Colchester we don't want to expand out in to the countryside any further either

Local amenities must be improved to deal with more development, e.g doctors, parking, traffic speed, transport.

"We do not want to become part of Colchester Town. Take control. Do not allow the main council to ruin the rural areas of our village or let farmers cash in."

Very important village does not spread towards Colchester

I think expansion towards Colchester should be resisted so we have a rural barrier also no further infill.

"Thought must be given to the infrastructure eg school and surgery. Can the school (of which we are proud) take more? Attention should be given to village sprawl in directions other than towards Colchester. TOO MANY developments would chage the village and coule be detrimental to both village and environment"

Not enough infrastructure for anymore housing

All 4 issues are extremely important

"Concern that Colchester is sprawling out towards the village?"

See above

Only allow development on brown field areas

West Bergholt should retain its identity as a village and not become part of the ever expanding sprawl of Colchester. Having lived in stanway I have seen the effects of expansion and I don't want to see West Bergholt go the same way! It would be a shamed if it happened.

do not extend the village envelope

"Infill is because there is no new stock.

the main issue, in my view, is that we have a need that is not being addressed.

It must be what the Parish needs - as determined in the earlier household survey - 'downsizing', starter, residential care etc.

What are the implications for roads, the doctors, the school and shops and other infrastructure if the village grows?

I would prefer stronger wording that reinforces the village's determination to take the most active role in determining the future look and character and the right to take decisions in the best interests of residents.

Very important

The proposals seem to favour sheltered housing or a nursing home over additional family houses. It was explained at the presentation that this was to enable pensioners occupying family homes to move and remain within the village. The flaw to this plan is that there is no guarantee that the additional accommodation will be populated by existing village residents - in fact this would be impossible to achieve. Therefore, family house will not be freed up and the village will be required to support and ever aging population. I assume that the proposals not to support new family homes is because the school can not be extended further? As my point above, unless the village has the infrastructure to support any development it should be limited.

Already an aging population not sure we need to add nursing home to further increase this however that being said it may help older generations stay in the village if preference as given to locals rather than for residents outside of the parish.

County broadband isn't fast enough

West Bergholt is a desirable place in which to live. Would it become less desirable (for existing as well as potential new residents) if a substantial number of new dwellings were built without the infrastructure to support them?

The concern about the village sprawling towards Colchester implies that sprawl in other directions is more acceptable. I disagree. If development has to happen at the village boundary, it should happen in the Colchester direction towards the A12 rather than in the unspoiled land that surrounds the rest of the village.

Road access and parking which is becoming an increasing issue in some areas of the village.

Housing and Planning: Proposals

Developers to financially support the increased strain on local resources i.e. education, medical, transport etc. Priority of accommodation to those who have proven links to the area.

None of the options indicate a period of time. Is the suggestion that this is for the lifetime of the plan or an "annual allowance/five year allowance?? Not precise enough

"Option 1 - depends on the proposed location of the development. Having lived in the village for most of my life, I'm unsure where you would build 25 houses. Option 2-3 - Infrastructure in village is not sufficient for development."

Further development puts pressure on existing services & facilities and is not required.

No new development needed - it will only put pressure on school, doctors etc and erode the village atmosphere.

Large developments bring unsocial behaviour. Need to expand school before extra building; no one should go to a school (primary) they can't walk to.

I would like the option of development around Greenacres, Whitethorne & Brook Cottages. It seems a logical extension to the envelope, but keeps a great distance still from joining Colchester. There are fields which surround the land.

New development is not needed or wanted. The moneymen should go elsewhere. (Great Horkesley seems not to care!)

None of the above

Options 1 & 2

Our school is now full and doctors overstretched. Parking around shops impossible.

This is a village and we must retain the existing village envelope. Any new dwellings should be suitable for first time buyers to enable young, married adults to remain close to their families and roots.

keep to existing boundaries

keep to 20 houses in the village envelope

planning needs to be done carefully e.g. Truman site

None of the above

Non of the above

Up to 25 new dwellings accommodated within the village envelope only

Developers are profit driven with environmental issues a minor objective.

"More housing within the village means more children for overstretched Heathlands. Therefore children outside village should be limited.

More traffic, especially in Chapel Road and Lexden Road, driving over the speed limit very often. The majority being young women! Also using mobile phones very dangerous parking over road opposite to bus stop (methodist church) stops traffic completely."

"Please confirm what is considered the ""Village Envelope"" and what is ""Inside & outside"" of this. We know that the farmer who owns the field behind Hall Road which extends all the way to bluebell woods had put the land forward for development under ""call for sites"" scheme. We hope the PC & WBNP would not support this!!!"

I strongly disagree with option 3 this would spoil the village completing and there is a need to expand to this degree

No support will be given to expanding the village envelope. Certainly not if left up to developers alone.

Main Road from Colchester were laid for horse and cart- not vehicles especially ones now driving through daily. More homes will increase vehicle numbers. Doctors and Hospital not able to cover existing development.

The village envelop is at capacity now.

West Bergholt does not need to keep expanding. Argents Lane is already a busy main road 9albeit dangerous)could this be widened. Also Colchester Road is over busy.

Developers should not be given the opportunities to influence the neighbourhood plan. These decisions must be determined by parish needs not developers profits.

Supports option 1 and 2

Not allow any spread of development in the ORIGINAL part of the village around the old st mays church area, around hillhouse woods or surrounding farm land off hall rd should be kept arable for future generations to enjoy countryside.

I like the idea of teeny weeny 2 bed houses but i dont know where, maybe only when other houses become derelict.

If the village spreads out too much it will loose its character

We know we have to have more houses but perhaps not so many

Option 3 - This option would seem to be particularly foolhardy? Look at Great Horkesley. Any development to the west or north of West Bergholt would encourage more traffic through the village towards Colchester and the A12 adding to traffic difficulties around the village and School area. The latter option would also over-run village and add to North Station nightmare.

25 is far to great a number of new dwellings - and 200 is obscene. West Bergholt will no longer be the beautiful village that it is.

what timescale?

No new housing is needed either within or outside the village envelope

New smaller houses needed (first time buyers) Affordable / Council owned properties for young people.

The village will cease to be a village if we allow free reign to develop outside the existing village envelope. The school has already been extended. Any further buildings for use by the school will urbanise the school.

yet again: no development outside existing village envelope

Support for building annexes on existing properties to accommodate elderly or young members of the family living there. Given the high cost of buying or renting property, and the need for assisted accommodation, provision for extended family accommodation would offer a cheaper solution for many families and encourage the younger and older members to stay in the village.

The Village Envelope must be maintained in it's current position otherwise it will be impossible to achieve what the Parish needs - we will just get what makes the developers the most profit!

"The papper copy asks for 'Any comments or suggestions?' - so I shall provide some in support of Option 1. An example of how such a thing is achieved is English Rural Housing Association <http://www.englishrural.org.uk/> Formed in 1991, English Rural Housing Association is one of the leading researchers and developers of affordable rural housing, and works with a variety of partners to tackle the housing problems affecting rural communities. Our developments provide a mixture of homes for rent and for shared ownership, with most schemes consisting of 6-10 properties. We currently build around 50 new homes annually. The majority of our homes are 2 or 3 bed houses,

although some flats and bungalows have been provided where a need has been identified. Restrictions also ensure that our properties can never be lost to the open market, in that our tenants do not have the Right to Buy nor the Right to Acquire and our shared owners can never own more than 80% of the equity. Finding a site: If a housing need for a particular village is proven, the next step is to find a suitable site. Historically we have used rural exceptions sites (parcels of land outside village development boundaries that would not normally achieve planning permission) as a way of securing affordable land for our projects. However, other sources of land are also considered, such as surplus areas owned by local authorities, parish councils, utility companies or religious bodies. We also work with developers, who under planning law have to provide quotas of affordable housing on certain open market sites. Such a site is at Chappel

http://www.englishrural.org.uk/case_study.php?case_ID=51 The Parish could set a number of criteria in the NP including, for example: That the site should be adjacent to the boundary of the Village Envelope; That it should not exceed the number and type of dwellings stated in the plan.

Any of the above so long as the village infrastructure is developed especially if developers larger plans are approved

Whilst I appreciate the need to accommodate small housing growth I would opt for a solution that had lower numbers than those in the options and contained this within the village envelope. Any accommodation to the Council that permits expansion of the envelope takes the village closer to suburbanisation.

I don't really support any of these options - local infrastructure cannot support more people. The village can only expand if infrastructure can cope - schools, roads, drs, facilities etc.

I don't wish to indicate an option preference at this stage because I believe I need far more information about what each option may involve. My general position at present is that as few new dwellings as possible should be permitted. Please do not disregard this comment when evaluating the outcome of Q14. It is highly relevant and is more conservative than any option offered above.

I think the key is to ensure development is appropriate to location and needs (e.g. downsizing for retirement closer to the centre, family sized homes on the edge). Also important to not allow "squeezing in" or total replacement of functionally fit buildings just for commercial profit.

None - no need to expand village

Additional comment- Do not allow any further development towards colchester. Keeo us as a separate village not a suburb.

I do not support any of these options. The village does not have the infrastructure to support 100 new dwellings which is the minimum amount being proposed. Any development that is considered should be limited to infill within the existing village envelope on land currently used for housing and not to the detriment of the existing open space within the village.

Option 1 is proposing the least amount of homes at 100, whereas Option 2 and 3 propose 125 and 200 homes respectively therefore I would expect the replies to be skewed to Option 1. However, a combination of Option 1 and 2 could work if the right locations are identified.

No one has proved the need for more development.

Keep development to minimum otherwise the "charm" of the village will be lost and will lead to sprawl. Need to be careful extending the envelope so as not to set a precedent for future development to be pushed through. Too much new housing will put additional pressures on current facilities and could lead to lower standards and overcrowding ie the preschools, doctors, school etc

(including a significant element of affordable housing; preferably also with a commitment to environmentally sustainable development)

I feel the village needs more smaller properties to enable older people to "downsize" and for young people to afford.

There is no need for new dwellings, the current developments make the village more crowded. No need to expand the envelope. Keep it as a village. Replace old building if necessary but do not allow splitting the grounds.

Transport: Objective

Definitely 20mph zones

20 mph is unrealistic. Highway maintenance definitely needs addressing.

Do not go ahead with proposed yellow line parking restrictions in New Church Road as cars will park in Chapel Road and cause more congestion.

Improve our footpaths. Implement cycle ways where practical.

Nobody obeys existing speed limits so how is reducing them going to help? Buses are out of our hands entirely.

The maintenance of roads needs addressing, never seen so many potholes and bad edges of roads i.e. by Armoury Road bus stop - surely dangerous.

I feel the 20mph zones are unnecessary. The main issue the village faces is the condition of its roads and footpaths. They take ages before they are repaired to a poor standard.

Not enough speed restriction around the school.

20mph zones are not necessary

No 20mph needed. If people speed over 30mp will they obey 20

Improve lighting and parking restrictions on the busiest roads ie The COOP area is an accident waiting to happen every day.

No 20 mph needed. If people speed over 30 now why will they obey 20mph

lets get on with it - tout suite.

Enforcing 20mph limits may be difficult.

If the footpath to the old church was improved greater use could be made of the building as a meeting place and visitor amenity

parking on roads need to be controlled.

Insufficient emphasis of enforcement of speed limits and weight limits. Inconsiderate and selfish parking is a major problem.

If you introduce 20 mph, drivers will be looking at their speedometer instead of the road.

"Have 20 mph down small lanes Hall road etc with many visitors to this lovely part of village. Cars are going too fast.

20 min bus service a must."

Need bus stop and shelter nearer "Pitts" Corner, Colchester Rd, (Opposite Ash's shop)

"20 mph probably a waste of time potholes still a problem"

Delays over 20mph zones near the school are particularly worrying as is the lack of footpaths on the approach roads to the school.

20 mph vital. Speed reduction enforcement through main road in village

Village transit isn't great for pedestrians and vehicles. Most parts you can't drive +20mph anyway so why legislate? Sort out some parking for the Coop though

"Double yellow lines at junctions. Stop parking on pavements and grass verges. Repair paths"

No 20mph speed limits are needed but HGV's should be mainly banned on through journeys in the village

20mph limits are unrealistic and difficult to enforce. Congestion and parking are much more important issues.

Nayland Road needs to be a 40mph road, such as surrounding roads (Langham Road, Boxted Rd and Gt Horkesley/Ivy Lodge Road. 60 mph is too fast.

Improve policing of speed limits, parking restrictions. Book drivers who park outside the school.

