



The **ANNUAL** meeting of **HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL** will be held in the **BURGESS HALL, WESTWOOD ROAD, ST IVES, CAMBRIDGESHIRE, PE27 6WU** on **WEDNESDAY, 19 MAY 2021** at **6:00 PM** and you are requested to attend for the transaction of the following business:-

AGENDA

APOLOGIES

1. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

To elect a Chairman of the Council for the ensuing Municipal Year.

2. MINUTES (Pages 5 - 18)

To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting held on 24th February 2021.

3. MEMBERS' INTERESTS

To receive from Members declarations as to disclosable pecuniary or non-statutory disclosable interests in relation to any Agenda item. See Notes below.

4. APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

To appoint a Vice-Chairman of the Council for the ensuing Municipal Year.

5. LOCAL ELECTIONS - 6 MAY 2021 (Pages 19 - 22)

To receive a report by the Returning Officer on the persons elected to the Office of the District Councillor for the Huntingdon North, St Ives East, St Ives South and Warboys Ward.

6. FORMER CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL - COUNCILLOR JOHN WINSTON DAVIES

An opportunity for Group Leaders and other Members of the Council to pay tributes to the former Chairman of the Council, Councillor J W Davies who sadly passed away on 19th March 2021.

At the conclusion of this item there will be a Minutes silence in Councillor Davies' memory.

7. APPOINTMENT OF CABINET AND CABINET ASSISTANTS

The Executive Leader to announce the names of –

- a) a maximum of nine Councillors who shall be Members of the Cabinet, including the name of the Deputy Executive Leader and
- b) his proposals for Cabinet Assistants for the forthcoming Municipal Year.

8. REPRESENTATION OF POLITICAL GROUPS ON DISTRICT COUNCIL COMMITTEES AND PANELS (Pages 23 - 30)

To consider a report by the Elections and Democratic Services Manager on the representation of political groups on Committees and Panels, etc in accordance with Section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and the District Council's Constitution.

9. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANELS

To appoint to:

Overview and Scrutiny Panel (Performance and Growth)	12 Members
Overview and Scrutiny Panel (Customers and Partnerships)	12 Members

10. COMMITTEES

To appoint to:-

Development Management Committee	16 Members (to include 1 Member of the Cabinet)
Corporate Governance Committee	12 Members.
Licensing Committee	12 Members (to include 1 Member of the Cabinet).
Licensing & Protection Committee	12 Members (to include 1 Member of the Cabinet).

Employment Committee	8 Members (to include 1 Member of the Cabinet).
Senior Officers Committee	5 Members (4 Members of the Council and the relevant Executive Councillor in relation to the post to be filled).
Appeals Sub-Group	15 Members (a pool of Members from which the Elections and Democratic Services Manager is authorised to convene a meeting of the Appeals Sub Committee comprising up to 5 members [excluding Members of the Employment Committee and the Senior Officers Committee to determine appeals under the Council's disciplinary and appeals procedure).

11. CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND PETERBOROUGH COMBINED AUTHORITY - MEMBERSHIP AND OTHER APPOINTMENTS (Pages 31 - 38)

To consider a report detailing appointments to the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority for the 2021/22 Municipal Year.

12. BURY NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN (Pages 39 - 112)

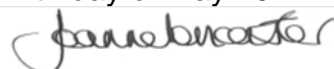
Following the Bury Village Neighbourhood Plan Referendum held on Thursday 6th May 2021 to consider a report from the Service Manager Growth, seeking approval to make the Bury Neighbourhood Plan to enable it to become part of the Statutory Development Plan for Huntingdonshire.

13. BUCKDEN NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN (Pages 113 - 224)

Following the Buckden Neighbourhood Development Plan Referendum held on Thursday 6th May 2021 to consider a report from the Service Manager Growth, seeking approval to make the Buckden Neighbourhood Plan to enable it to become part of the Statutory Development Plan for Huntingdonshire.

FOR INFORMATION (Pages 225 - 230)

11th day of May 2021



Head of Paid Service

Disclosable Pecuniary Interests and Non-Statutory Disclosable Interests

Further information on [Disclosable Pecuniary Interests and Non - Statutory Disclosable Interests](#) is available in the Council's Constitution

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Arrangements for these activities should operate in accordance with [guidelines](#) agreed by the Council.

Please contact Mrs Lisa Jablonska, Elections and Democratic Services Manager, Tel No. 01223 739952 / e-mail Lisa.Jablonska@huntingdonshire.gov.uk if you have a general query on any Agenda Item, wish to tender your apologies for absence from the meeting, or would like information on any decision taken by the Council.

Specific enquiries with regard to items on the Agenda should be directed towards the Contact Officer.

Members of the public are welcome to attend this meeting as observers except during consideration of confidential or exempt items of business.

Agenda and enclosures can be viewed on the [District Council's website](#).

Emergency Procedure

In the event of the fire alarm being sounded and on the instruction of the Meeting Administrator, all attendees are requested to vacate the building via the closest emergency exit.

HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTES of the meeting of the COUNCIL held as a Remote Meeting via Zoom on Wednesday, 24 February 2021.

PRESENT: Councillor J W Davies – Chairman.

Councillors T D Alban, B S Banks, L A Besley,
Mrs M L Beuttell, G J Bull, S M Burton, E R Butler,
S Bywater, J R Clarke, Mrs S Conboy, J C Cooper-Marsh,
S J Corney, S J Criswell, D B Dew, Ms A Diaz,
Mrs A Dickinson, R Fuller, I D Gardener, Dr P L R Gaskin,
D A Giles, Mrs S A Giles, J A Gray, M S Grice, K P Gulson,
M J Humphrey, Dr N Johnson, Mrs P A Jordan, P Kadewere,
D N Keane, C J Maslen, H V Masson, L W McGuire,
D J Mead, J P Morris, J Neish, J M Palmer, K I Prentice,
A Roberts, T D Sanderson, Mrs S Smith, D Terry,
R G Tuplin, D M Tysoe, S Wakeford, R J West and
Mrs S R Wilson.

APOLOGIES: Apologies for absence from the meeting were submitted on behalf of Councillors Mrs P E Shrapnel and D J Wells.

39 COUNCILLOR JILL TAVENER

The Chairman referred to some sad news regarding the recent death of Councillor Jill Tavener who had passed away after an illness in February 2021. The Council then observed a minute's silence in memory of their former colleague.

Following which the Executive Leader and the Leaders of the HDC Independent Group, Liberal Democrat Group and the Labour Group paid tribute to the contributions which Councillor Tavener had made to the District Council and the communities which she had served. Individual tributes were also made by Councillors R J West, T D Alban, G J Bull and D A Giles.

(At 18.05pm during this item, Councillor D Mead joined the meeting).

(At 18.12pm during this item, Councillor B S Banks joined the meeting).

(At 18.16pm during this item, Councillor J C Cooper-Marsh joined the meeting).

40 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on the 16th December 2020 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

41 MEMBERS' INTERESTS

No declarations were received.

42 CHAIRMAN'S ENGAGEMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman reported that he had no physical engagements to report owing to the Coronavirus pandemic. Regrettably, the Council had been unable to mark the Holocaust Memorial Day this year, an event which the Council has been holding for the past 10 years. It was hoped that it would be possible to resume marking this event from January 2022.

43 2021/22 BUDGET AND MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY 2022/23 TO 2025/26

In conjunction with a report by the Chief Finance Officer (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book), Councillor J A Gray, Executive Councillor for Finance and Resources, presented to Members the 2021/22 Revenue Budget, the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) for the period 2022/23 to 2025/26, the Fees and Charges schedule for 2021/22, the Treasury Management Strategy, the Capital Strategy, the Investment Strategy, the Annual Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Statement for 2021/22 and other associated matters for the Council's consideration and approval.

In accordance with Section 30 (2) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, the Council also considered proposals for levels of Council Tax in 2021/22 for various parts of Huntingdonshire District.

With the assistance of a power-point presentation (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book), Councillor Gray proceeded to set out the guiding principles which had been used to put together the Budget for 2021/22. He then went on to outline some of the highlights within the proposed Revenue Budget which included the expected income pressures, the retention of all key services with investment, additional resources to drive economic development and growth, the accommodation of pressure from Covid-related growth and the receipt of ongoing Government support.

Members were reminded that the Budget for 2020/21 was set at £17,688M on a net basis and the forecast outturn was expected at £18,486M. The proposed Budget for 2021/22 included a further 3,684M of growth bids which almost entirely related to the impact of the pandemic. Work had also been undertaken to identify savings and efficiencies and there had been a number of inflation adjustments. The proposed Budget for 2020/21 appears at 20,686M, a picture which did not seem possible in the early part of the year and reflected the hard work which had been undertaken internally and the support from Central Government. A detailed impact of the changes in the Budget from 2020/21 to 2021/22 broken down by service area was provided to members for clarification.

With regard to Capital Expenditure for 2021/22, Councillor Gray went on to outline some of the highlights in this area which included the impact of Covid on the delivery of the programme in the current year, a new focus on town centre improvement plans and a wider focus on seeking more grant funding to lessen the burden on the Council's MRP.