Will 20mph be enforced?

20 mph throughout village

Has totally ignored horse riders

So long as it is linked to the growth in population of the village

I think that this wording is missing the point about being a village, rather than a suburb of a town. Two groups are very concerned about traffic - the elderly and the parents of young children. The

majority of people we need and want living in the village a bringing in income and energy do not fit these two categories. I think we should not take such an urban approach to transport.

I think this is a key issue and even more important to housing.

We have no real influence on transport provision which is at the whim and behest of First Bus. Cars will always be there so we had better live with them.

"I would add ""and to educate the car user to park and drive responsibly and safely within the village""

There is no need to 20mph zones.

Stricter control of car parking on roads. Cars are parking too close to junctions such as queens road to Chapel Road and Pirie road.

Transport: Issues

Car parking near junctions needs addressing. Entrance to Albany Road is dangerous, because of parked cars.

For students First Bus is expensive £2.40 to Station or Rowhedge/Old Heath. Chambers have student bus fares at £1.30 to town, £2.30 return.

improved street lighting

Identify possible commuter mini bus to station at peak times.

Avoid the idea of making Chapel Lane one-way just to put in a footpath. The knock-on effect will be horrendous, especially in Bourne Road due to parked cars. It will create a further problem. The farm vehicles use Bourne Road all the time which will exacerbate the problem.

Cyclists have free roads. Cars are always going to be around. So we have to live with it. (It would help if all houses had off road parking!)

Being relative newcomers to West Bergholt are not fully conversant with local needs as yet, however it has been impossible to ignore appalling condition of pavements, surely a priority with current inadequate street lighting.

Parking is becoming a big problem, especially in Chapel Road. We have a good bus service/timetable and it is more reliable recently

Many safety issues not being addressed, such as Pirie Road Junction. A child will die soon if something is not done.

Poor highway maintenance is the main issue

With the speed that vehicles drive around the outer roads of the village some control needs to take place.

Don't agree that there are footways missing

No real room for dedicated cycle tracks do not require additional pedestrian crossing definite lack of parking particularly in Mumford Rd Area of flats with more young being allocated accommodation

More properties are being built around Chapel Rd near COOP, more parking facilities off road needed - URGENTLY - say this ever time and nothing happens

No real room for dedicated cycle tracks do not require additional pedestrian crossings. Definite lack of parking particularly in Mumford Rd area of flats with more young being allocated accommodation

We have a very good bus service

Local pavements need urgent attention

I am particularly concerned about the dangers for cyclists given the amount/speed of traffic in WB and the degree of on-street parking. Also about the unreliable bus service - frequency OK reliability not.

Argents lane restrict HGV over certain tonnage using the lane. Lorries using sat navs make it impossible to pass without damage to your vehicle either from the hedge or the HGV.

ban pickups from school area

Very poor conditions of pavements

To ensure the bus service continues , residents should be encouraged to use it more.

Parking area problem on Chapel Road.

Most of this is common sense and info available if you look for it or ask someone.

A minority of road users observe the 30mph speed limit on Newbridge hill Permanent camera necessary. Frequent abuse of the weight limit on Newbridge Hill . Police should monitor Long term parking in Chapel Rd - Extend double yellow lines.

No 66 route to return to a 20 minute service

Street parking becoming more of a problem as number of vehicles increases. Safe cycle ways need to school

Not bothered about footpaths as we are a village. it can become too much like a town, like round cop. Parking around school as pick up and drop off time - cycling dangerous

Not point 4 & 5

Cycle ways needed as priority

If you want to retain a village environment then you cannot expect an urban environment with all paved and lighted areas.

Chapel Road - Pavements especially need attention! I know of 2 people who have suffered bad falls, one in daylight, and one after dark on the stretch between the Coop and Methodist Chapel.

Pathway parking

Double yellow lines at junctions. Stop parking on pavements and grass verges. Repair paths

Stop cars parking on the pavement. These are public footpaths not car parking areas. It is both ignorant and dangerous to expect pedestrians with pushchairs /wheelchairs to have to go into the road

Bus service route stops at top of Lexden Road or opposite the Treble Tile. What about residents living past these stops where there are no footpaths or street lights.

With the number of horses and stables in and around the village there should be a number of bridle ways that can be shared with walkers and cyclists. Dedicated paths and routes off road to neighbouring villages

Has totally ignored horse riders

Protection of the rural nature of the village should be maintained. Curbing speeds should mean that lack of footpaths are not a problem and townlike crossings wouldn't be needed.

I think there is a real problem with courier vans delivering online orders, it is a serious issue in Chapel Lane as they are unaware of the children who play out regularly. I have spoken to a number who are usually very dismissive. I would like a 15mph limit in quiet turnings and lanes such as Chapel Lane/Valley Crescent as there are many children who play out regularly. Children should be encouraged to play out and we must act to keep them safe. There are many advantages to children who play out including better social skills and fitness levels. these are lifelong advantages and support our health services by limiting demand in future.

Colchester became very anti car. It has become a place no one wants to shop or visit. Don't let us go the same way. And I don't see the traffic warrants extra crossing places unless you are very infirm or slow.

Speed limits are not enforced and therefore are useless as a control. Footways would be good

Could also add parking restrictions on key routes around the village. Whole village should have lower speed limit to cut down on cars driving at excessive speeds around the main "triangle" of the village.

my particular concern is the stretch of road between west bergholt & braiswick outside of the speed limit. there is need for an off-road cycle route + the lack of a continuous footpath means pedestrians are forced to cross the road.

Specifically address traffic and parking problems in relation to Heathlands School

Many of the car users coming to the school are not West Bergholt residents and seem not to care about the disruption they cause in the roads around the school.

Parking restrictions (double yellow lines) needed at corner Chapel Road & New Church Road to address dangerous parking. Also, similar restriction at other end New Church Road & Lexden Road.

There are enough pedestrian crossings. The traffic is not so big that it would cause an issue. Footways are usually sufficient. May need some extensions but local people have to be involved.

Yes there are some pavements missing, however we are a village full of character and I think we should not look to make West Bergholt a mini town with too many crossings and pavements taking away its originality. Let common sense and the green cross code prevail!

Overgrown hedges of private houses can be an issue near pathways.

Transport: Proposals

Some roads are too narrow for two lanes of traffic, let alone add a footpath as well.

Apart from 20mph as stated elsewhere

Buses need to turn up.

1. Bus service - don't see how the parish can do this? 2. "Promotional leaflets"? - we're in the 21st century now - online video/social media using local supplier to make it! www.fadetoblacktv.co.uk or similar Leaflets!!? Really?

Zebra crossing/ lollipop lady for school crossing on Colchester Road.

Parking near junction of Chapel Road & Pirie Road constitutes a real hazard. Parking on pavements should be discouraged. A circular cycle route round the village would be beneficial for (older) adults.

As above - avoid Chapel Lane as a one-way road. Have double yellow lines near the Co-Op. It is so dangerous to turn into Church Rd from Chapel Rd as cars are parked right up to the line. Can you not persuade the chemist to use the land at the back of his shop as a parking area?

Road defects as above.

Keep West Bergholt as a village

Simply enforce highway code with yellow line around main junctions with issues such as Pirie Road

There is not much room for footpaths in Chapel Lane, already there is only room in certain parts for single file traffic. There is need for parking restrictions in Chapel Road.

real time is unattractive in a rural setting; pavement needs repairing on Bures Road

Parking is not sufficient at the coop, leading to illegal parking. "Sleeping police" urgently needed to reduce speed as it's an accident waiting to happen.

Footpaths and cycleways needed along Colchester Road to Braiswick. Argents Road to be widened and drainage improved. Cycling and walking to Horkesley and Stanway is not safe without a footpath

Don't agree with new footway proposals. This would over-urbanise the village

Would like to see pavement repaired - on Chapel Road/Spring Lane entrance there is a sizable drop around a grid - dangerous at night as I found out

No 20 mph will not be adhered to but in the main its difficult to exceed 20mph in most areas. More parking required.

Proposals need Implementation before anything changes - West Bergholt like Colchester is becoming a traffic nightmare.

No 20mph will not be adhered to but in the main difficult to exceed 20 in most areas. More parking required

One way in Chapel Lane, Lower end.

I cannot see any advantage in any one-way roads.

A one way street proposed in New Church Road would make sense

No to real time bus information. Too urban

Traffic have traffic congestion in town- timing must be difficult. Parking is a problem where properties have no garage or facility to park on their space. Lanes and Roads are hardly wide enough for 2 cars to pass making footpaths impossible. If land could be found for cyclepaths that would be good.

Complementing new systems i.e. bus time real time info costs money! to introduce and maintain. Giving more information doesn't make any difference to buses running on time . All of these contribute to more of a nanny state.

I do not agree with introducing 20mph

Establish a clear marked right of way footpath linking Essex Way to Nayland Road via Manor Farm area. This would help for an almost circular route surrounding West Bergholt village.

"Dont ruin village feel with footpaths]

no realtime notice board for bus - it is not colchester town centre."

Very strongly support these proposals

Would it be possible to have a 20 mph zone near the school which is activated at school start and finish times only?

The bus service is awful. Technically 3 buses/hour sounds great but it doesn't work like that in reality. Bus company may be short changing that route?

school environment continues to be car dominated

No waiting sections in Lexden Road adjacent to school entrance to provide a break in the long line of parked cars

why would real time bus information help?

20mph zones and one way streets would be detrimental to the feel of the village.

Whats the use of parking restrictions. The motorists ignore those in place now - the pedestrian crossing at the post office, School Lane - New Church Road

Nayland Rd has many runners, cyclists, horse riders and pedestrians and is desperate for a footpath. Several accidents of late. Need a footpath

Real time information at bus stops is not really necessary and will not help buses to be more punctual . Parking restrictions at key junctions , one way streets and 20mph /zones are urgently needed. A quiet circular cycle route for youngsters to use is an excellent idea

Beware of urbanisation

As above there should also be provision for horse riders

I don't think the bus discounting scheme would be sustainable as it would have to be renegotiated with each incoming bus company when the contracts are handed out. Have you considered a proposal for parking on one side only on key roads such as the triangle of Lexden Rd, Colchester Rd and Chapel Rd to improve through traffic and make it safer for pedestrians (especially where vehicles are presently in the habit of parking on the pavement to allow for passage of others on the road).

we ought to challenge the idea that drive/park for the school is essential.

Has totally ignored horse riders

Protection of the rural nature of the village should be maintained. Curbing speeds should mean that new footpaths aren't needed. Real time bus boards don't often work and are not in keeping with a village setting & most people have phone aps.

"I fully agree with the proposal identified. I would add the following additional proposals:

Reduce the speed limits to the major roads that approach the village, in particular the A12 bridge could be reduced from 60mph to 30/40mph to improve safety for cyclists and lower the vehicles approach speeds as they approach the 30mph zone.

Extend cycle path links into colchester.

Physical speed restrictions (bumps or narrowings) along the main three roads, especially around the school area and where the roads become 30mph."

The road system needs more than just patching

1. The real time bus displays in other parts of the area do not work properly - need improved bus service. 2. We are not going to change the motorisation! Great mistake to allow the inconvenience store to be developed on a major junction. why not consider one way system around village based on bus route with church road being access only! then the people who insist on parking outside the

shop and school would provide less danger! 4 Cycling proposals which would enable young people to cycle out of the dangers of the roads would be a great idea if we could link these to bridleways footpaths etc all the better!

Can we think of some sort of campaign featuring photos of the young people in the village and placing signs around residential turnings? And start a campaign encouraging people to log details of delivery vans which are risking our children's lives and reporting them to their employers?

Real-time bus info. as in Colchester is of little use!

To also propose to increase the frequency of the bus service

Happy to promote cycling and slow traffic round the school and shops, but the rest of this makes us a suburb - and probably ugly to boot.

Generally, but would focus more on improved and possibly extended bus service plus improved and more of appropriate waling and cycling routes for business and pleasure rather than major traffic management and engineering activity.

Bus service - not sure ""real time information"" is that helpful/reliable. In town it seems to simply say what the timetable is and should happen not what is happening. Continue to pressure for a more reliable service. Motorised transport - agree need for safety measures but concerned over possible urbanisation of village environment. Walking and cycling - support improvements in these and proposals as set out.

Whilst areas of the village would benefit from additional footways, I do not support the need for one in Chapel Lane. The road is too narrow to easily accommodate one and the character of the lane would be lost if one was put in place. A regular and reliable commuter bus service, every 10 minutes between 6.00am and 8.00am and 6.00pm and 8.30pm would be of huge benefit to residents of the village and would significantly reduce the flow of traffic through the village to and from North Station during these times. Parking restrictions are long overdue at the Chapel Road / Pirie Lane junction.

Smaller more frequent shuttle buses to key hubs (such as Train station, High Street, other villages) could be a benefit. The fares need to be lower. £2.20 single to the Train station and limited return times after 6:30 must be putting off commuters (it at least puts me off).

A dedicated Bergholt Bus run by the Community

Key element will be speed reduction

Does not address Heathlands traffic and parking

The real time information on bus stops is good in theory but for a lot of the time one is presented with a blank screen. Not sure how useful a bus discount scheme would be - many people using the buses from West Bergholt have bus passes anyway. The proposal of a quiet circular cycle route for children is good, but it could only work around the school if there was a one-way system for vehicles.

No need for 20mph speed restriction. It is not a major problem. It only represent the idea of a small number of influential people in the village. Street junction parking restrictions should be enforced. We would need special cycle lanes to the train station and possibly to Eight Ash Green. It would increase non-motorised transport. Cycling to the train station is the major risk in traffic

It is all a bit too late! The enlarged school now generates (as forecast) a volume of traffic which overwhelms the eastern end of the village, especially when combined with Coop and pharmacy generated traffic. I have never seen any communication from the school telling parents how to drive and, more importantly, park considerately. Nor have I seen anything about using other forms of transport.

I don't think that one way streets are a good idea, and I think that the village should be entirely limited to 20mph (except on Colchester Road where 30mph is appropriate). New footway should also be added on Queen's Road, but I agree that New Church Road and School Lane are the priorities for footways.

No to real time bus information! These illuminated boards are too urban in style for our village! Yuck! I use the bus frequently so I know how frustrating it is to stand there in the cold waiting for the bus, but I also know that the real time bus signs used in town are pretty useless and unreliable themselves too! I strongly disagree with this proposal.

More frequent buses and accurate info not just an electronic timetable display.

Business and Commerce: Objective

Not appropriate in a village

Opportunities should also be given to individuals i.e. mobile food owners.

Current facilities are adequate for the village.

We have enough!

Meeting place & coffee shop would be an advantage, perhaps staffed by volunteers.

Objective is too wordy and unclear what it means

Pubs are successful with good landlords and good food.

Leave the village as a village, not an extension of Colchester.

As long as burger vans are not reintroduced

Yes, The Treble Tile is a real asset to WB. The White Hart and Queens Head could be better established.

I definitely feel the village needs a local cafe/coffee shop which would provide a social meeting place for locals.

I think a coffee shop would enhance the village

It would depend if they were independent businesses or a chain of dreadful shops and cafe's etc

Maybe a place to have coffee but for all ages not just certain 'set'

Only maintain and enhance dont need new shops ie food/drink places

A local tea shop/cafe would enhance the village

There are sufficient outlets for the sale of alcohol

There are enough eating and drinking facilities within the village.

A cafe in the village would be good as well as a craft type shop

Yes to enhancement of existing retail and eating with perhaps a specialist baker or delicatessen (we have 3 pubs already) but No to expansion of employment opportunities because this a village 3 miles from train links and with bus links to employment areas.

I would not like to see any further retail in this village, I have seen from Tiptree how retail and too much development can ruin a village.

Pubs closing because of lack of custom is a national issue not a local one - thank Tesco asda for that one. look at using the space in the pub for additional activities to relieve pressure on the community halls etc. The lack of retail opps is based on the change of use planning allowed which closed down all the existing shops and allowed the development of the inconvenience store! they will be very difficult to get back in current climate..

I am not sure what is meant by this objective and therefore cannot express a view without further detailed information. I would not like to see fast food outlets in the village and I would not like to see certain types of retailers such as betting shops and discount stores or off-licences or late-night bars. I moved from an area where it was assumed such things could not happen and an entrepreneur converted a pub into a 'champagne bar' which was a euphemism for a night-club. It took 5 years and a massive effort by local people to get the licence revoked - during this time it was not safe to walk past the venue as people spilling out of the pub launched into pitched battles with rivals. Police were there every week. No one ever thought it would happen in such a nice area. We must beware of unintended consequences and be extremely careful in what we invite.

Eating facilities will never be popular with neighbours!

No need to expand

Do not want much expansion of business. It will make the roads even more busy

Focus should be on the maintenance and enhancement of existing business rather than attracting new business which unless they employed only village residents would only further impact the existing traffic and parking issues.

Would only like to see minimal expansion of businesses and then only directly related to residents consumer needs encouraging people to walk and shop locally. No large retail business park or sprawling offices.

The village is not suited to the development of a business park. There is plenty space in Existing buildings in Colchester

No need to expand what we have, lets concentrate on not losing what we have. We are a really well served village already we do not have the infrastructure for new retail premises nor do we need them in reality. We are a village 2 miles from a large town. Plus if we get too many facilities here could we risk losing our buses if passenger numbers drop?

Business and Commerce: Issues

I am not concerned about any of them.

Pubs are at risk partly due to the social club undercutting them. Close it, save pubs and get more hall space - simple. Retail has died everywhere with internet - it will not return.

Business parks have no real place in a village such as West Bergholt

It would be great to have smaller shops - a bakery, cafe?

We've had them in years past. It just increases traffic chaos to the village and we already have enough.

Not sure "zoned" areas are needed. Maybe more incidental opportunities including retail rather than "zones"

Was v. disappointed with refurb of Queens Head. Big screens and sports bar are not places for family and quiet drinks.

Funding initiatives needed to support refurbishment of old public buildings.

We live very close to Colchester which has prospects for work and the facilities to provide a variety of retail areas. No one will be able to sustain a viable business in a small village with a large town just a short bus journey away. Think resources would be better spent elsewhere than worry about jobs

It is a village and not sure if business parks are required.

pubs could be used for more community areas and social events

Need up to date communication ie fast broadband available

would only like to see small amount of business in village

Pubs must realise that they should be welcoming and of a good standard. Low standards will never succeed.

This is a residential village so none of the above are relevant . Apart from pub support that can only be addressed by government prices.

Could pubs be used for some of the various club meetings? Especially if Village Halls over booked eg day time ones when playgroup in.

Make pubs more family friendly

I dont know enough about it, so point 1, 2 and 3 dont seem important to me

Need up to date communications i.e fast broadband available

There are a Coop, Ash's, Post Office. and Chemist - consider this with Bures and we are quite well off. Could W.B support all further retail outlets - dont think so.

Limiting business park expansion vital

The Coop needs parking sorted out. Parents really should be discouraged from driving 200 - 300m to Heathlands, twice a day is ridiculous

Development restrictions must apply

Business park areas do not exist within the village envelope

It would be a shame to turn the village into another Stanway. We are close to many underused commercial areas so employment is within easy reach. I think most people who work and have chosen to live in West Bergholt like to return to a peaceful rural environment.

Broadband and mobile reception are not good enough for business users

Again my concern is about retail areas and as for pubs, I've never seen a good pub close.

Pubs closing because of lack of custom is a national issue not a local one - thank Tesco asda for that one. look at using the space in the pub for additional activities to relieve pressure on the community halls etc. the lack of retail opps is based on the change of use planning allowed which closed down all the existing shops and allowed the development of the inconvenience store! they will be very difficult to get back in current climate..

I don't know what 'expanded employment' opportunities are and therefore cannot have a view without further information. I also am unsure about the final point given my answer in Q18.

Not too concerned with "at risk" pubs, more general eating / café style facilities might be better especially if linked to business / craft park type areas with the potential for social / community use.

Believe that the pubs in the village do have a considerable amount of village support.

not sure we need any additional commercial areas.

Not sure we could buck the trend of pubs being at risk of closure without local support. It is a national issue.

I think the issues focus on retail and food/drink business and do not consider office or micro scale industrial opportunities sufficiently.

Which business park areas are at a limit?

Why do we need zoned areas for employment?

Agree about pubs

Why do we need retail ""areas""?

Business and Commerce: Proposals

Yes, to businesses on website and maintaining community building register. No, to enhanced retail opportunities.

There is no guarantee that business will employ local staff so they will encourage more traffic and pollution. Leave well alone.

Meeting place & coffee shop would be an advantage, perhaps staffed by volunteers.

capitalise on Essex Way

I have concerns about the expansion of building parks as this would inevitably mean more traffic, lorries, pollution etc

A much sought after village to live in will be destroyed by money making investors who don't live here. We don't want a Highwoods or Greenstead lookalike.

retain existing

business parks create more traffic

No further business

"Community building register"" = assets of community value maintained at local authority or parish level. "Business park" expansion only if/where appropriate

Would enhanced retail opportunities be a good idea? I feel satisfied with the post office and pharmacy.

Could the White Hart or the Queen's Head be utilised as Farm Markets/Cafe's as both in nice environmental areas.

We don't need to waste money on expanding areas for retail opportunities.

We do not have a dentist in the village

Not sure how many businesses would fill a business park. How would a building register help? Village is reasonable well supported for retail premises.

Promote the availability of Super Fast Broadband

Local community halls and centres need to be planned.

Promotion of local businesses on website is the only one we agree with

We are a village we do not need more business here.

No business park. Again we are a village. Small home run businesses are fine or a shop but not a park to spoil village

Promote the availability of Super Fast Broadband

Too much retail would spoil village as it stands. There is sufficient retail for everyday living needs

Without detriment to the village or residents

Business park areas do not exist within the village envelope

Business will promote their businesses themselves. No need for the village to do it. We should be very cautious of expanding business parks . We are a village . We have sufficient retail businesses to offer choice to the people of West Bergholt.

no expansion to existing business parks

I know there are a lot of unoccupied business units in the villages near to WB so I don't really see why expansion is required here. Any available sites should be prioritised for new housing.

maybe, to encourage businesses and work from home, we could get better broadband ?

Expansion must take into account all relevant aspects - environment etc.

The extent of 'land zoned for expansion' must relate to location, surrounding environmental factors and the existing capacity of feeder roads etc.

Definitely no to a business park (we are close enough to many underused commercial areas so employment is within easy reach). We already have Co-op, Post Office, Pharmacy, Gift & Ashe's shops and hairdresser & 3 pubs. Delicatessen/baker possibly only appropriate addition.

The village is predominantly, and should remain, a residential area. I disagree with the implications for increased commercial areas. Colchester is close by and is well accommodated with business and commercial parks.

Agree with most but going to be difficult to baulk national trends

I believe this needs further work and refinement with advice from suitable experts in these fields including how to prevent unintended consequences.

A café could be a welcome addition - but no large garden centre.

Apart from the zoned areas (first bullet point), I don't see how the others would help. I would see more benefit (but requiring more effort) in networking and investing in the creation of suitable venues in these zoned areas to enable low cost business / social / community service to function and ensure they are linked in to a good communications network both physical (e.g. cycle routes) and electronic (e.g. broadband).

No need for expansion

Generally support proposals as it is good to have and support local facilities up to a point. However, these should be appropriate to the village and not "over expansion", there are ample major facilities available within a short distance, in the town.

Do not want more business expansion as will make roads even more busy

Think existing retail opportunities are adequate but that the village would benefit from a cafe / coffee shop. Strongly agree that local businesses should be better promoted within the village.

Not sure, proposals are quite broad. Can only answer question when specific ideas are put forward. Such as, no nursing home or offices in middle of village!

as above but definitely need to support existing cottage industry type business along with our local pubs etc.

It might also be worth encouraging some sort of local business association, allowing local business owners to meet and exchange ideas, network, or explore opportunities for collaboration.

Retail is satisfactory with the Coop but parking there is a problem: the Coop profits from the trade but takes no responsibility for poor parking (e.g. on New Church Rd junction, or on zebra crossing)

Ensure commercial space is available for a variety of businesses not just retail. Offices and work space unit are likely to reduce out-commuting and create greater economic sustainability within the village, eg pubs may survive better with more businesses around.

I do not think that there is a lot of scope for increased retail options in this small village. We should be cautious with business expansion as it can increase traffic, noise, etc.

Again, the focus seems to be on retail/food and drink. Office or micro industry employment can also be encouraged to provide jobs for local people.

I disagree that we need a community building register. For example, we have 3 pubs. If the village can only support two then adding pubs to a register achieves only prolonged vacancy of untenable sites.

Concerned about business park expansion...where are the ""Business Parks"" exactly?

Agree about the web promotion

Agree about the register

Deeply concerned about retail development"

Ensure car parking considered

Village and community facilities: Objective

Orpen Hall is great. (more so if social club goes!) Village is well provided for with halls and meeting rooms of all sizes.