In terms of Reserve Policies, the Council was in a strong position compared to other Cambridgeshire Authorities because of the decisions which had been

made over the previous 10 years and a strong level of usable reserves in comparison to other Cambridgeshire Authorities. The Council had also some years ago established a Budget Surplus Reserve to further build resilience with other earmarked reserves.. It was proposed that the 2021/22 Budget would add £0.76M to reserves before utilising 17% of usable reserves over the course of the period of the MTFs. At the end of this period it was proposed that the use of Reserves would fall to £0.4M per annum which would last the Council in the region of a further 36 years. A new risk-based General Fund Reserve formula had also been introduced in the proposed Budget which it was intended to carry forward.

Turning to Funding Sources for 2021/22, Councillor Gray explained that an assumption of a flat NNDR contribution had been made and it had been decided to divert £2.0M from the New Homes Bonus into the Revenue Budget for this extraordinary year. The Commercial Investment Strategy was yielding £4.8M income into the Budget for 2021/22 and it was anticipated that the fair funding adjustment would have a growing effect on the Authority over the life of the MTFs. An assumption of a slower growth in the Tax Base than originally had been planned was also included due to increased Council Tax Support and a slower build rate and it was proposed to freeze Council Tax for 2021/22 due to the ongoing financial uncertainties for Huntingdonshire residents. A detailed breakdown of the funding which made up the £21,462M Budget requirement was provided to Members at this point.

Attention was then drawn to the Council's Strategy for Treasury and Capital Management for the forthcoming year, as set out in pages 125 to 176 of the Council Agenda papers. Members were reminded that the Strategy was required to be approved by full Council and sets out the way the financial assets of the Council will be protected, together with liquidity and yield considerations and interest rates. The Strategy also outlines the Council's Minimum Revenue Policy.

Finally, Councillor Gray extended his thanks to all Officers and Executive Councillors who had been involved in putting together the Budget for 2021/22, with particular reference being made to the Chief Financial Officer and the Assistant Director of Corporate Resources. He reiterated that the robustness of the proposed Budget and Medium-Term Financial Strategy had been confirmed by the Council's Section 151 Officer.

Councillor Gray concluded by reminding the Council that this was a surplus Budget for people, for growth and for jobs against the ongoing backdrop of the Coronavirus pandemic. He also paid tribute to the resilience and the high performance of Huntingdonshire District Council as an Authority during the preceding twelve months.

Councillor Gray moved the recommendations which were duly seconded by the Executive Leader Councillor R Fuller who reserved his right to speak.

In response and on behalf of the HDC Independent Group, the Leader of the Principal Opposition Group, Councillor T D Sanderson thanked Councillor Gray for his presentation and the contributions by the Chief Finance Officer and her finance team for their work in putting this Budget together, together with the efforts of Executive Councillors and the Overview and Scrutiny Panels within this process.

Councillor Sanderson reported that the Independent Group would not be submitting an alternative Budget this year. Given the fluid situation it was not practical or realistic to make further demands on Officer time and it was his view that residents would like the Groups to work collaboratively as far as possible.

Councillor Sanderson reiterated that historically Cambridgeshire has always been underfunded by Central Government and he was pleased that this had not been the case this year. He made reference to being in tranche 4 of the income compensation scheme and the allocation of funds to Huntingdonshire to tackle the problems which had been faced as part of the pandemic. As a result, Huntingdonshire were in a stronger position than other local authorities even in more prosperous parts of the Country.

Councillor Sanderson referred to the savings in the proposed Budget and the fact that Council would continue to provide key services to residents. Councillor Sanderson was pleased to see the recent announcement on Civil Parking Enforcement (CPE) and he credited the administration for taking that forward. In response to his question regarding future funding, Councillor Gray re-iterated that CPE continued to be a priority for the administration and the funding allocated within the Capital Budget would be carried over in the Budget for 2021/22, once the outturn for 2020/21 had been completed.

Looking to the future, Councillor Sanderson questioned whether consideration could be given to the better use of the Council's buildings and reiterated that the green agenda would become a bigger factor in the months to come as the Government seeks to phase out petrol and diesel cars by 2030. He also referred to the effect that climate change had had on flooding, which the Council would be dealing with through its planning system in due course.

In concluding his remarks, Councillor Sanderson recognised that there were significant factors outside of the Council's control but he hoped that the District Council Leisure Centres would open, Huntingdonshire's high streets would re-open and that the next financial year would be a far calmer one for everyone.

On behalf of the Liberal Democrat Group, Councillor S Conboy took the opportunity to respond to the Budget and to thank everyone who had worked to produce it in a year which had been far from routine. Councillor Conboy made reference to the comments which she had made at the Council meeting last year with regards to the Council's level and use of reserves at which point she had no idea as to what was to come. Councillor Conboy was pleased to see a balanced budget before the Council this evening, however she reiterated her opinion regarding the use of Council reserves.

Looking to the future, Councillor Conboy suggested that the Council would need to ensure that income streams enabled the Authority to continue to deliver those key services yet also be creative about some of our future financial opportunities. She also reiterated that it may become a reality that some of the services which the Council delivers are no longer viable in their current form. Having said that she referred to the fact that adversity often produces the greatest opportunities and thanked the Executive Leader and those responsible for putting the budget together in these difficult times.

Councillor Conboy went on to explain that the Liberal Democrats would not be opposing the proposed Budget on this occasion. Whilst it may have been better to take bolder steps at an earlier opportunity, the public need their essential services at this time and it was pleasing that the District Council would continue to be here to provide them.

In concluding her remarks, Councillor Conboy enquired as to whether the need to increase Council tax during the MTFS may need to be reviewed if there were any further unforeseen circumstances as a result of the pandemic. In response to which the Executive Councillor explained that 2.6% had been stated as the average council tax increase over the life of the MTFS although each year would need to be taken as it comes going forward, given the uncertainty at the current time.

On behalf of the Labour Group, Councillor P Kadeware expressed his thanks to the Executive Councillor for his presentation and the work undertaken by all those preparing the Budget in the most turbulent of financial circumstances. The Labour Group agreed that trying to focus the future much beyond the coming year is a false errand given the uncertainty of the economic climate. He explained that the Labour Group were not unduly concerned with the deficit implications in the medium term although this would need to be monitored as it developed in future budgets. The proposed use of reserves to help tide the Council and its services through the coming year was also considered to be a sensible decision. The Group welcomed the emphasis on improving the Council's financial position through supporting local growth which is a political priority shared by all and in the circumstances the relatively limited change represented by this budget is also pragmatic. The Labour Group were content to support it and would be voting accordingly.

In concluding his remarks, Councillor Kadeware reiterated that the Council's most important assets were its employees and the Group had been reassured from other discussions that the Executive Councillor also held this view.

With regard to the comments which had been made regarding the use of the Council's reserves, Councillor Gray sought to clarify the position to the Council. In doing, so he reiterated that at no point during the previous year did the Council's level of reserves drop below 15 percent and in fact the Council were carrying many millions of pounds more than that number. He reiterated that during the last year, the Council were using the budget surplus reserve which had been built up to get the Council through the Medium-Term Financial Strategy. He went on to stress that the Council would be adding to reserves in the current year and then using reserves over the life of the MTFS. As the proposals stood currently, approximately 65 per cent of the budget surplus reserve would be used.

Councillor A Roberts welcomed the investment in St Ives Town centre as part of a focus on town centre improvement plans and the District Council's ambition to continue to achieve economic growth even during a pandemic. He also welcomed the pragmatic approach to the use of reserves and the proposals for Council Tax and the fact that the Council was retaining and investing in key services which reflected a number of years of sound financial management.

Councillor R J West welcomed the proposed Budget which prioritised economic development, jobs and prosperity and stated that it was a prudent move to utilise the District Council's reserves. He made reference to the £12.3M funding which would be made available to St Neots through the future High Streets fund and hoped that Huntingdon, St Ives and Ramsey would follow. Councillor West commended the Executive Councillor, Cabinet and the Senior Management Team for their work in preparing this Budget and reiterated that even during a pandemic, excellent services had continued to be delivered by the District Council to the residents of Huntingdonshire. He welcomed the proposals before the Council which were visionary and aspirational, yet also prudent and sensible.

Councillor S J Corney also commended the District Council for enabling the Authority be in a position in which it was still able to invest within the Market Towns at such a difficult time. He looked forward to seeing that investment come to fruition.

Councillor D A Giles referred to that fact that this was an interesting budget in a difficult pressured year for all Councils within the Country. He welcomed the £12.3M investment in St Neots to assist in the regeneration of the town centre and also suggested (with reference to the County Council's forthcoming move to Alconbury) that future consideration should be given to the better utilisation / future use of the District Council Offices and workspaces.

In concluding the discussion on this item, the Executive Leader took the opportunity to convey his appreciation to all officers who had worked incredibly hard to prepare the Budget for 2021/22 and also to individual Cabinet members who had been working for the last few months with their respective Service Managers and Heads of Service to bring this together. He also paid tribute to the Executive Councillor for Finance himself for his professional oversight and preparation of the Budget every year, a role he has now been undertaking for several years.