Faster broadband please

Only if it's for the good of the communities and activities - not for additional houses or business properties.

WB offers quite a good range for residents - learning sites/colleges would be good ie basic skills IT etc

Desperate need for better broadband

Could Heathlands become more involved in village matters . At present there are few links.

BT needs pushing to improve broadband infrastructure.

Film nights @ Langham great for teens - something for them to do in the local area

I dont really understand this objective.

Need high speed broadband

Not needed already sufficient

The Poors field could satisfy all football needs for the foreseeable future. Are other facilities overused? Anecdotal evidence doesn't suggest so.

The first paragraph needs amending as its intention is not clear

Village and community facilities: Issues

Broadband could definitely be better.

broadband in particular

Broadband YES! Rest of no consequence.

Are village halls at full capacity? Contradiction with statement that people do not know clubs etc.

Broadband is holding this village back. No small business can start up with 1mb! BT wholesale needs to be held to account.

Agree about the broadband, it's useless

For the many organisations that use the Orpen Hall as their venue, storage space is totally inadequate, especially for the youth club, the long established orpen players and the bowls club.

Central co-ordination - this seems over bureaucratic for a village

Broadband service is dismal. Nearer Colchester they get a far better service for the same cost.

Broadband improvement definitely a priority

Poor speeds experienced by those of us on outer limits of village boundary

Internet & mobile phone reception is very bad in village which restricts local business + communications

For a small village 4 halls are sufficient however updating might be needed.

Yes broadband service needs to be enhanced

Improving broadband service has to be a priority.

There are no problems except possibly broadband.

Improvements to broadband service is essential

The broad band does need to be improved, but we understand the difficulties rural life!

Broadband issues !! YES

Broadband service very poor

Especially Broadband - very slow

Broadband should be high priority

How and where are councillors elected. Is it by a public vote or secretly inhouse

Broadband Please

A coordinated booking system is not needed for meeting areas. Just provide contact numbers .
Broadband services definitely need to be enhanced ASAP.

Lack of adequate Broadband is a major issue in the village and is far to important to be lost as a sub section here

Consider there are enough community buildings but better broadband is important.

"Whilst telecommunication needs improving, I think there needs to be more consideration of what facilities the village will need and how this can link into the previous section re business and commerce rather than treating it separately.

I don't see any benefit in having a central booking facility."

Not sure an central coordination booking system is necessary. Better publicity and sharing information might be a better solution.

We need fibre broadband, county broadband will only support future web services to a point but home connectivity products etc will put a strain on even this service

In the last 18 months I know of 2 groups who have left the village to go to other villages. Are the village halls really near capacity? I am around in the village a lot and I see many of the halls empty during the day. Do you mean that they are busy at night? Is there any scope for the pubs to host events or to open function rooms to help ease congestion?

I agree with the objective but the wording of the statement needs tightening. Eg. We believe that while the facilities meet current needs they are unlikely to meet future needs and demands without change, enhancement or expansion.

Village and community facilities: Proposals

I am only concerned about the broadband here.

1. Enhancements to the Church - the parish have no part to play & should have no part to play in spending parishioners money on any project that helps any particular religion. 2. Broadband service should not be reliant on one service provider!!!

A better broadband service for West Bergholt is important.

ticked "larger halls, better broadband and weatherproof meet & greet"

Do not move recreation areas - a green lung to the village, not Parish Council job to improve halls. Must have fibre broadband & No. 1 priority.

Unsure as to need of "meet & greet". Broadband speeds very low and improvement should be an urgent priority. The village is not at the back of beyond!

keep sporting facilities where they are

We do not agree with the first proposal as ball game and recreational sports areas should not be reduced in size

"Ball games and recreation are part of the heart of the village - don't move them!"

Not sure children need weather proofing?

Would support subtle further expansion of the Orpen Hall"

A farmshop including cafe near Orpen Hall would be a good village asset or the White Hart could be altered for this purpose.

We could use the areas that were consolidated in the village to build houses on in the existing of the village

Support improved broadband and a meet and greet facility at Bluebells.

Broadband an essential improvement needed.

1 Central recreational facilities are paramount to keeping village community support. 2 There is no future demand if we keep the size of the village. 3 Not needed. 4 Only thing needed. 5. Most normal people have umbrellas.

As long as the poors field or area around Heathlands is not use - No expansion to scout hut. Nice trees by it. Village eel no meet and great - can you not use hall in school? Again not town centre and dont want it to effect health wear a rain coat!

1. Moving, 2. Note really needed. 3. Not really needed 4. Yes 5 Not needed

Would not like to see existing youth areas decreased

Yes but I doubt wether most of can be afforded.

Agree completely with everything except the "deadlock to expansion" bit. Don't entirely understand. Context required

Recreational and ball game facilities need to stay within the village

A larger village Hall would have to be built outside the village envelope thus allowing more residential development in the same area. Who would pay for enhancements to the church and chapel halls and scout hut. Do they want their halls enhanced?

no need for re-siting existing sport facilities

Better use existing facilities by improving them. Consolidating all sports to one area does not work. One sport ends up dominating and the others lose out. There is also conflict of using the facilities and sports pitch for football is not also good for football, hockey and cricket and other sports. It is better to have dedicated facilites for individual sports

Ring fence the Allotments which provide a popular facility in the centre of the village, thus remaining accessible to all users.

I don't know why mention of ""ball game and recreational sport areas"" is in this section, it should be in the next one.

Re covered area at Heathlands - having recently had a child there for 7 yrs I think this proposal is unrealistic. A) because it could never be large enough to accommodate everyone who waits on the Heath and B) it would be unsightly and detract from the openness of that environment. Bring a brolly, like I used to!

Where practical - we mustn't destroy the 'heart' of the village.

Moving and consolidating can only be an option if it is adjacent to the village edge and has excellent cycle and footpath links so as not to increase the use of motorised transport.

I'm not sure what is meant by moving sports areas, I wouldn't like to see the Orpen Field relocated.

Broadband access to the village is poor. I would like to see the parish council take a proactive stance to promote fibre installation. Perhaps by encouraging residents to register their interest with BT and directly lobbying BT to use the tax payers money they have been given to provide fibre access to areas where the business case may be less appealing to them.

Why not look at expanding the facilities by using some of the assets we already have - Can we not look at using the school for additional meeting space? using the school for community education and young adult support. This type of activity is working well in many London Schools where the need for meeting and support areas is far greater. Also why not approach the local businesses - The pubs have large rooms available that could be used for meetings and events and would also add some additional business to the pubs. Could arrangements be made with Westwood park for meeting rooms etc.

Broadly supportive though I could not commit to supporting these proposals without further detail on the likely site of the sports facilities and so on. I would like to have more information to make an informed decision.

I do not see the need for weatherproof "meet and greet" facilities at Bluebell and Heathlands. Much better to preserve the natural environment. There are always umbrellas ...

Agree investigating opportunities for consolidating some of the formal ball game areas to leave current ones for purely recreational individual fun. Also agree need for a larger venue for some activities but not sure the emphasis is in the right direction or linked up with other aspects of the plan. Would suggest pushing ECC and CBC to jointly fund the investment to enable County Broadband services to expand is a priority if we're not getting fibre within the next 10 years.

No need for larger village hall. Do not agree to sports area being moved. Broadband needs improving

Concerned over the wording of the first proposal it seems to imply development on existing recreational land.

do not want the existing sports fields to be moved out of the village or to the far edges. Keeping them central enhances community spirit and will encourage local participation.

Enhanced broadband for the village should be given the highest priority.

Concerned about first part of proposal : moving recreational sports facilities? What will you do with the existing ones? Build on them? Tennis, football, cricket, playing field etc must be in a central location/within walking distance if we are to encourage youngsters to use them and keep active. If they are too far away, will result in parents being reluctant to let their children go alone and increase traffic.

We need fibre broadband

Do not need weatherproof meet and greet at Bluebells - assuming you mean Hillhouse wood. Plus meet & greet at Heathlands irrelevant until parking sorted.

Need more recreational options for 14-18 year olds.

"See comments under environmental re preserving existing open space.

There must be no more hard surface at the Orpen Hall."

I'm not sure where the funding for these proposals might come from? (Especially "larger village halls" and "moving and consolidating ball game and recreational sports areas").

Is there any scope for the pubs to host events or to open function rooms to help ease congestion if the existing halls are busy? Also, please think carefully about raising hire charges to cover development as we have already lost "The Little Stars" group from the Scout Hut due to rent increases.

Current football ground is fine

Sport and recreation: Objective

Yes, as long as it is not all emphasis on football!

Not convinced that existing facilities are used to anything like capacity.

We are already well provided.

If for recreation needs only, not business plots.

There are already large areas of open space in the village.

We have orpen field, football, tennis playground. we have cricket pitch. we are satisfied therefore. There is also huge field at back of heathlands school, but this is spoilt by allowing dogs to foul the field - this is not right, they should be banned. we are a village, we have enough sports facilities. If more facilities in village-crowding.

still not sure where and for what sports

Cannot think of new land near centre that can be used for sport

Don't need new areas

Not needed. Current areas not put to full-time usage.

Yes but where? not on arable land

Not needed Orpen, Poors Field, Heath and Hillhouse not used much.

A 5 a side football pitch would be ace.

New, in ADDITION to existing facilities

Has totally ignored horse riders

Cannot see this is very important. present facilities seem adequate.

Existing is sufficient

Better to enhance current facilities and keep them central to the village

Would prefer to focus on enhancing the open spaces that already exist within the village rather than providing new spaces

As before, is the objective to provide additional areas to what we've got already or replace it?

We have huge areas already within the village envelope. Let's just concentrate on them first.

Where would you put a football ground? Village is too small to sustain.

Spelling error in paragraph. Change place to pace

Sport and recreation: Issues

Not unhappy with the existing facilities.

What future needs or growth have been identified? Anti-football bias?

Not sure how these issues have been arrived at, if planned growth is only 25 houses for example, how much future growth for sport is required?

Leave well alone. Need new burial ground.

Can see no problem with current setting of football pitch areas. People should not buy houses nearby if they object to the noise.

Two football pitches and a huge allotment space but no car parks for shoppers.

Encourage boys to play sports other than football! All the play areas have space alongside in which they can expand.

West Bergholt has one of the best teams in the area and has played at the Orpen Hall for decades, far longer than anyone who has moved within hearing distance since and must never be moved as it is central to village life.

Lots/many children go to Colchester for swimming, hockey and lots of other facilities. We do not need other recreations, as I said we are a village, let's keep it that way.

Current promotion of sporting activities for all ages is poor

The issues seem to be very anti-social.

Football is the only issue that may need expansion to be able to progress up the league. Support for the WBFC may be needed to secure use of nearby land.

Football however, location of football pitch is convenient for people to attend - would it die a death if move further out. A lot of older gentlemen just walk to it to attend.

Yes, we need more facilities. Football does dominate but small expansion people live here because it is a village not town if you want top facilities move into town.

Disagree with most of that

But costly

All bunkum EXCEPT "limited growth....." and "Lorkin-Daniell playing..... " "

Allotment area to be retained

Football on Lorkin Daniel field is only 2hrs on Saturday and possibly Sunday, if this is to become a skate park and play area nuisance levels will rise.

And where would you expel the football club to?

Football is noisy - really! I'm sure if you buy a property next to a football field you expect it to be noisy.

Do not agree with your comments/issues regarding football. Childrens play area needs complete revamp - nearby facilities (i.e. Gt Horksley) are to be aspired to.

Where can football be relocated away from residential homes? What other sports can be provided for?

again: no need for re-siting existing sport facilities

The football has been where it is for many years and gives a heart beat to the village. Marginalising it by moving to a position outside of the main village will mean even less connection with the village

Has totally ignored horse riders

Football field behind school isn't disruptive and only takes place for a limited time. Children's play areas are already adequate and can attract unsocial behaviour from older children. Maybe keep an area of the Orpen field just for general children's play. It seems tennis courts are under used so moving these and other games areas outside village wouldn't necessarily increase use and might cause anxiety for parents if their children are away from centre.

The Cricket club seems to have been left out of the equation? The Football club play in a league where many of the clubs play within the village environment and is one way of the local communities competing and meeting. Bures, St Osyth, Rowhedge, Arlesford etc all have similar setups. - Having the football teams located within the Orpen field also encourages local youth male and female to take part in sports!! The childrens play areas are packed when Bluebellls and Heathlands finish and at weekend when the football is being played at other times they are deserted there would have been a great opportunity to use some of the land sold to developers to increase the play area into the doctors house land.

I viewed the exhibition boards and read the proposals for this section and I am not sure that a skate park on the site of the present football pitch would be any the less noisy. How do we know that a skate park is wanted or will be used? I support bullets 1-5 and 7.

see above

It is lovely to have football in the village, not out in some forgotten field. As a nation we are doing less and less exercise, moving the football to make way for some notional 'other sport' is counter productive. No more play zones for children PLEASE - they are the one group catered for everywhere. Lets have space for adults, teenagers and the elderly!

Too much focus on the football pitch and not a wide enough consideration of other sports or forms of recreation.

Facilities are adequate

already have 3 good children's play areas.

Childrens play equipment, particularly at the Orpen Hall site, would benefit from modernisation and enhancement. In addition, the play area at the Orpen Hall site should be enclosed.

Agree children's play area needs updating. I can hear the football at weekends, but never been a concern. Glad to see/hear such activity.

The "skate park" is a concern as seeing these types of things elsewhere can quickly lead to misuse with graffiti, rubbish and anti-social behaviour. While teenage interests should be considered, by the time they are 13+ their interest is likely to go beyond the village and the town. Thought and specific consultation should be given to what teenager want (and should have).

Football noise is not a problem - we hear this from out garden, it's good to hear people having fun

Football's noise and space requirements are entirely in keeping with its current settings. The most popular village sport is quite rightly played centrally. New facilities would be great, but football dominates where it does because it is so popular rather than due to "chance of history".

I disagree with all the issues you raise.

Current football area is nice and central.

Sport and recreation: Proposals

I support the footpath & cycling proposals, but am not bothered about the others.

Anti-football bias. Orpen is used to train children on Sat a.m. as is Poors Field. Children's play activities is too vague. Sports field would be too far from village.

A bridleway would allow (by definition) horse riding. Do you intend to create a highway which allows pedestrians, cyclists & horse riders on the same way?

Does this mean Orpen Hall gets redeveloped for housing? Loss of village identity as people would have to travel to get to sports facilities.

Enhancing opportunities for walking and cycling would be a benefit to the village.

Gym - maybe run by outsiders, are charged on monthly basis?

I see no need for a skate park. Very expensive & not necessarily of enduring popularity.

Emphatically NO! We already have enough.

Footpaths could be better signposted, couldn't find famous Bluebell Wood. Skate park good idea, but noisy for nearby households.

With limited development is there a need for 10 acres? How is this funded? Cost = £5million

Play park near the doctors out of date/poorly manufactured and needs updating. Path needed from Pirie Road to access.

bridleways a great idea

I do not believe a village needs all these facilities. The leisure centre in Colchester is only 2 miles away.

Not sure about the skate park

Not keen on dedicated cycle routes. There are not really the room in most areas

Not keen on dedicated cycle routes. There is not really the room in most areas.

I do not think a skate park is particularly a good proposal. Observing other skate parks, these areas all seem to attract, litter, graffite and youngsters that congregate with bad intentions and anti-social behaviour

Skate parks do increase the possibility of more accidents and provisions would have to be made to be able to cope with this.

Do not think bridlepaths include cycling could be a danger to walkers.

Foot path walks should be a priority.

10 acre sports field not needed.

A skate park will give rise to noise . The issue of noise has already been mentioned regarding football.

The Council doesn't have the time or budget to maintain the current footpaths let alone new ones. Have you tried to walk down the newish footpath past the old rectory to Horsepits! Cyclists are ruining the footpaths in Bluebell Woods as it is they churn up mud.

Where would football field go. Next to Brewery site? (small scale yes to skate park) to suit village cycling improved but not concrete country paths in a green way protect wildlife

Only skate park and cycle routes.

Foot path walks should be a priority

Do not want a skate park (thank you)

Is sports pavilion essential? Equally skate park would be short lived, youngsters would still use roads on housing estates

Not to sure about the Skate Park? unless it is supervised! Going by comments from other villages

10 acre sports field not required

Essex Way promotion could be lucrative

Are there areas in or close to the village able to accommodate these proposals

retain open space if football relocated

Not adjacent to housing

Football on Lorkin Daniel field is only 2hrs on Saturday and possibly Sunday, if this is to become a skate park and play area nuisance levels will rise.

A Skate Park is not noisy then!

Yes to all proposals

We would need to know where the new sports field is proposed. What about military rally site.

again: no need for re-siting existing sport facilities

A skate park is unlikely to be used to any extent and will encourage people hanging around late at night. Moving the football away will lead to pressure from developers to build on a prime area - the ultimate infill. The only sport that seems to have been mentioned is football. What about Hockey, Cricket, Rugby, Netball and so on. The cricket club currently has over 50 youngsters but receives no support from the Parish council.

You should include not only open air sports but those done indoors under this heading. Any new building developments should incorporate plans and funding by the developers for new play areas commensurate with the numbers of potential new families.

i think the 10 acres point is unrealistic

Dwpend on what 'located close to the village'. Must be right on the edge with good footpath and cycling links.

Moving and consolidating can only be an option if it is adjacent to the village edge and has excellent cycle and footpath links so as not to increase the use of motorised transport. If the range of bridleways and cycleways throughout the village are extended then they need to be carefully planned so as not to adversely affect the 'walkability' of public footpaths.

Has totally ignored horse riders

What evidence do we have that sports pavilion would be used by clubs. Skate park might appeal to teenagers but would it encourage young people from other areas to use. This seems more appropriate for an urban area.

I particularly agree that football takes too great an emphasis in the parks. One football pitch should be more than sufficient for this village.

Depends where sports field is. its current central location does work. Move it away for the benefits of consolidation might mean it is not used.

I have lived near a large play area and it is very disruptive to a peaceful existence. At night the local youths would occupy the area to smoke, drink and generally be a nuisance.

Agree with the footpath and cycling proposals great ideas - Disagree with the skatepark proposal and disagree with trying to move the sport we have out of the village - Where is the mention of poors field and the cricket club in these proposals?

Skate park would be very welcome!

If the sports facilities were relocated - how could the children reach them by bike or foot without being at risk from traffic related accidents? I do not support the skate park proposal.

Any new sports field must be provided with a safe route to and from before commissioning for children walking and cycling to and from the "village centre".

Also to increase the number of tennis courts to three to make it viable for club and coaching opportunities, and to set up a proper maintenance regime to ensure that the courts are always of a usable standard.

Largely yes, but again lack of consideration of opportunities for provision of other organised sports (e.g. court sports both inside and out) and wider range of cycling / running "sports" e.g. speed circuit, not-quite mountain biking

Insufficient need for skate park. Sports field is central - no need to move it

I had not thought of football on the Lorkin Daniell field as an issue but I can see the logic of looking at relocation. However, this would need to be on a suitable attractive sight which would still feel part of the village. I think it is right to support the retention of our local teams. From walking past the Lorkin Daniell field on a Saturday morning their sessions for the youngsters seem very popular and worthwhile.

do not want the existing sports fields to be moved out of the village or to the far edges. Keeping them central enhances community spirit and will encourage local participation.

The current play spaces are located at accessible areas around the village. Movement and / or consolidation is likely to result in them being less accessible (which will mean users will be forced to drive to them and park - thus creating more issues). I would also be concerned that consolidation would result in a reduction of the amenities that are currently on offer.

What will happen to the Lorkin-Daniell field if the football is moved? Will it eventually be sold to developers for housing? We need to preserve this space to give our children the freedom and space and to enjoy the benefits and reason we live in a village.

I think consideration should also be given to the Colchester Sports area planned near the Community (Colchester FC) stadium which will include Rugby and Cycling and how transport links could be made to take advantage when it opens (3-5 years?)

Biggest issue is dominance of football, as suggested moving some of the larger space intensive field sports further out from the centre will allow for a much wider variation of activities within the village envelope> this could free up areas such as poors field for new family centered play areas close to the school and relatively central in the village.

No need to relocate football otherwise I agree

More footpaths, cycle ways. There are lots of other sporting activities than football. (Basketball, table tennis, etc.)

Bit worried about possible location of new sports field?

Lets keep the sports fields in the heart of our community! Health and fitness should be accessible and visible not sidelined to the outskirts of the village to make way for shops or houses! I like the idea of promoting footpaths and cycling and suggested the use of disused phone boxes to the Parish Council as hubs for this sometime ago.

Prefer money to be spent on walking and cycling options.

Community safety: Objective

Police presence is required.

Area of concern in New Church Road/Chapel Road has been put forward for years and still nothing has been done about parking restrictions. More official car parks are needed.

Police are seldom seen in the village

change to "traffic-related incident" not "accident"

We would feel safer if the very few street lights we have in the village were not turned off at midnight.

Speeding in Chapel Road and Lexden Road is atrocious. We should do more to stop this. It may be agreed idea to make Chapel road ONE WAY. Probably impossible i know....

Too many cars now park too close to junctions e.g Queens Rd and Chapel Rd and Chapel Rd Lexden Rd Yellow lines opposite the entrance to the two unmade roads of Queens rd.

The only way to stop speeding is some form of monitoring on the main roads.

Speeding has to be dealt with and reduced

Limit parking -(or double yellow lines) on entering Albany Road. With no lights cars are parked on the left on entering the road. Several near misses when a vehicle is coming towards Chapel Road

There can be no perception measure - the aim must be zero crime

Not just the chance of traffic related crime but all crime.

Traffic is not an issue here.

Community safety: Issues

Perception should be contested with facts, not pandered to with misinformation. Embrace truth, detest lies. If anti-social behaviour has been a cause for concern why has Neighbourhood Watch dwindled?

Reintroduce Neighbourhood Watch to help police and not be subservient to them

Police response times are poor. NW should be re-introduced

"Why has neighbourhood watch scheme dwindled?"

What can be done about this. Our neighbours, and us watch out for each other."

If neighbourhood watch scheme is to succeed then interaction with the police is essential.

Need dedicated police presence in village - eg P C S O

Police response unreliable

Speeding traffic along Colchester road is a problem

Introduction of 20 mph speed limits within village would help and moving 30 mph limits further out to the approach with slow signs would help to curb some speeding on Colchester Road. Perhaps more regular speed traps. Skip lorries seem to be main culprits.

I think there is an urgent need to recognise the dangers to children playing out. We as a community should actively support this social interaction. I would like to see a lower limit limit of 15mph and a village campaign to slow drivers who cut through via Chapel Road and Lexden Road and drive too fast in side roads and lanes such as Chapel Lane. Enforcement of 15 mph limits would obviate the need for walkways in Chapel Lane which should not be necessary in a quiet residential lane.

First issue is fine, the rest are driven by over-anxious people. This is a quiet and well ordered village, don't let us frighten ourselves into thinking it isn't!

Reality is more important than perception. We were burgled a few years ago, very upsetting, but in fact this is a relatively safe place to live.

Having 4 children I do NOT worry about road crossing and road safety. The traffic is not that bad. Children have to be properly educated.

Road safety is by far the most important concern and should be the first rather than the last issue.

The perception about crime and safety is not nearly as important as reality. Real crime adversely impacts on all victims; false perceptions of crime levels only impacts on those who either won't listen or who aren't told.

Badly parked cars are causing a safety issue.

Community safety: Proposals

Don't think people will keep 20mph - not realistic.

20 mph zones/speeds should be based on need & proportionality (& inability to enforce) not just an opportunity to impose & blight our roads with yet more obtrusive/dictatorial signs.

There has been an increase of cars parking too close to junctions, causing safety issues especially at Co-Op/New Church Road and Lexden Road/New Church Road.

ticked "20mph zones"

Cannot enforce speed limits!

Renewing Neighbourhood Watch would be a good idea.

I can see no point in reviving interest in NW unless police change their attitude towards it. It failed as the communication was one-way. We only found out about major incidents in the village much later - by reading about them in the local papers.

Chapel road area speed ramps before and after the road crossing outside the CO-OP

Great idea to advertise existing clubs and societies

HGVs are a major concern

Road safety is more than just speeding: road design, parking, driver behaviour, maintenance and street lighting are also important.

Make the whole village a 20mph zone

20mph zones - only where school/playgroup is + pick up areas

No 20mph again a waste of time and money and cannot be policed.

Improve street lighting on all major roads in village including pavements.

No 20 mph again a waste of time & money & cannot be policed.

Yes please

The 30mph area along Bergholt Road should be extended to include Hall Road as once people go past the 30mph out of the village they put their footdown plus signs before Hall Road for traffic coming into the village would slow traffic before reaching it.