Having made reference to the budget discussions at a neighbouring authority, Councillor Fuller was pleased that the District Council were not in a position where difficult choices had to be made as to whether investment should be made in people or services. He reiterated that the proposed Budget provided for investment in both whilst also meeting the requirements of the Covid response and also making preparation for the Covid recovery with a strong emphasis on jobs and economic development going forward. He also referred to the strong focus within the Medium-Term Financial Strategy on town centre regeneration.

With reference to his discussions with Leaders in other local authorities, Councillor Fuller expressed his sense of pride that the District Council were not in the position of many who were discussing cuts to services and savings due to their financial predicaments. In Huntingdonshire, the proposed Budget reflected an investment in both revenue and capital, which protecting key services and also planning for the future through the delivery of growth, investment in the town centres and in additional services such as Civil Parking Enforcement. Councillor Fuller re-iterated that he was incredibly proud to be meeting his manifesto commitments and to be freezing in Council Tax this year in line with the pledge made in 2018. Councillor Fuller also sought to reassure Councillor Conboy that the District Council had sufficient reserves.

Finally, the Executive Leader expressed his appreciation to Opposition Leaders for their constructive input over the course of the last few months and the positive contributions they had made on behalf of the Groups this evening.

It having been previously moved and seconded, upon being put to the vote it was RESOLVED

- a) that the proposed overall Budget 2021/22 and Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) 2022/23 to 2025/26 (Appendix 1) to include the Revenue Budgets at Section 2, the Capital Programme at Section 3 and the 2021/22 Fees and Charges at Section 7, Annex A be approved;
- b) that an increase of 0% Council Tax for 2021/22 be approved, i.e. the Band D Charge remain at £145.86;
- c) **that the Council note the Council Tax Base for the whole Council area and individual Towns and Parishes (para 6.2) as approved on the 8th December 2020 (and subsequent publication as a key decision).**
The tax base (T) which is the amount anticipated from a District Council Tax of £1 is £63,355;
- d) that the following amounts calculated by the Council for 2021/22 in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 as amended by the Localism Act 2011 (the Act), the Local Government Finance Act 2012 and associated regulations :-
 - i. the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(2) (a) to (f) of the Act **Gross revenue expenditure including benefits, Town/Parish Precepts - £79,453, 376**
 - ii. the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A (3) (a) to (d)
Revenue income including reimbursement of benefits, specific and general grants, use of reserves and any transfers from the collection fund - £62,681,424
 - iii. the amount by which the aggregate at (i) above exceeds the aggregate at (ii) above in accordance with Section 31A (4) of the Act
This is the “Council Tax Requirement” including Parish / Town Precepts (item 1 minus item ii). It is the cash sum to be funded from District, Town and Parish Council Taxes - £16,771,852
 - iv. the Council Tax requirement for 2021/22 divided by the tax base (T) in accordance with Section 31B (1) of the Act
District plus average Town/Parish precepts (item iii divided by District taxbase) - £264.82
 - v. the aggregate of all “Special items” referred to in Section 34 (1) of the Act.

The total value of Parish/Town precepts included in i and iii above - £7,536,929

- vi. the Basic Amount of Council Tax for 2021/22 being item iv less item v divided by the tax base (T) in accordance with Section 34(2) of the Act.

The District Council's Band D Tax for 2021/22 - £145.86.

- vii. the basic amounts of Council Tax for 2021/22 for those parts of the District to which one or more special items (Parish/Town precepts) relate in accordance with Section 34 (3) of the Act are shown by adding the Huntingdonshire District Council amount to the appropriate Parish Council amount in column "band D" set out in Table 1 attached.

- viii. the amounts to be taken into account for 2021/22 in respect of categories of dwellings listed in particular valuation bands in accordance with Section 36 (1) of the Act are shown by adding the Huntingdonshire District Council amount to the Parish Council amount for each of the valuation bands in the columns "bands A to H" set out in Table 1 attached.

- e) That the amounts of the precept issued to the Council by Cambridgeshire County Council, Cambridgeshire Police Authority, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Fire Authority and for each Parish Council for each of the categories of dwellings listed in different valuation bands in accordance with Section 40 of the Act shown in para 6.3 attached be noted.
- f) That having regard to the calculations above, the Council, in accordance with Section 30 (2) of the Act, hereby sets the figures shown in para 6.4 as the amounts of Council Tax for 2021/22 for each of the categories of dwelling shown. **This is the total Council Tax to be collected, incorporating the requirements of all of the relevant bodies, for each town or parish area.**
- g) The Council notes that, in accordance with Section 52ZB of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, the basic amount of Council Tax for 2021/22 is not excessive. **The basic amount at b(vi) above is not excessive as defined by the Government.**

Tax Base 2021/22

Abbots Ripton	132
Abbotsley	264
Alconbury	578
Alconbury Weston	297
Alwalton	122
Barham & Woolley	30
Bluntisham	753
Brampton	2356
Brington & Molesworth	179
Broughton	95
Buckden	1219

Buckworth	53
Bury	648
Bythorn & Keyston	153
Catworth	163
Chesterton	67
Colne	379
Conington	76
Covington	46
Denton & Caldecote	30
Earith	605
Easton	77
Ellington	237
Elton	288
Farcet	534
Fenstanton	1313
Folksworth & Washingley	348
Glatton	134
Godmanchester	2820
Grafham	239
Great & Little Gidding	123
Great Gransden	473
Great Paxton	366
Great Staughton	330
Haddon	21
Hail Weston	249
Hamerton & Steeple Gidding	51
Hemingford Abbots	327
Hemingford Grey	1282
Hilton	450
Holme	250
Holywell-cum-Needingworth	996
Houghton & Wyton	784
Huntingdon	7625
Kimbolton	593
Kings Ripton	84
Leighton Bromswold	78
Little Paxton	1538
Morborne	12
Offord Cluny & Offord D'Arcy	542
Old Weston	105
Oldhurst	100
Perry	267
Pidley-cum-Fenton	183
Ramsey	2972
Sawtry	1939
Sibson-cum-Stibbington	230
Somersham	1403
Southoe & Midloe	159
Spaldwick	249
St Ives	6007
St Neots	11084
Stilton	768
Stow Longa	74

The Stukeleys	900
Tilbrook	126
Toseland	39
Upton & Coppingford	90
Upwood & The Raveleys	441
Warboys	1575
Waresley-cum-Tetworth	142
Water Newton	38
Winwick	50
Wistow	231
Woodhurst	152
Woodwalton	84
Wyton-on-the-Hill	437
Yaxley	2949
Yelling	152
Total	63,355

- h) that the future savings targets of £0.4m of Net Expenditure by 2025/26 be approved (Appendix 2); and
- i) that the 2021/22 Treasury Management, Capital and Investment Strategies, MRP Statement and Flexible Use of Capital Receipts Strategy be approved (Appendix 3).

In accordance with the Local Authorities (Standing Order) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2014 the following Members voted for, against or abstained from the Motion -

For the Motion – Alban, Banks, Besley, Beuttell, Bull, Burton, Butler, Bywater, Clarke, Conboy, Cooper-Marsh, Corney, Criswell, Davies, Dew, Diaz, Dickinson, Fuller, Gardener, Gaskin, Gray, Grice, Gulson, Humphrey, Johnson, Jordan, Kadeware, Keane, Maslen, Masson, McGuire, Mead, Morris, Neish, Palmer, Prentice, Roberts, Sanderson, Smith, Terry, Tysoe, Wakeford, West and Wilson.

Against the Motion – None.

Abstentions – D A Giles and S A Giles.

(At 18.45pm during the discussion on this item, Councillor K P Gulson joined the meeting).

44 PAY POLICY STATEMENT 2021/22

In compliance with the requirements of the Localism Act 2011, Councillor D Keane, Executive Councillor for Corporate Services presented a report by the Strategic HR Manager (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) in connection with the District Council's Pay Policy Statement for 2021/22.

The Statement which is required to be approved by the Council by 31st March 2021 and produced annually, details the Council's policies relating to officer remuneration. Once approved it would be published on the District Council's website.

Having noted that the Statement had been endorsed by the Employment Committee, it was moved by Councillor Keane and duly seconded and

RESOLVED

that the Pay Policy Statement for 2021/22 be approved.

45 QUESTIONS TO MEMBERS OF THE CABINET

Councillor A Roberts took the opportunity to provide feedback to the Executive Councillor for Corporate Services from residents who have been pleased with the way that the District Council has been handling their queries by phone and online, particularly in relation to the ongoing programme of Government grants. Following his question as to how the Customer Services Team had been dealing with this additional workload, Councillor D Keane commended the activities of the team over the last 11 months as the Council has moved to remote working, new technology and increased demands. He reminded Members that the District Council has been a key part in central government support and in helping local businesses during lockdown and he reported that the Call-Centre Team has done a first class job in making sure that business grants calls were dealt with quickly and efficiently. More generally, Councillor Keane then went on to commend employees and the management for the work which had been undertaken to maintain morale and well-being during this difficult time.

Councillor D A Giles questioned whether any consideration would be given to the possible future of Pathfinder House considering the changes in working practises during the last year. In response the Executive Leader reiterated that staff continued to work from the building and that staff within the Customer Services team were also meeting there with members of the public who required assistance. He went on to remind Members that in recent years there had been a move towards the establishment of a Public Sector Hub at the site. The District Council already lets out various parts of the building to other organisations such as Housing Association partners, the Department for Work and Pensions, the Job Centre and Citizens advice and discussions were already ongoing with other agencies who might also be interested in leasing space. He concluded by stating that at executive level, he would not be setting up a feasibility study into the future use of the building.

46 CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND PETERBOROUGH COMBINED AUTHORITY - UPDATE

In conjunction with the decision summaries of the recent meetings of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority (copies of which are appended in the Minute Book), Councillor J Neish presented an update of the activities of the Combined Authority Board. In doing so, he highlighted the Board's approval of the project proposals received under the Market Towns Programme Investment Prospectus. In Huntingdonshire, he was pleased to report that 14 bids had been accepted out of a total of 22 for the whole of the County. He also referred to the funding which had been received from the Combined Authority for the Future High Street Fund. The District Council would continue to work to improve Huntingdon, St Ives and Ramsey and a further £300,000 had been invested by the Combined Authority for the feasibility work to look into these.

Councillors S Corney and P A Jordan provided an update on the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority Overview and Scrutiny Committee. As part of which, Councillor Corney drew the Council's attention to the Committee's discussions on the funding for the Housing Programme which was still outstanding from MHCLG. Councillor Corney also reported that the A141 consultation had gone 'live' this week and that the Committee had also discussed how the road networks and public transport would be used post Covid.

Finally, Members were provided with an update on the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Audit and Governance Committee by Councillor G J Bull. In doing so, the Council were informed that a Special Meeting of the Audit and Governance Committee would be held next week to discuss the assurance framework and that a meeting with Ernst and Young, the External Auditors would also be scheduled shortly.

47 OUTCOMES FROM COMMITTEES AND PANELS

A copy of the list of meetings held since the last meeting of the Council held on 16th December 2020 is appended in the Minute Book and Members were advised that any issues or questions could be raised in relation to these meetings.

During this item, the Chairman invited Councillor D M Tysoe in his role as Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Flooding Task and Finish Group to provide a brief update on the activities of the Group. The Council were advised that meetings were ongoing between the Group and the Statutory Authorities and it was hoped that a final report would be available by the end of the Municipal Year.

48 RESOLUTION TO EXTEND 6 MONTH RULE - SECTION 85 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

The Managing Director presented a report (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) detailing a request to consider the extension of the six month rule of non-attendance at meetings in relation to Councillor D Wells on the grounds of his ill-health. Whereupon, the Council

RESOLVED

- (a) that Councillor D Well's non-attendance at meetings be approved until the 20th May 2021 in accordance with Section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972; and
- (b) that the Council's best wishes be conveyed to Councillor Wells for continued improvement to his health.

49 VARIATIONS TO THE MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES AND PANELS

On the recommendation of Councillor T D Sanderson, it was

RESOLVED

- (a) that Councillor S M Burton be appointed to the membership of the Development Management Committee in place of Councillor T D Sanderson .
- (b) that Councillor J C Cooper-Marsh be appointed to the Corporate Governance Committee in place of Councillor Burton.
- (c) that Councillor T D Sanderson be appointed to the Overview and Scrutiny Panel (Performance and Growth) in place of Councillor J C Cooper-Marsh.

The meeting ended at 19.58pm.

Chairman

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Public
Key Decision - No

HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Title/Subject Matter: Local Elections – 6 May 2021

Meeting/Date: Council – 19 May 2021

Report by: Returning Officer

Ward(s) affected: Huntingdon North, St Ives East, St Ives South and Warboys Wards.

Executive Summary:

The purpose of this report is to provide a summary of the results of the recent District Council by-elections held on 6th May 2021. These elections were also combined with the elections for Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Commissioner, the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority Mayoral Election and the elections to Cambridgeshire County Council. Neighbourhood Plan Referendums were also held in the Bucken and Bury Wards, together with a by-election for the Eaton Socon Ward of St Neots Town Council.

Recommendations:

- (a) that the Council welcome the newly elected Councillors for Huntingdon North, St Ives East, St Ives South and Warboys Wards to the District Council; and**
- (b) that an acknowledgement be made to all staff who were engaged in taking the poll and/or counting the votes on 6th, 7th and 8th May 2021 and thanks made to all concerned.**

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide a summary of the results of the recent Council by-elections held on 6th May 2021. These elections were also combined with the elections for Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Commissioner, the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority Mayoral Election and the elections to Cambridgeshire County Council. Neighbourhood Plan Referendums were also held in the Bucken and Bury Electoral Divisions, together with a by-election for the Eaton Socon Ward of St Neots Town Council.

2. ANALYSIS

- 2.1 In accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act 1972 following the death or resignation of a Councillor and the Coronavirus Act 2020 with regard to the timing of elections, District Council By-Elections were held in four District wards on 6 May 2021. The results are summarised in Appendix A hereto.

3. LIST OF APPENDICES INCLUDED

Appendix A – District Council Elections – 6th May 2021

4. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Declaration of Results – 7 May 2021

CONTACT OFFICER

Name/Job Title: Lisa Jablonska, Elections and Democratic Services Manager
Tel No: (01480) 388004
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DISTRICT COUNCIL BY-ELECTIONS
COUNCILLORS ELECTED TO SERVE UNTIL 2022

WARD	COUNCILLOR ELECTED	ELECTORATE	NO. OF BALLOT PAPERS ISSUED	% POLL
Huntingdon North	Marion Kadewere	8,468	2,383	28.1
St Ives East	Craig Smith	5,106	1,520	29.8
St Ives South	Rianna D'Souza	6,088	2,293	37.7
Warboys	Michael William Haines	5,918	2,003	33.8

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Public
Key Decision - No

HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Title/Subject Matter: Representation of Political Groups on District Council Committees and Panels.

Meeting/Date: Council – 19 May 2021

Executive Portfolio: Councillor R Fuller, Executive Leader.

Report by: Elections and Democratic Services Manager.

Ward(s) affected: All.

Executive Summary:

The Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and associated Regulations describe arrangements for achieving a balance on Committees etc, to reflect the representation of political groups and independent Members on the District Council. The Act requires the District Council to review the representation of different political groups at the time when the Authority holds its Annual Meeting and as soon as practicable and over one month after the last review if the Proper Officer receives a request to undertake a further review of the allocation of seats given a change to membership of a political group.

The proportionality requirements do not apply to the Cabinet and its membership will be determined by the Executive Leader

The Council is

RECOMMENDED

to determine the allocation of seats on District Council Committees/ Panels to political groups and to the non-aligned Members in accordance with the distribution illustrated in the attached Appendix and to note the requirements for appointments to advisory/sub-groups etc, in paragraph 5.3.

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and associated Regulations describe arrangements for achieving a balance on Committees etc, to reflect the representation of political groups and independent Members on the District Council. The Act requires the District Council to review the representation of different political groups at the time when the Authority holds its Annual Meeting and as soon as practicable and over one month after the last review if the Proper Officer receives a request to undertake a further review of the allocation of seats given a change to membership of a political group.

2. PRINCIPLES OF PROPORTIONALITY

- 2.1 Members are reminded that in performing the duty to review representation, the Council must, so far as reasonably practicable, only determine the allocation of seats having regard to the following principles –
- ◆ that not all the seats are allocated to the same political group;
 - ◆ that the majority of seats are allocated to the political group which forms a majority of the Council's membership; and
 - ◆ that the number of seats allocated is in the same proportion as is borne by the number of Members of a political group to the membership of the Council.
- 2.2 Currently it is open to the Council to approve alternative arrangements otherwise than in accordance with the principles of proportionality providing that the alternative arrangements are approved without any Member voting against them.

3. CONSTITUTION OF POLITICAL GROUPS

- 3.1 Following the four by-elections held on 6th May 2021, the constitution of political groups on the Council is currently as follows:-

Name of Group	No. of Members
Conservative	30
HDC Independent Group	10
Liberal Democrat	7
Labour	3

There is now 1 Member of the Council who is not aligned to a political group.

- 3.2 Following the election of Councillor Dr Nik Johnson to the post of Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority Mayor his office of councillor is now deemed vacant. There is therefore one vacancy on the District Council that remains.

3.3 The membership of groups in proportion to the total membership of the Council is therefore as follows:-

	%
Conservative	57.69%
HDC Independent Group	19.23%
Liberal Democrat	13.46%
Labour	5.77%

The Independent Members represent 1.92% of the membership of the Council. Similarly, this also applies to the vacancy on the Council.

4. LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2000

4.1 Under the Local Government Act 2000, the proportionality requirements do not apply to the Cabinet or to any Sub-Groups or Sub-Committees, which the Cabinet may appoint. Appointment of the Cabinet also lies with the Executive Leader of the Council. The number of seats to which the Council can appoint to is 72

4.2 The following requirements of the Act also need to be adhered to by the Council in determining the membership of Panels, etc. –

- ◆ the Cabinet may not include either the Chairman or Vice-Chairman of the Council;
- ◆ Overview and Scrutiny Panels may not comprise any Member of the Cabinet;
- ◆ the Executive Leader, Deputy Executive Leader and any Member of the Cabinet shall not be elected as Chairman of any Committee or Panel other than any that may be appointed by the Cabinet.

4.3 The Constitution also provides for the Development Management Committee, Licensing and Protection Committee, the Employment Committee and the Licensing Committee to include the relevant Executive Councillor within their respective membership.

The Constitution provides that every Member of the Council shall be appointed to serve on a minimum of one Overview and Scrutiny Panel, or Committee of the Council or the Cabinet.

5. PROPORTIONALITY

5.1 Excluding the Cabinet, the aggregate number of seats on Committees is now 72. Using the proportionality percentage referred to in paragraph 3.2 and rounding up or down as appropriate, produces the following entitlement –

	Seats
Conservative Group	42
HDC Independent Group	14
Liberal Democrat Group	10
Labour	4

Independent Members	1
Vacancy	1

- 5.2 Applying the principles of the Act and, similarly, rounding the figures as necessary, gives the distribution as set out in the Appendix.
- 5.3 The principles of proportionality apply similarly to advisory/sub-groups appointed or nominated by committees and regard must be given to the following examples of entitlements to seats:-

No. of Members on Sub-Group, etc	Proportion of Members from Political Groups				
	Cons	HDC Ind Group	Lib Dem	Labour	Ind
3	2	1	0	0	0
4	2	1	1	0	0
5	3	1	1	0	0
6	3	1	1	1	0
7	4	1	1	1	0
8	5	1	1	1	0
9	5	2	1	1	0
10	6	2	1	1	0

- 5.4 The Cabinet may not delegate any of its functions to non-Cabinet Members. Therefore any Sub-Group of the Cabinet that is exercising any decision-making powers delegated to it by the Cabinet must only include Cabinet Members. This does not prevent any Advisory Group appointed by the Cabinet that has no decision-making powers and whose terms of reference are merely advisory from including non-Cabinet Members.

6. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDED DECISIONS

- 6.1 The Council is invited to determine the allocation of seats on District Council Committees to political groups and to the non-aligned Members in accordance with the distribution illustrated in the attached Appendix and to note the requirements for appointments to advisory/sub groups etc, in paragraph 5.3. The proportionality requirements do not apply to the Cabinet and its membership will be determined by the Executive Leader
- 6.2 The opportunity otherwise is available currently to allocate seats in accordance with an alternative arrangement, with the exception of the Cabinet, provided this arrangement is approved by the Council with no Member voting against.


7. LIST OF APPENDICES INCLUDED

Appendix A - Schedule of Allocations

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Local Government and Housing Act 1989
Local Government Act 2000
Localism Act 2011
District Council Constitution

CONTACT OFFICER

Lisa Jablonska
Elections and Democratic Services Manager
 (01480) 388004

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APPENDIX A – SCHEDULE OF ALLOCATIONS

Committee / Panel	No. of Seats*	No. of Ex-officio	Title of Ex-officio	Cons	HDC Ind Group	Lib Dem	Lab	Inds	Vacancy	Cons	HDC Ind Group	Lib Dem	Lab	Inds	Vacancy
Corporate Governance Committee	12	0		6.92	2.31	1.62	0.69	0.23	0.23	7	2	2	1	0	0
Development Management Committee	16	1	Not defined	9.23	3.08	2.15	0.92	0.31	0.31	9	3	2	1	1	0
Employment Committee	8	1	Not defined	4.62	1.54	1.08	0.46	0.15	0.15	5	2	1	0	0	0
Licensing & Protection Committee / Committee	12	1	Not defined	6.92	2.31	1.62	0.69	0.23	0.23	7	2	2	1	0	0
Overview & Scrutiny Panel (Performance and Growth)	12	0		6.92	2.31	1.62	0.69	0.23	0.23	7	2	2	1	0	0
Overview & Scrutiny Panel (Customers and Partnerships)	12	0		6.92	2.31	1.62	0.69	0.23	0.23	7	3	1	0	0	1
TOTAL	72	3								42	14	10	4	1	1

* The allocation of these seats must be balanced so that the total entitlement to seats on each group is not exceeded.

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Public

HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Title/Subject Matter: Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority: Membership and other Appointments.

Meeting/Date: Council – 19 May 2021.

Report by: Managing Director.

Executive Summary:

This report requests the Council to make appointments to the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority for the municipal year 2021/2022.

Recommendations:

That Full Council makes the following appointments/nominations to the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority for the municipal year 2021/2022:

- (a) appoint the Leader of Council to act as the Council's appointee to the Combined Authority and the Deputy Leader to act as the substitute member;
- (b) nominate two members from the Conservative party to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and two substitute members from the same political parties as those appointed;
- (c) nominate one member from the Conservative Party to the Audit and Governance Committee and one substitute member from the same political party; and
- (d) authorise the Managing Director to make any amendments to the appointments to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the Audit and Governance Committee in consultation with the Political Group Leaders, if the political balance is amended by the Combined Authority between now and the next Council meeting.

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 In accordance with the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority Order 2017, each Constituent Council must appoint one of its elected members and a substitute member to the Combined Authority. This appointment is usually the Leader of the Council. Each Council made these appointments at its respective Council meeting in May 2017 for the 2017/18 municipal year and is requested to do so for each subsequent municipal year. The Council is now asked to appoint members and substitute members for the municipal year 2020/21.

Non-Executive Committees

- 1.2 The Combined Authorities (Overview and Scrutiny Committees, Access to Information and Audit Committees) Order 2016 requires the Combined Authority to establish an Overview and Scrutiny Committee and an Audit Committee. The Order sets out the rules for membership. The membership of the Overview and Scrutiny and the Audit Committees as a whole should reflect so far as reasonably practicable the balance of political parties of the constituent councils when taken together. The balance is based on membership of political parties, not political groups, on constituent councils across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.
- 1.3 On 6 May 2021, there were local elections for the County Council, Cambridge City Council and Peterborough City Council and several by elections took place. The Combined Authority has reviewed the political balance on constituent councils and has requested constituent councils to make the following appointments to these committees.

Overview and Scrutiny Committee

- 1.4 The Combined Authority agreed that to ensure an equitable representation across each constituent authority, two members from each Council should be appointed to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee representing a total membership of fourteen members.
- 1.5 The implications of applying political proportionality to a fourteen member Overview and Scrutiny Committee are detailed in **Appendix 1**.
- 1.6 The Council is required to nominate two members from the Conservative Party to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for the municipal year 2021/22 based on the political balance set out in Appendix 1.

Audit and Governance Committee

- 1.7 The Combined Authority agreed to establish an Audit and Governance Committee consisting of seven constituent members: one member from each constituent council.
- 1.8 The implications of applying political proportionality to a seven member Audit and Governance Committee are detailed in Appendix 2. The Council is required to nominate one member from the Conservative Party to sit on

the Audit and Governance Committee for the municipal year 2021/22 based on the political balance set out in Appendix 2.

Substitute members

- 1.9 The Combined Authority has agreed that substitute members should be appointed for each position on the Audit and Governance Committee and the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. Any substitute members should come from the same party as the Member they are substituting for to maintain political balance.
- 1.10 For the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, if constituent councils have appointed members from the same political parties, those Councils might only wish to appoint one substitute rather than two. The quorum set down in legislation is two thirds of the total membership. Therefore, it is preferable to appoint two members in case both members are absent from a meeting and need to substitute.

2. CONCLUSION

- 2.1 All appointments and nominations made by constituent councils will be reported to the Combined Authority's annual meeting on 2nd June 2021.
- 2.2 The political balance calculations in the Appendices are based on up to date statistics given by constituent Councils and take account the outcome of the local elections that took place on the 6th May 2021. However, there may be last minute changes in the lead up to constituent Councils' annual meetings and Combined Authority's annual meeting on 2nd June.
- 2.3 If there are consequential changes to the overall political balance, the Combined Authority may need to review the membership and the allocation of seats to political parties on the above committees. The Monitoring Officer will advise constituent councils if any subsequent changes have been necessary, and whether any changes need to be made to their nominations.
- 2.4 If there is no provision in constituent council's standing orders, the Council may wish to consider giving delegated powers for the Managing Director to approve any consequential changes to these appointments in consultation with the relevant Party Group leaders.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS / EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 3.1 In accordance with the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority Order 2017, no remuneration is to be payable by the Combined Authority to its members.

4. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 These are set out in the report. The Combined Authorities (Overview and Scrutiny Committees, Access to Information and Audit Committees) Order 2016 requires a combined authority to ensure that the members of the

committee taken as a whole reflect so far as reasonably practicable the balance of political parties for the time being prevailing among members of the constituent councils when taken together.

5. LIST OF APPENDICES INCLUDED

Appendix 1 – Overview and Scrutiny Committee political balance calculations

Appendix 2 – Audit and Governance Committee political balance calculations

Accessible versions of the appendices are available on request from Democratic.Services@cambridgeshirepeterborough-ca.gov.uk

6. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Council Agenda and Minutes – 16 November 2016, 22 February 2017, 17 May 2017, 23 May 2018, 15 May 2019 and 17 June 2020.

CONTACT OFFICER

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Email: Lisa.Jablonska@huntingdonshire.gov.uk

Appendix 1

Overview and Scrutiny Committee of 14
POLITICAL BALANCE ACROSS THE COUNTY as at 7th May 2021

	Total Seats	Vacancy	Conservative	Labour	St Neots Independent Group	Independent	Werrington First	Liberal Democrats	Green	Total	Entitlement 2021
CAMBRIDGESHIRE	2	0	28	9	2	2	0	20	0	61	1 Liberal Democrat, 1 Conservative
PETERBOROUGH	2	0	29	17	0	0	3	8	3	60	1 Labour, 1 Conservative
HUNTINGDONSHIRE	2	1	30	3	0	11	0	7	0	51	2 Conservatives
EAST CAMBS	2	0	15	0	0	2	0	11	0	28	1 Liberal Democrat, 1 Conservative
SOUTH CAMBS	2	0	11	2	0	1	0	31	0	45	1 Liberal Democrat, 1 Conservative
CAMBRIDGE CITY	2	0	0	27	0	1	0	12	2	42	1 Labour, 1 Liberal Democrat
FENLAND	2	0	26	0	0	10	0	2	1	39	2 Conservatives
TOTAL		1	139	58	2	27	3	91	6	326	
POLITICAL BALANCE %			42.64	17.79	0.61	8.28	0.92	27.91	1.84	100.00	
Committee seat allocation	14		5.97	2.49	0.09	1.16	0.13	3.91	0.26	14.00	
Seat allocation May 2021			8	2				4			

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Appendix 2

Audit and Governance Committee of 7
POLITICAL BALANCE ACROSS THE COUNTY as at 7 May 2021

	Total	Vacancy	Conservative	Labour	St Neots Independent Group	Independent	Werrington First	Liberal Democrats	Green	Total	Entitlement 2021/22
CAMBRIDGESHIRE	1	0	28	9	2	2	0	20	0	61	1 Cons
PETERBOROUGH	1	0	29	17	0	0	3	8	3	60	1 Cons
HUNTINGDONSHIRE	1	1	30	3		11	0	7	0	51	1 Cons
EAST CAMBS	1	0	15	0	0	2	0	11	0	28	1 Lib Dem
SOUTH CAMBS	1	0	11	2	0	1	0	31	0	45	1 Lib Dem
CAMBRIDGE CITY	1	0	0	27	0	1	0	12	2	42	1 Lab
FENLAND	1	0	26	0	0	10	0	2	1	39	1 Cons
TOTAL		1	139	58	2	27	3	91	6	326	
POLITICAL BALANCE %			42.64	17.79	0.61	8.28	0.92	27.91	1.84	100.00	
Committee seat allocation	7		2.98	1.25	0.04	0.58	0.06	1.95	0.13	7.00	
Seat allocation May 2021			4	1				2			

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Public

HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Title/Subject Matter: Bury Village Neighbourhood Plan
Meeting/Date: Council – 19 May 2021
Executive Portfolio: Executive Councillor for Strategic Planning
Report by: Strategic Growth Manager
Ward(s) affected: Ramsey

Executive Summary:

The Referendum on the Bury Village Neighbourhood Plan was held on 6 May 2021 and resulted in an 92.4% 'Yes' vote in support of making the Neighbourhood Plan as part of the statutory development plan. As this exceeds the required threshold of 50% of the votes cast the Council is required to formally 'make' the Bury Village Neighbourhood Plan unless the Council considers that it would be incompatible with any EU or human rights obligations. As part of the statutory development plan the Bury Village Neighbourhood Plan would be used to help decide planning applications within the neighbourhood area.

It is not considered that making the plan would be incompatible with an EU or human rights obligation and the Bury Village Neighbourhood Plan must therefore be 'made'.

Recommendation:

The Council is

RECOMMENDED

To 'make' the Bury Village Neighbourhood Plan in the form attached as Appendix 1 such that it becomes part of the Statutory Development Plan for Huntingdonshire with immediate effect.

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to consider whether the Bury Village Neighbourhood Plan should be officially 'made' such that it becomes part of the statutory development plan for Huntingdonshire.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Bury Neighbourhood Area was formally designated on 7 October 2015. Following substantial local consultation to aid with preparation of the plan it was submitted for statutory consultation which took place between 19 September 2019 and 31 October 2019. The submission neighbourhood plan, its supporting evidence base and all responses to the statutory consultation were subject to an independent examination commencing on 5 November 2019 with the final report issued on 19 December 2019.
- 2.2 The examination confirmed that the Bury Village Neighbourhood Plan should move forward to referendum subject to modifications and confirmed that it complied with the specified basic conditions, was properly prepared by the qualifying body, covered the designated plan area, did not contain any excluded development and contained policies that related to the development and use of land. The examiner's report also confirmed that there was nothing in the Bury Village Neighbourhood Plan that led them to conclude there would be any breach of the European Convention on Human Rights. They also confirmed that the Bury Village Neighbourhood Plan is compatible with EU obligations arising from the Habitats Regulations Assessments and other directives.
- 2.3 The outcome of the examination and proposed changes were reported to Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Performance and Growth) on 8 January 2020 and Cabinet on 23 January 2020. Arising from these it was agreed that the Bury Village Neighbourhood Plan as proposed to be modified should progress to referendum.
- 2.4 The referendum was scheduled to take place on 26 March 2020 however was postponed due to the Coronavirus pandemic. In response to the pandemic Government guidance and the enactment of the Local Government and Police and Crime Commissioner (Coronavirus) (Postponement of Elections and Referendums) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020 postponed all elections and referendums until 6 May 2021.

3. ANALYSIS

- 3.1 The referendum was held on 6 May 2021 where the statutorily set question was posed asking residents of the designated neighbourhood area: 'Do you want Huntingdonshire District Council to use the Neighbourhood Plan for Bury to help it decide planning applications for the neighbourhood area?'

- 3.2 A total of 1,458 people were eligible to vote in the referendum; 632 ballot papers were issued representing a turnout of 43.3%. The number of votes cast in favour of 'Yes' was 583, the number of votes in favour of 'No' was 44 with 4 ballot papers rejected where the intended vote could not be clearly determined. This indicated a majority of 92.4% voting in favour of using the Bury Village Neighbourhood Plan to help decide planning applications within the designated neighbourhood area.
- 3.3 As the Bury Village Neighbourhood Plan was endorsed by more than the required threshold of 50% of those voting the Council must now 'make' the Neighbourhood Plan such that it becomes part of the statutory development plan for Huntingdonshire unless the Council considers that it would be incompatible with any EU or human rights obligations. It is not considered that making the plan would be incompatible with an EU or human rights obligation and the Bury Village Neighbourhood Plan must therefore be 'made'.

4. KEY IMPACTS / RISKS

- 4.1 The key impacts of this are the reiteration of the importance of the planned system with town and parish councils and residents of the neighbourhood plan area having the opportunity to positively influence how their community grows in the future.
- 4.2 Successful 'making' of a Neighbourhood Plan entitles Bury Parish Council to an increased proportion of CIL receipts from development within the neighbourhood area, up from 15% to 25%.

5. TIMETABLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION

- 5.1 Bury Village Neighbourhood Plan will become part of the statutory development plan with immediate effect.

6. LINK TO THE CORPORATE PLAN, STRATEGIC PRIORITIES AND/OR CORPORATE OBJECTIVES

- 6.1 Making the neighbourhood plan will help achieve the Corporate Plan aspiration to 'Develop stronger and more resilient communities to enable people to help themselves'.

7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 Section 38A(4)(a) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 requires the Council to 'make' the Neighbourhood Plan if more than half of those voting in the referendum have voted in favour. The Council is content that the Bury Village Neighbourhood Plan meets the specified basic conditions, does not breach the European Convention on Human Rights and is not incompatible with EU obligations arising from the Habitats Regulations Assessments and other directives.

8. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 An additional 10% of CIL receipts within the neighbourhood area will be passed over to Bury Parish Council. This may have implications on resource availability for infrastructure projects provided by this Council. Additional support, both financial and partnership working, may be sought to help deliver some of the projects identified in the Bury Village Neighbourhood Plan.

9. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDED DECISIONS

- 9.1 The Council has a statutory obligation to 'make' the Bury Village Neighbourhood Plan now that it has successfully passed the referendum stage.