Good ideas if achievable

Not necessary

I do not agree with 20mph.

Lower speed through village - lexton road and in lanes - ie hall road

Neighbourhood Watch important, Strongly support lower speed zones

I would rather the 30 mph enforced than a non-monitored 20 mph limit.

Introduction of 20 mph zones should be a matter of priority

No 20mph zones - unnecessary

Pelican crossing needed close to school

As stated before 20mph zones with all the extra signage are not needed.

20mph around Heathlands and Blue Bells a must

Drivers will still ignore speed limits. How to stop this?

Yes to all proposals especially the need to introduce 20mph zones and streets and neighbourhood watch schemes.

20 mph throughout village is needed

Clearer school sign on Colchester road. Speed camera on Colchester road

The proposals don't really address the issue of anti-social behaviour. Sorry at this moment I don't have time to come up with a suggestion.....perhaps it could be revisited by the team?

As a large proportion of car users are in the village, as well as a 20 mph "stick", we should surely add : "encourage all villagers to drive and park responsibly" ?

I would reiterate my earlier statements regarding the imposition of further speed restraints in the village.

The police should be more visible

See answer to Q28, lower limit of 15mph and widespread use of it throughout village backed by a proactive village campaign to cut speeds and enforcement of limit.

Neighbourhood Watch scheme is nice but not of great importance in a place like the village

Also work with the school to encourage more children to walk or cycle to school to reduce the number of cars at school and home times.

The only one I agree with is the one re vulnerable households. We do not need the nanny state managing everything in sight!

Still concerned as to the traffic around the school. Speed isn't the problem, it's impossible to go above 20mph at school times, the volume of cars is the problem. With the school's expansion more and more pupils are from surrounding areas and hence have to drive. Where will they park?

Living on Lexden Road and close to the automated Speed Sign I would be pleased if drivers adhered to 30 miles an hour and would like to see proposals for more proactive calming measure in Lexden Road, Newbridge Hill, Colchester Road (B1508) such as Speed Cameras, mini-roundabouts. Pedestrian crossings.

A zebra crossing on Colchester road for the many residence to the West of the village. This would promote more walking within the village.

No point reviving Neighbourhood Watch if it has already dwindled - same will happen again

There is so much traffic circulating in the village that 20mph zones would make little difference as it goes slowly anyway. More parking restrictions are essential so long as they could be enforced.

"No need for 20mps limits, it is not an issue. It only represent the idea of a small number of influential people in the village. The real traffic safety issue is cycling to the train station. It would need #1 attention.

Reviving the Neighbourhood Watch scheme would be extremely helpful."

Invest more in cleaning and maintaining the village. This leads to civic pride and encourages better and tidier behaviour.

We need speed bumps along Colchester Road to slow traffic!

Note do not want extra street lighting just for the record.

Communications: Objective

Local advertisement boards

Many older people do not have computers so rely on the village bulletin for their news

Website if to be improved needs proper funding. Although a streetlife.com is very useful and fills many local gaps in info.

Slow Broadband in providing difficulties - need SuperFast

What about people e.g. the elderly or not so elderly not social media savvy?

Feel that community info is already good.

Broadband provision could be in the objective, it is an essential part of today's communication infrastructure and the village provision is well below average.

Communications are already adequate.

Communications: Issues

All activities are in The Bulletin. Don't feel at all involved in decision.

We don't have street lights and don't want any, so why do we have to pay for the lights in Colchester.

If people read the Bulletin, read notice boards and took an active interest they wouldn't feel left out. It is not the responsibility of the Parish Council to knock on everyone's door and consult them.

More publicity aimed at irresponsible dog owners who fail to pick up after them. Perhaps more bins!

Local shops and chemist information boards

Village newsletter if more frequent could solve this issue.

Village mag and website gives adequate info.

These are printed in the village bulletin

A notice board in pocket park will only inform a small number of people who visit the area.

I suppose the issue could be how many of the residents wish to be involved in decisions?

(How many attend a normal Parish Council meeting?)

This cannot be changed

If people consider greater publicity is required then they could be encouraged to use the good forms of communication already in place, i.e. the website, Village News, the Bulletin, noticeboards, Parish Meetings, etc.

If you ask people in a survey if they want more information, they will invariably say yes. However, there is already substantial publicity about local activities and how to participate, with an excellent website and village bulletin, and clear means by which to get involved for those who wish. There is no need to divert limited resources to improving communications.

Broadband speed desperately needs improvement - cable would be good

Communications: Proposals

Not bothered about Truman site.

Live streaming of Parish Council meeting? www.fadetoblacktv.co.uk

ticked "Broadband delivery and use of electronic displays

The proposal should state superfast fibre Broadband delivery to the village.

An annual community event is a great idea but would require a lot of hard work and must involve every organisation taking its share of that work

Collection of paper and plastic etc should be available on Truman Flats

"Last year the gardening club ran an open garden event.

At easter there was an easter egg hunt.

A few years ago we had a village fete.

More of these are needed."

improve broadband

Increasing community participation may prove difficult

Well done Village Bulletin for keeping us informed.

Definetley need annual community event.

In the early days of living in this wonderful village we had events of annual shows including gardeners show, judging fruit, vegetables, flowers etc It was wonderful can we please bring it back?

Outline consultation response would be helpful.

Broadband badly needs improving.

There used to be a village show - baking, flower, allotment competitions, stalls, music children's entertainment.

WB open gardens was a great event.

The Jubilee Year when Village Fet was held at Orpen Hall fields felt so much more like a whole-community event than just having it at the School.

Also Open Gardens last year gave a great sense of community.

Community event - Yes

Village fair - find that heathlands controls this in my village .

As a kit it was the traditional fair, home grown veg, crafts, everyone ran it.

Notice board in pocket park would be vandalised - now a hang out for youngsters at night.

Broadband quality absolutely needs investment

Upgrade broadband speed

We do not need more affiliated groups to support the council. This would encourage too many vested interests to influence decisions

What about those who do not use the internet You must listen to and act to villagers comments.

Also involve existing village networks in communicating - the pubs, WI, PTA, Church groups (Thurs morning coffee, prayer groups, etc) sports teams, knitting group, there are loads of willing groups of people that you can tap into.

Also use other forms of social media like Instagram, LinkedIn and various social media used mainly by the younger members of the village. Don't forget those without IT facilities or knowledge, but also provide maybe free wifi at the Orpen Hall or elsewhere where villagers gather for those who use the Internet on the go.

simply that a notice board in the Truman should also lead to one at the Poors Field, at the White Hart, at the Duck Pond near the Queens ...

Continue to support the Village Bulletin

The village needs to enhance and update its online presence as this is now for many the first point of presence.

In particular I found links for this online form and the other material very difficult to find. Much of the website is also out of date.

we have an annual community event in November,

Again Broadband far too important to leave in subsections

Yes however strongly prefer wording for broadband to include 'high speed fibre optic' as the village does have broadband now, but the bandwidth is poor and most people get 1mb or less with BT. HOwever there are other options but these need promoting and pressure on the Government to prioritise WB in the next round.

Driving poeple to the village website and facebook pages and social media will be key moving forward but older generations need to be kept inform by more traditional methods.

Annual community event involving everyone is not achievable - we have different interests

Greater emphasis of broadband provision

The village needs affordable fiberoptic broadband. We are discriminated by BT how they develop the service.

More community event to bring villagers and neighbours together.

Appendix C 2016 Residents Survey Comments

General Village & Community

It will be important to identify what are the community buildings of value. It makes sense to develop the village hall complex, but please make sure that activities are monitored & controlled.

All community buildings are well used and there are few vacant spots. We should keep existing halls in good order before building new. It would be a good idea to bring back the welcome pack for new comers to the village perhaps if they were kept in one place and people could ask them when they have new neighbours to give them to.

Important to integrate new villagers particularly if more housing is occurring.

Clubs need to be supported but cost needs to be manageable for them.

A real need to keep the community together and compact, avoid spread and focus on the mix to allow affordable housing.

Village has enough halls and venues. Shut social club to make better resource for young/older people.

It is important to explain/understand what value means in the phrase 'existing community buildings of value will be retained'. The term 'value' is viewed differently by different parties, e.g. cost of maintaining, social, historic, asset opportunity if sold etc.

No need for new community centre. Develop the Orpen Hall Centre. Take over the social club area because there are plenty of pubs already. Open the toilet facilities.

To make more use of the tennis courts the village hall complex could provide access to toilet facilities and refreshments plus offering on-site booking. This would also benefit families using the playground.

New developed play area ia a good idea if design is in keeping with village and environment ie like the new play areas at eight ash green and castle park. (All in natural wood). The play area eg given on the plan looked vile in tacky bright colours which is not necessary also it would need more maintenance.

The community of West Bergholt needs a centre point and community focus.

St Mary's Church produced and distributed a Welcome Pack to new residents. A member of the Parish Council suggested that this could be done by the Parish Council and has the paperwork.

More detail is needed on what is meant by 'development' in relation to the village hall in order for me to support it.

I think it would be a good idea to promote village clubs and societies more. Some are good at sharing what they do and seem welcoming to encourage new members, but others are not so good at promoting themselves.

New sports area with proper facilities, available to all members of the community would be great

The existing village hall, clubs and societies work well in a village environment, however, will cease to survive, in their present state should the number of residents in the village increase substantially.

Some improvements only to village hall.

It is also important to engage with existing businesses and developers in the area. Please see the letter sent by Nicky Parsons of Pegasus Group for a detailed response to this section.

The Environment

Some of the mature native trees have lacked proper arboricultural management - they all have TPO's and people cannot touch from without permission - this needs to be addressed.

Having an interest in wildlife I am upset about the amount of hedges that have been pulled out to make way for fences. If not good for wildlife then not good for us.

Totally support all the policy statements and they represent a true desire to retain a "village identity" for West Bergholt

more control on litter, dog fouling and bad parking.

Dog fouling is a real issue in WB. More needs to be done. It is always the same offenders.

Whilst in principle all these statements are excellent and worthy of support the 2nd and 5th statements need reality checks, does the WBNP have the power to create special areas and protect them and building, these are areas that may be easily challenged by any developer and it would be more than disappointing if after such 'promises' we had no ability to enforce such policies.

"No need for more open spaces.

Old church needs financial support from the parish council.

Control littering and dog fouling"

Protecting existing environment is supported as long as its not 'over managed' like the bluebell wood. Over management and stripping of brambles recently has been discussed by many local and older residents with me. Thicket removal and large scale undergrowth removal has resulted in deer moving away and nightingales moving. Also over removal of undergrowth has resulted in dogs being able to run uncontrolled . Fewer paths and more undergrowth like a natural wood would add to the biodiversity and less like a theme park. Plus dogs would have to keep to paths more.

Any development must have open spaces and create an open environment, not as many homes in the space as allowed through planning laws

I am concerned that too much advertising of our historic and significant spaces will create too much interest and increased footfall in places like Hillhouse woods that will have a negative impact on the area. I hope there is a sensible approach and all of these things are considered before going ahead

Existing areas of POS need to be managed for their landscape quality as well as to benefit use and enjoyment which can often destroy character (eg. the floodlighting of the MUGA. The term Special Landscape Area is a defunct term. You need to base policies on landscape character assessment not quality. I would suggest an holistic Landscape Management Plan is more appropriate to guide creation and management of greenspace rather than a single interest Biodiversity Action Plan.

"generally support protection of trees unless problematic e.g. outgrown their situation, causing damage to foundations, disease and danger of falling branches.

There is a need to maintain balance between young and mature trees"

"I believe that there should be a rider with regard to removal of trees.

We need a balance between young trees and mature trees.

In general I would be against removing trees unless they are problematic e.g. outgrowing their site, damage to foundations, disease and danger of falling branches."

Maintaining the verges to keep streets looking good should be encouraged, some areas have a lot of parked cars which have worn away the grass and look less attractive.