10. LIST OF APPENDICES INCLUDED

Appendix 1 – Bury Village Neighbourhood Plan

11. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Performance and Growth) 8 January 2020
<http://modern.gov.huntsdc.gov.uk:8070/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=10235&MId=7635&Ver=4>

Cabinet 23 January 2020
<http://modern.gov.huntsdc.gov.uk:8070/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=256&MId=7586&Ver=4>

The Neighbourhood Planning (Referendums) Regulations 2012 (as amended)
<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukdsi/2012/9780111525050/contents>

National Planning Practice Guidance (Neighbourhood Planning)
<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/neighbourhood-planning--2>

Bury Village Neighbourhood Plan Webpage
<https://www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/planning/neighbourhood-planning/bury-village-neighbourhood-plan/>

Neighbourhood Planning Webpage
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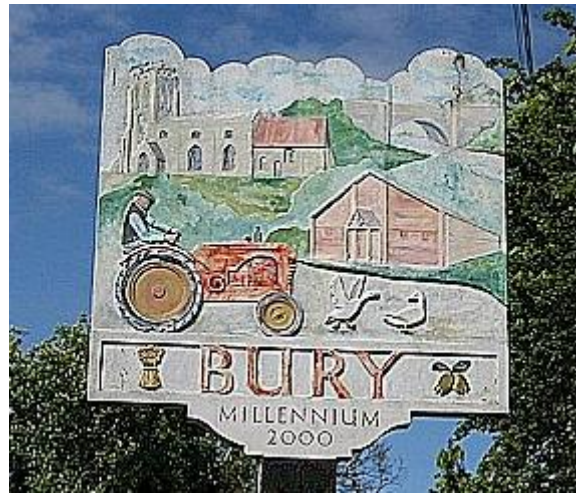
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Bury Village Neighbourhood Plan



Bury Village Neighbourhood Plan 2019-2036



**January 2020
(Referendum Version)**

Bury Village Neighbourhood Plan 2019-2036

January 2020 (Referendum Version)

The Neighbourhood Plan for the Parish of Bury produced in accordance with the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations 2012

The Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group on behalf of Bury Parish Council:

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The Parish Council received professional planning support from NEIGHBOURHOOD-PLAN.CO.UK during the production of this Neighbourhood Plan.



NEIGHBOURHOOD-PLAN.CO.UK

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<https://buryparishcouncil.co.uk/index.php/neighbourhood-plan/>

Bury Village Neighbourhood Plan 2019-2036



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Contents

Foreword	Page 6
Introduction	Page 7
The Development Plan	Page 9
Other Planning Documents	Page 11
Bury Village	Page 12
Relationship to Ramsey and Upwood	Page 12
<i>Map 1 - Bury and Surrounding Areas</i>	Page 12
The Bury Neighbourhood Plan Area	Page 13
<i>Map 2 - Bury Designated Neighbourhood Plan Area</i>	Page 13
Vision	Page 14
Goals and Objectives	Page 14
Policy Delivery of Goals and Objectives	Page 15
Sustainable Growth	Page 17
Profile of Bury	Page 18
Strategic Planning Framework	Page 19
Definition of 'Built-up Area' (Settlement Boundary)	Page 21
Policy G1 - Definition of 'Built-up Area' (Settlement Boundary)	Page 21
<i>Map 3 - Settlement Boundary</i>	Page 22
Policy G2 - Comprehensive Development of Former Airfield	Page 24
Policy G3 - Community Engagement	Page 25
Policy G4 - Local Housing Needs	Page 26
Infrastructure, Services and Facilities	Page 27
Policy ISF1 - Sustainable Transport	Page 29
Transport Strategy	Page 30
Policy ISF2 - Highway Impact	Page 36
Policy ISF3 - Rights of Way Network	Page 38
<i>Map 4 - Rights of Way Network</i>	Page 38
Health and Education Provision	Page 38
Policy ISF4 - Infrastructure Provision	Page 43
Policy ISF5 - Protection of Community Assets	Page 45
Natural and Built Environment	Page 47
Heritage Assets	Page 48
Local Distinctiveness and Public Realm	Page 49
Natural Environment	Page 49
Trees and Woodlands	Page 50
Flood Risk	Page 51
<i>Map 5 - Flood Zones 2 and 3 in Bury</i>	Page 51
Policy NE1 - Local Green Space	Page 52
<i>Map 6 - Local Green Spaces</i>	Page 52
Policy NE2 - Protected Settlement Break	Page 54
<i>Map 7 - Protected Settlement Break</i>	Page 54
Implementation and Delivery	Page 55
Monitoring and Review	Page 57
Glossary	Page 59
Appendix 1 - History of Bury	Page 63
Appendix 2 - Description of Designated Local Green Spaces	Page 65

Foreword

On behalf of Bury Parish Council, welcome to the Neighbourhood Plan for our Parish area. The Neighbourhood Plan sets out the vision, objectives and policies to ensure that Bury Village maintains its character, appearance and uniqueness over the period up to 2036. The village has been under significant unplanned development pressure and the Neighbourhood Plan aims to put the local community back in control of how the village develops.

The Neighbourhood Plan will seek to protect and enhance the natural and built environment of the village and the wider parish which forms the character of where we live.

The Neighbourhood Plan has been drawn up by a Steering Group made up over time of Parish Councillors and local residents, working under the guidance of Bury Parish Council which is the designated body for the plan area and provided the funding and support to enable the plan to go ahead. Consultation on a Draft Plan was undertaken during June and July 2019, changes have been made to the Neighbourhood Plan following consultation. The Plan was submitted to Huntingdonshire District Council in September 2019 for statutory consultation during September and October 2019.

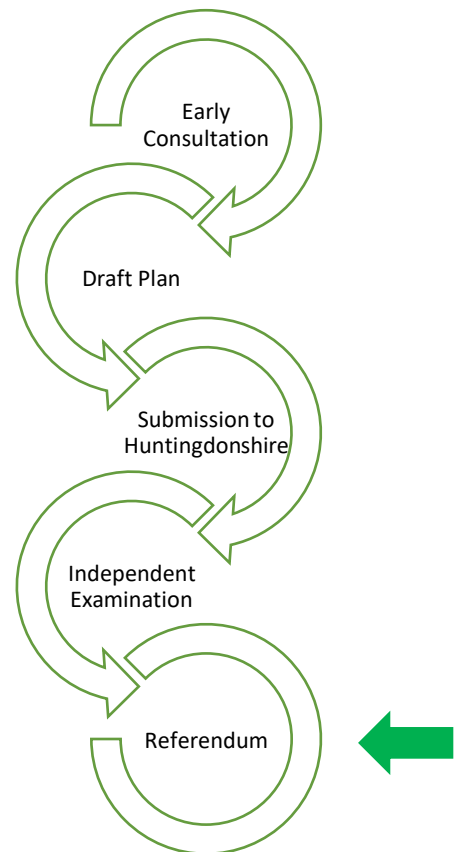
The Neighbourhood Plan sets down a series of planning policies which, once adopted by means of a local referendum, will ultimately form part of Huntingdonshire’s wider statutory development plan when it has been adopted, a process legally known as being ‘made’. The Neighbourhood Plan has to be in general conformity with the Huntingdonshire Local Plan.

The Neighbourhood Plan underwent an Independent Examination in late 2019 and will finally be subjected to a local referendum, anticipated in March 2020, requiring a majority ‘yes’ vote of all those voting in the referendum for it to be accepted. In the event of a ‘yes’ vote, Huntingdonshire District Council will proceed to ‘make’ the Neighbourhood Plan for the Parish of Bury.

It is intended that the policies will be reviewed periodically to monitor the cumulative effects of the policies and, if necessary, make changes to keep them up to date and relevant.

So, my personal thanks to all those who have driven the process so far and thank you for taking the time to consider the Neighbourhood Plan.

Councillor Michael Tew
Lead Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group Member



Introduction

1. Background

1.1 The Localism Act 2011 introduced a new type of Community Led Plan. Communities now have the right to produce a Neighbourhood Plan, setting out policies on the development and use of land. Developing a Neighbourhood Plan is a way for communities to play a greater role in determining the future of their area. A plan period of 2036 has been chosen to match the plan period of the emerging Huntingdonshire Local Plan to 2036.