Designation of special landscaped area to south east of village is important to protect wildlife such as lizards, newts, snakes etc and to prevent encroachment towards Colchester and also in light of preferred site in braiswick

I declare an interest! I live in Old Church Lane. I suggest that the Area of Special Landscape be extended to encompass private woodland - Stitching Wood and Aldercar. These are both home to wildlife including tawny owls, foxes, badgers, deer, songbirds (including nightingales) and buzzards which I have either seen or heard regularly in this vicinity. Two of these fields are ancient archery fields named as Great Botts and Little Botts on maps of the period, and so are of historical interest. Also explicitly preserve open countryside on both sides of Old Church Lane where it becomes a footpath, (ie to its south west and north east;) along its entire length, across the fields to the B1508 Colchester Road. Make clear that Old Church Lane is a public footpath (it is shown as such on the definitive map, although judging from signs erected by the farmer, he is not aware) via provision of a public footpath sign. Adopting these suggestions would support the commitment to improve access to rural areas (rural areas must be preserved in the first place!) by (literally) signposting this public footpath. Enhancing this public right of way (another commitment) could be achieved by extending this path to the west at the point where it turns 90 degrees to the east, to run along existing field edges, then alongside the north side of Stitching Wood to meet the existing path near Hillhouse Wood. I accept that this would require negotiation with the farmer and some legal work.

It is important to maintain the rural aspects of the village, together with trees and hedgerows, which sustain and improves the conditions for wildlife to flourish. More housing developments in this small village would damage this.

I don't understand how you can control littering and dog fouling, without a solid proposal on how to do this. Absolute proof and then genuine sanctions (fines) are needed. Dog fouling seems to be a particular problem here in this village as there are so very many dogs. Could we have a dog DNA

database as many local councils are starting to, with dog owners having to register and pay a small fee? With fines for those who are discovered to have left their dog mess on our streets...

Please see the letter sent by Nicky Parsons of Pegasus Group for a detailed response to this section.

How would littering and dog fouling be controlled?

The amount of dog fouling is unacceptable in the village.

Planning and Housing

We do not need affordable homes. We have enough 4 bedroom large houses that young people cannot afford. We need a good mix of residents to maintain a viable village.

Good response

120 houses mean c 400 more people using the public infrastructure and on Chapel Road and the shop

"A mix of 2 - 4 bedroom houses with deliberate room for personalisation of properties over the years. Not a singular style of house.

Must have reasonable sized gardens relevant to rural village setting rather than inner city.

Multiple developers rather than national single developers who will call the shots - especially with S106 funding

Future proofed housing for energy on all houses regardless of No of bedrooms. Solar electric car points, water retention etc"

Perfect mix of property with no further expansion permitted. Maybe part of the Section 106 could be a new cricket pavilion

"1. I DO NOT UNDERSTAND THE EXCUSION OF 4 BEDS PLUS - SO AS TO KEEP A MIX OF VALUES

2. WHY THE NEED TO BE CONTEMPORARY?"

village does not need social housing. These lead to social issues in the village.

IF SMALLER AREAS HOUSES FOR SINGLE PEOPLE AS IN CHAPEL ROAD ARE A GOOD IDEA AND WE SHOULD SEE MORE OF THEM TO KEEP BALANCE OF AGES

"Contemporary - 'that which is current and of the time' - 'part of a fad or trend'. Contemporary in the 1960's translated into concrete office and tower blocks. Of their time, but desirable? I believe there should be a policy that relates to high quality design that results (combined with the use of quality materials) in development that enhances the village environment.

After all, if you wish to form a courtyard of small dwellings, a modern, quality, design that nods towards 19th century Alms Houses may be acceptable.

High insulation standards will be covered by the mandatory Building Regulation standards. "

I disagree with building that many houses along Colchester Road as it spoils the views and the road cannot cope with the extra traffic. Especially so close to the school.

Again, whilst well meant many of these statements are probably undefendable and therefore of questionable value. It seems unreasonable to use comments at this stage in the process which will gain support and yet be undeliverable. e.g. The 4th which seeks to stop 'changes' to dwellings built in the expanded envelope; such rights are embedded in national statute and I doubt a Neighbourhood Plan can override such legislation. We need to show we are promising what we can deliver!

"Traditional style housing preferable.

Small bungalows and sheltered housing required."

Concerns about the infrastructure regarding the roads from here to Colchester are already a nightmare trying to get into Colchester at 0830 in the morning, with the growth areas in Mill End the bottleneck at the station will be terrible.

Priorities for properties suitable for down-sizing for older residents and possibly warden-controlled apartments like Balkerne Gardens with individual flats should be a priority so older residents can remain in the village but also free up family-sized homes.

'Contemporary design - what does this mean? Are all new dwellings to be glass and steel constructions, which is what is often meant by 'contemporary'. New dwellings should be in a variety of styles, to maintain the variety already in the village.

The requirement for 1,2,3 bedroom housing does not necessarily satisfy the requirements of the village, should the developers not be encouraged to provide accommodation for more mature residents therefore freeing up existing housing. Where do existing residents move to when they want to reduce the size of their house within the village? 1,2,3 bedroom properties will be used as buy to let and result in a transient residential accommodation losing the community feel of the village.

There needs to be some element to ensure the right housing is built in the right place to reflect the preferences and needs of those residents. Also, there is no mention of protection of the current village landscape to ensure in-filling and redevelopment do not substantially alter the current environment.

Would support the setting-up of a Community Land Trust to provide genuinely affordable housing and to ensure the Neighbourhood Plan is delivered as envisaged.

It is imperative that the village envelope does not extend in any direction past the White Hart pub out towards Fordham and Wormingford. There are so many places of historical and natural interest there.

Think the 10m buffer is an excellent idea.

Why limit new development to 3 bedroom units? High performance units do not have to be contemporary design?

The location of the proposed new development is unclear. Several sites have been put forward to the north/northwest of the village, yet the policies appear to treat them 'as one'. The site north of the White Hart Inn is suitable for a small development of up to 10 dwellings and is entirely distinct to the land west of Nayland Road. The site would be a logical location to provide a modest contribution towards meeting the village's housing targets in a manner which is sensitive to the character of the area. The site is largely enclosed by development to the south, east and north and as such should be considered suitable for an allocation.

New properties should compliment those that already exist.

I think it is wrong to limit ALL new housing to a maximum of 3 bedrooms. At least 90% (say) being limited to 1, 2 or 3 bedroomed dwellings would be better.

All new properties should be built 'fit for purpose' e.g. a bedroom should be large enough to contain a bed plus room to move around it on at least two sides / walls should be strong enough to attach items to them. This is not always the current practice with some new builds.

I strongly disagree in any new houses being built along Colchester Road. The village feel should be retained and houses along that road should keep their rural feel. The land by the Brewery would have much less impact and the houses opposite are fewer and also many already have high hedges so their view would not be altered.

All new properties should have their own parking and garages on their property not allocated parking in a communal car park. No elderly or parents should have to decide to either leave their shopping or child in the car park or in the house out of sight whilst they unload..

"If development along the north east side of Colchester Road is to be considered the following needs to be taken into account :

1. In addition to the 10 metre buffer zone small set backs of green space with planting and trees should be included to avoid a long regimented frontage (similar to the development at the former McNally`s yard site)
2. The existing hedge should be retained and the landscaping enhanced using indigenous species .
3. A sense of openness should be retained after passing Garthwood Close (when heading towards Bures)
4. A combination of contemporary ` traditional` and contemporary ` modern` design for new buildings should be considered, as both are appropriate to suit the site and location, as evidenced elsewhere in the village ."

The display included sheltered housing. This should be included as the Mumford Close flats were demolished. Many elderly people want to remain within the village when they can no longer support themselves.

"I very much doubt under current planning legislation that you can prevent new owners of 1,2 and 3 bedroom homes from extending them if they wish unless you remove permitted development rights.

Whilst I support the concept of a 10m planted buffer between Colchester Road and any development to the north and east I also doubt the village and district's ability under current planning legislation to enforce such a buffer unless the developer is extremely benign! Same comment as overleaf regarding Special Landscape Areas - these have not been the supported policy approach to conserving landscape by the government, Natural England or the Landscape profession, for over 20 years (I should know - I am on the Council of the Landscape Institute). "

What is meant by the term 'contemporary'?

I oppose the plan of building houses on Colchester Road, but if they are built I would suggest at least a 20m landscape buffer. Please consider the impact of more traffic on what is already a very busy road in peak times, also on Bergholt Road and North station. There would need to be provision for builders' vehicles during building work - there is no space for vehicles to park on the road.

What is meant by 'contemporary in design'?

less than 120 homes no more than 100

"Re Colchester Rd development. I have strongly opposed this statement as it is my belief, that the act of building a property(s), regardless of buffer depth, will have a detrimental effect on the semi-rural feel. The act of developing this land will destroy the rurality.

Re. Building houses with a contemporary design. Please refer to numerous examples of 1960's contemporary architecture throughout the country. A Contemporary design is subjective and has potential to look outdated in the future. Design must be sensitive to both past and future tendencies in housing design so as to never look out of place, regardless of era."

Additional housing should be fully supported by improved speed safety measures in the village, as additional housing will inevitably mean more traffic cutting through the village to avoid traffic congestion in Colchester.

Although not an architect, I tend to regard "contemporary" designs as buildings designed for nowhere being erected everywhere. It is far more important that new properties fit in with those already there, than they be "contemporary in design"

No new flats but a supply of 2 bedded bungalows for people who wish to downsize.

I believe if there has to be a development site, this should be on the periphery of the village rather than in Colchester Road. This road is heavily used by through traffic and would suggest that this site should be used as extension of the school sports field to accommodate various sporting activities, football, rugby, etc. This would make sense next to the existing cricket club. The facilities could be used for all users.

I wholeheartedly object to any planning or construction of new houses along the north east area of Colchester Road opposite Poor's field and the Treble Tile. There are several better sites in the village that new houses can be built where the impact on existing properties would be negligible.

There has been too much new building in Colchester, and West Bergholt is already a very large village. There must be limits to the amount of new building permitted.

If 120 houses are necessary they should be dispersed around the boundary of the village envelope and within the village in smaller bundles, so that one group of existing householders aren't adversely affected by the building of a large housing estate in one area.

Adequate road width required to allow street parking

Please see the letter sent by Nicky Parsons of Pegasus Group for a detailed response to this section.

'Contemporary' - doesn't sound right.

I feel the development of Colchester road is a bad idea with the present traffic on this road which this development will increase, together with ruining the open aspect we have when you walk up this road at present.

Transport

Bus times are not always reliable. A mini bus would be helpful.

People ignore speed restrictions. School parking an issue. More monitoring needed

Parking at the Co-Op is bad and inadequate. Taking a square of the allotments should be considered for parking

Street parking at various locations becoming a problem with cars blocking footpaths. When the CO-OP was rebuilt I believe it was the intention to increase the car park by removing the house next door. If this was included in the approved planning application it should be enforced.

enforcement required .

People must use the bus service to ensure its survival

Not sure what the parking controls will entail and the traffic direction.

The village needs to be better equipped for push chairs and wheel chairs. Including the walks on the outside of the village.

"These excellent draft policies so long as they are deliverable. E.g. Do we have the authority to maintain roads and pavements to a high standard, especially in an era of serious cuts to highway budgets?

We must promise what we can deliver."

"a)al desirable but how will schemes be policed?"

Pavements poor partly by cars parking on them.

45% of pupils at the school came from out of the village. School has doubled in size"

The suggestion of electronic information at bus stops totally unnecessary. Buses come every half hour. Some times they're late, thats life! We don't need to be told they're late! This is unjustifiable expense and street clutter, and then also additional future maintenance expense. Crazy.! A lot of people choose to live in a village to get away from the increased mechanisation, surveillance and constant communication fired at us from all directions. If you're that worried about buses impending arrival and departure you should live in a town.

Parking controlled - this needs to be enforced otherwise motorists will continue to dominate the village as they do at the moment.

In theory great,in reality how do you police this, most homes have two cars, who in the village actually can cycle/ walk to work?

Something needs to be done about the number of speeding trucks and lorries that come through the main roads of the village

Pavements currently substandard and any improvement after fibre broadband installed would be appreciated.

Safer cycling routes in village and surrounding area

It would be helpful to have a small concrete pathway across the grass from the bus stop opposite the Orpen Hall. In winter especially it can be slippery and dangerous and crossing the road twice to reach a safe footing is difficult for some less mobile people.

School Lane one way.

All speed restrictions to be enforced

More speed controlling options need to be introduced to the village. West Bergholt is used as a cut through to join the A12 at Eight Ash Green, avoiding the awful traffic congestion in Colchester. Additional housing near or in West Bergholt will simply increase traffic

If cycle lanes are to be provided cyclist should have their own dedicated lanes and should not share paths with pedestrians as this is dangerous.

I feel the parish is already well served by buses. They just need to turn up consistently!

New parking facilities urgently required in Mumford Rd especially opposite the chapel. Grassed areas could be utilized. Yellow lines required to allow access.

Define main roads. Will it be sent to Chapel Road? Priority Parking for residents?

Parking and improvements for cycling and walking are two separate issues

Please see the letter sent by Nicky Parsons of Pegasus Group for a detailed response to this section.

Whilst the 'Care Network' is very good, the provision of minibus services to various locations (hospital, major supermarkets etc) would be of benefit where public transport doesn't exist or is not helpful.

Business and Commerce

Small business would add to the village. Perhaps a cafe or tea shop providing local employment

Keep green areas and open spaces

Definition of Business Park needs some clarity.

Support and encourage local shops. Maintain the Post Office and Pharmacy within the village.

WB's proximity to Colchester, A12 & Mainline means that the provision of employment directly in WB is not a major issue. The policies have it covered.

if there is no alternating use I would encourage conversion

"From recent information received it would appear that 'Scarletts' meets the definition of an existing West Bergholt Parish business park. I think this should be investigated and included if appropriate.

There may be situations where B8 Use is also appropriate (no access issues)."

We need a nice tearoom/cafe!

"I have real concerns about this section.

A. It seems to give the wrong message if the first draft policy says 'no new business parks'. Regardless of the wording (park, premises etc) we should be encouraging business not opposing it

B. The second draft policy is not positive, suggesting expansion should be limited and appropriate

C. WB Has lost significant numbers of jobs over the recent years, especially where developers have succeeded in changing uses of employment sites to residential. It is arguable we are now a full on commuter village and therefore highly unsustainable in terms of providing local employment and reducing travel to work miles. There are proven social and community benefits of working close to home.

D. Developers only build properties for employment purposes in rare circumstances and not in villages or non-business park environments. It is easy and profitable to build and sell houses, it is very difficult to build jobs.

Before setting out to resist business the Plan should reflect on the opportunity that may be created if we set out to encourage jobs; it may unlikely that many jobs will come but at least we have not shut the door on them."

Each should be considered on its merit. New business parks create jobs. Redundant commercial premises could be used for housing for local people.

The expansion of businesses within the village should be considered, where appropriate. If West Bergholt is to be a viable, sustainable community, employment within the village must be allowed to grow with the village population.

I think there is a strong argument for small farm scale business units in appropriate rural locations

Supports limited number of new business parks outside the village.

Please see the letter sent by Nicky Parsons of Pegasus Group for a detailed response to this section.

Sport and Recreation

Maybe a small garden area with seats where the elderly can sit and enjoy others company

Leave Poors field alone

Areas dominated by football but do other sports wish to use the facilities? I am happy to help plan for a new sports facility

More help should be given to West Bergholt Football Club to extend playing facilities.

"Important to consider rules of sports as football and rugby with regard to youth sports (pitch and goal sizes

Potential for more minority sports such as basketball and skateboarding particularly for older children

Important the school has full access to poors field to safeguard the education of children in the village

The potential for public fitness for use by people of all ages."

"too old for sport so do not care!!!

Noisy football club with bad language prejudices me against sport!"

Consolidation of sports activities is fully supported if such actions result in improved associated facilities.

Not sure about this. What sports spaces we have need to be protected.

A third tennis court would encourage use by coaches and perhaps lead to the formation of a village club.

We have a great football club we should support them in finding new improved premises. (I am not involved and have no footballing children) but know they add a lot to community life in the village and have been held up progressing in their league because of their facilities.

All sports facilities must be open to all residents

In order to be of maximum utility, the tennis courts need to be expanded so that there are at least three in number. This would allow, for example, their use in competitive leagues.

Any development on land near the White Hart pub would bring increased traffic and increase the danger along a very dangerous stretch of road and it would be expanding the envelope of the village. I would be very opposed to any such plans

Lorkin Daniell playing field should be kept as a green space even if the football pitch moves away, it's a central green space for a lot of residents.

This is all very mealy mouthed. The term 'consolidation' of activities raises the prospect of more buildings, hard surfacing, lighting and parking probably at the expense of open greenspace, trees (such as cherry trees!) and quiet enjoyment for those of us who don't play vigorous sport.

Remember the heath which is no longer used for recreation

Expand youth football, better facilities such as a clubhouse. more area for pitches

Ensure that all existing facilities are appropriately used before going to the expense and trouble of developing new areas. The proposed new development in Hall Road merits careful consideration. Being a resident there (and please note my interest, or is it local knowledge!?) I would observe that those accessing any new facility would have to do so along a narrow, unlit country lane without pavements, which is presently subject to a 60mph speed limit. I would oppose any proposal to urbanise this area by making such provisions, although a sensible speed limit would be nice. Should any new development require the provision of mains water, then please note that the mains pressure is barely adequate as things are now. Fully agree with a comment that football is presently disproportionately represented on the existing sports areas. Rugby? Cricket? Netball? Athletics?

Opposes consolidation IF existing areas are used for housing

Consolidation must not mean reduction of facilities. There must continue to be a good range for all age ranges and activities.

Community Safety

I feel safe here except for the few who speed

"20mph speed limit needed in Chapel Road and NCR.

30mph limit is abused in Bures Road "

Speed down Lexden Road is a particular bugbear

More traffic calming measures. Careful junction construction for new developments, not like the widening at the Brewery site which has lead to increased speeding within the 30 limit. Passive radar speed signs seem to work.

Policies cover what's needed

Need our own police force!

We need more yellow lines in the village near junctions and on bends to stop foolish parking.

Residents need information on how to report issues

chapel road is already a major problem with parked traffic on both sides of the road these are issues that have been going on for considerable time and to my knowledge nothing has been done to sort it out, double lines in new church road(chapel road) no parking by the school are being abused by motorists

Colchester Road at the junction of Nayland Road near the White Hart is extremely busy with vehicles and with pedestrians returning from the pub and cyclists enjoying their ride. Some vehicles speed here preparing for the area where the national speed limit begins. Due to some drivers not adhering to the 30 mile zone I see this junction as being extremely dangerous. Could the 30 mile zone be extended further along the road away from the busy junction?

Fixing the flashing sign on Lexden Road would be a start, as would bringing in measures to discourage inconsiderate parking around road junctions such as opposite Donard Drive, and at either end of New Church Road plus taking steps against vehicles parked on pavements.

co-op corner a disaster. parking very dangerous.

Street lights. If we had some it would help address the above issues. It is ridiculous that in the 21st Century of high technology etc, we have to go out with a torch, in order not to fall over the uneven pavements or walk in the dog mess. Added to that it would help with the fear of crime.

Something needs to be done about vehicles speeding in to and out of the village on Colchester road, at the Wormingford end, so many junctions there and people are still doing 50-60 mph

Council should encourage police to do their job and undertake regular speed checks on Lexden Road & Colchester Road especially at 'commuter' times, if people think that it's a road regularly checked by POLICE then they will reduce their speed accordingly - it worked in Eight Ash Green in the dip by the Cricketers

Speedwatch locations could be more varied in terms of location and time. Every morning at 6am Colchester Skip lorries speed into the village from Bures direction with no regard for anyone who walking, jogging or delivering papers.

Road safety concerning the stretch of road between 30 mile speed limit between Braiswick and West Bergholt. The current situation creates considerable danger from excessive speeding by cars, double decker buses, skip lorries and motor cyclists. Colchester Rd has residential housing to one side and the side road Old Colchester Rd

Road Safety - a need to pressurise the County Council to extend the 30 mph speed limit from Braiswick over the bridge as the current situation creates considerable danger with excessive speeding from cars, double decker buses and skip lorries. This stretch of road has residential housing to one side and a side road - the Old Colchester Rd.

Comment has been made about lack of police visibility. As one of their number (I'm in The Met) I would ask how welcome we make them? Police recently enforcing speed limits was recently discussed on the village FB forum, with some appearing a little affronted by an officer enforcing the law! Yet, elsewhere in the NP, we propose speed limits. I suggest an invitation is extended to our local officer, and perhaps their supervisor too, to attend public meetings, and make him/her/them very welcome when they turn up. Also, encourage them to develop "tea holes" in residents' houses to meet individuals over a cup of tea to discuss matters of interest for residents to feed back to communities and officer to feed back to The Force. Obviously this involves reciprocity - Individuals would need to accept a uniformed officer into their homes too. Naturally, I would! It's a bit like neighbourhood watch, but much less formal, can be done ad hoc (I did it all the time) and would provide police presence, at least as the officer comes and goes.

Please see the letter sent by Nicky Parsons of Pegasus Group for a detailed response to this section.

Road safety issues around Heathlands School must include upper end of Lexden Road.

Communications

Important to keep printed information as not all have computer access

Broadband

Text notification systems to advise of issues within the village such as unwanted cold calling scams.

Essential that this needs to be improved and this is already happening.

Village facebook group does most of this already

The village website could be improved. Finding this questionnaire was tricky! It's not easy to navigate.

many people cannot afford or are unable to access the internet.

Traditional methods of communication include everyone so it is important not to overlook these and concentrate on the web when suggesting improvements; a sign on the noticeboard or a leaflet through the letterbox will reach all villagers.

would be good to have a for sale area on village website for those who dont have access to Facebook, twitter etc.

Communication is the key to developing the community feel of a village

The provision of opportunities for residents to discuss major proposals at specific workshops / forums (such as those organised during the plan drafting) outside of the regular meetings should be encouraged and continued.

Not convinced the solution to communication problems is to set up another committee!

Consdieration should be given as to how to communicate on a regular basis with people who don't use the internet (and consequently this website).

Improvement of broadband is important

No one under 65 reads notice boards.

The village Facebook page is already useful, if a little disorganised. However, that is the nature of the beast, and is part of its charm. The 'admins' get a 10/10 score from me for their work on it anyway.

Pressure should be applied to the BT to supply fast efficient broadband to the whole village rather than supplemented by private suppliers.

"BT must be pressurised to provide fibre into the village. They are subsidised to do this. A monopoly situation must be avoided.

Broadband must be superfast and there must be a choice of provider."

not all people use the website. Noticeboards are few and far between. Written and verbal communication is needed

Policies to manage new development

Thanks to the PC and others for producing and presenting the NP to residents

20mph speed limit for the whole village

ALL RESIDENTIAL STREETS SHOULD BE 20 MPH LIMIT, NOT JUST NEW ONES

Any new development will be to the detriment of those who already live here

Village would benefit from 3G pitch area and floodlights for evening use.

Where a developer states that they will provide additional resources for the village these must be in place prior to the commencement of any new construction.

The policies cover is all, but we need to see: speed restrictions, cycling provision and combined, high quality sports facilities.

Developers must enhance community resources

"The Broadband policy will be covered by Part R of the Building Regulations in most situations.

Regarding storage of buggies etc - any consideration regarding possible 'wheelie bins'?"

Many of these draft policies are not within the Plan's authority to control. Developers could appeal against or ignore many of these and we would have limited ability to do anything. Again it is important we promise what we can deliver.

No need for new clubhouse or sports facilities as we cannot afford them.

Consider existing sports areas for consolidation. Cricket ground and club is not currently used all year round, has ease of access from main road.

"3 above- who is to determine 'quality of life' etc? It becomes a matter of opinion.

8 above - the whole village should be 20mph, especially area of Lexden Road around the Scout Hut, end of New Church Road and Orpen Hall entrance/exit. It's only a matter of time before a child is killed."

Developments should be designed with the community in mind and appropriate facilities

There are now very few grave spaces in the churchyard. If the Parish Council does not provide a further burial site, all burials will have to be at Colchester Cemetery (except for Methodists)

I am not in favour of implementing standards for new dwellings which do not also apply to existing restrictive parking for new developments will just move the problem onto someone else's doorstep. BT will not be encouraged either to operate their infrastructure further south than the treble tile

As this is the last feedback box may I say "Very well done on your work on this project!"

"New developments should not be flats and therefore won't need secure storage as they will have their own garages/sheds.

20mph limit should only apply to cul de sacs and not roads for through traffic."

It is my understanding that the improvements in the village, highways, sports, renovation of buildings, etc. will be as a result of the 'Infrastructure Levy' paid by the Developer. It is my concern that a development will be to the detriment of the village. The general infrastructure of the village would not cope with the amount of people and children, i.e. Heathlands School not being able to cope with an additional intake, Doctors surgery unable to cope, no appointments available for those who are ill. There are other development sites on the periphery of the village which would be more suitable, where access to other schools would be nearer.

"PUBLIC OPEN SPACES WITHIN THEIR CURTILAGES" THIS CAN NOT INCLUDE EXISTING COMMUNITY RECREATIONAL AREAS.

Use Plain English 'curtilages'?

Broadband must be superfast and there must be a choice of provider.