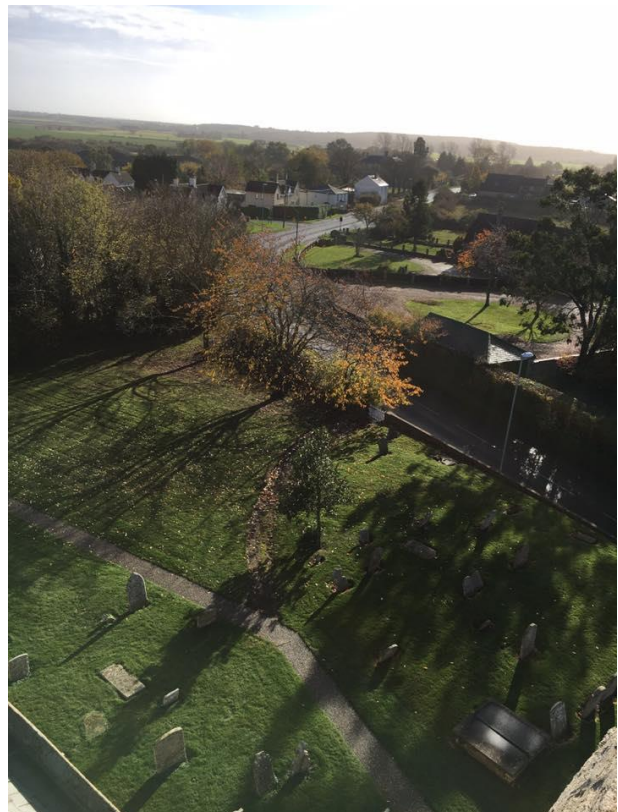
1.2 The Bury Village Neighbourhood Plan will form part of the statutory development plan once made. This means that Huntingdonshire District Council will determine planning applications within the Parish of Bury in accordance with the development plan which includes this Neighbourhood Plan unless material planning considerations indicate otherwise (see [section 38\(6\)¹](#) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004).

1.3 This Neighbourhood Plan is a true Community Led Plan. It has been prepared by the Parish Council through a Steering Group. It has been informed by public consultation with the local community.

1.4 A Neighbourhood Plan is a planning document and is about the use and development of land. Neighbourhood planning gives communities more control over the future of their area by giving local people the chance to have their say on what happens where they live.

1.5 A neighbourhood plan can establish general planning policies for the development and use of land in a particular area. Plans can include local priorities, planning policies, proposals for improving an area or providing new facilities or infrastructure and allocation of key sites for development.

1.6 Neighbourhood planning is a tool to promote sustainable growth and will not be able to prevent development in an area. Neighbourhood plans can only include proposals for an equal (or greater) amount of growth than is set out in the local authority's development plan. They must also accord with national planning policy



¹ <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2004/5/section/38>

2. Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)

- 2.1 Every Neighbourhood Plan needs to consider the need for a Sustainability Appraisal (incorporating a Strategic Environmental Assessment) for the Neighbourhood Plan. SA is a mechanism for considering and communicating the impacts of an emerging plan, and potential alternatives in terms of key sustainability issues.
- 2.2 The Steering Group on behalf of the Parish Council considers that there will be no significant environmental effects arising from the Neighbourhood Plan. They have produced a SEA and HRA Screening Assessment for the Neighbourhood Plan which has demonstrated that a SEA is not required. Consequently no SA incorporating an SEA has been undertaken for the Bury Village Neighbourhood Plan.

3. National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)

- 3.1 Throughout this Neighbourhood Plan reference is made to the National Planning Policy Framework ([NPPF](#))². The NPPF sets out the government's planning policies for England and how these are expected to be applied. It was first published on 27 March 2012, with the current Revised NPPF version being published on 24 July 2018 and then updated on the 19 February 2019. It is also supplemented by Planning Practice Guidance.
- 3.2 The NPPF provides a framework to produce locally distinctive Neighbourhood Plans which reflect the needs and aspirations of the community.
- 3.3 The Bury Village Neighbourhood Plan contributes towards the achievement of sustainable development. More detail on the ways in which this Plan addresses sustainable development is included within the Basic Conditions Statement that accompanies the Plan.



4. Planning Practice Guidance

- 4.1 [Planning Practice Guidance](#)³ sets out the government's advice on how to undertake neighbourhood planning within England. This is set out in detail within Section 41 of Planning Practice Guidance.

5. Structure of Neighbourhood Plan

- 5.1 The Neighbourhood Plan includes three themed sections: Sustainable Growth; Infrastructure, Services & Facilities; and Natural & Built Environment.

² <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-planning-policy-framework>

³ <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/planning-practice-guidance>



Sustainable Growth



Infrastructure, Services & Facilities



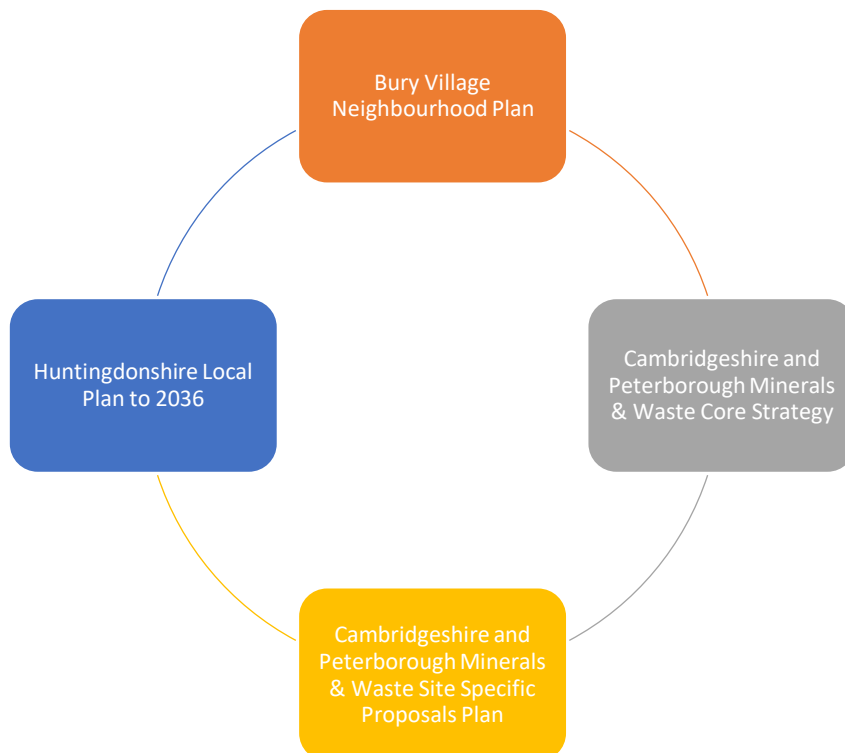
Natural & Built Environment

5.2 These are all issues that are important to the community and within each section policies are included to guide the development and use of land. Each Policy contains an introduction and explanatory text followed by the Policy itself in coloured text. Following the themed sections, the Neighbourhood Plan contains an implementation and delivery section.

The Development Plan

6. Background

6.1 The 'Development Plan' for Bury is made up of 4 main components as follows:



- 6.2 All policies within the Bury Village Neighbourhood Plan should be read in conjunction with the Huntingdonshire Local Plan to 2036. When determining proposals for development, no policy will be applied in isolation and account will be taken of all relevant policies.

7. Relationship to Huntingdonshire Local Plan 2036

- 7.1 The Huntingdonshire [Local Plan to 2036](#)⁴ was adopted in May 2019 and replaced the Core Strategy (2009), the Huntingdon West Area Action Plan (2011), the Local Plan (1995) and the Local Plan Alteration (2002). The purpose of the Local Plan is to set out:
- the strategy for development in the whole of Huntingdonshire;
 - policies for managing development; and
 - details of sites for development to meet the needs of Huntingdonshire.



8. Strategic policies for the purposes of neighbourhood planning

- 8.1 The system of neighbourhood planning allows Parish and Town Councils to produce neighbourhood plans to guide development at a local level. One of the requirements of such plans is that they should be in line with the 'strategic policies' of the adopted development plan for the local area.
- 8.2 Huntingdonshire District Council as the Local Planning Authority defines which policies are to be considered 'strategic' with regard to the production of a neighbourhood plan. They consider that some of the policies and all the allocations within the Huntingdonshire Local Plan to 2036 are to be considered 'strategic' for the purposes of neighbourhood planning. Details of which policies are deemed 'strategic' is set out in the introduction of the Local Plan.



9. Surrounding Neighbourhood Plans

- 9.1 The Bury Village Neighbourhood Plan cannot be developed without consideration of whether there are any other Neighbourhood Plans being developed who share a boundary with Bury Parish. To the north of Bury is the Parish of Ramsey, to the west is the Parish of Upwood and the Raveleys, to the south is the Parish of Wistow, and to the east is the Parish of Warboys. None of these Parishes are presently working on Neighbourhood Plans.

⁴ <http://www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/media/3872/final-adopted-local-plan-to-2036.pdf>

10. Designation of Bury Parish as a Neighbourhood Planning Area

10.1 A formal [application](#)⁵ was made by Bury Parish Council in August 2015 as a ‘relevant body’ under Section 61G of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) for the designation of a neighbourhood area in order to develop a neighbourhood plan. The area of the Neighbourhood Plan is based upon the parish boundary, which was seen as appropriate as this area is recognised as the distinct community of Bury Village. The request was that the Parish be recognised as a Neighbourhood Area for the purpose of producing a neighbourhood plan, in accordance with the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations 2012.



10.2 Huntingdonshire District Council [designated](#)⁶ the Parish of Bury as a neighbourhood area on 7 October 2015.

11. Consultation with the Local Community

11.1 Since the designation of Bury as a neighbourhood area, various elements of consultation have been undertaken regarding the future planning of the Parish. Details of the consultation undertaken to date are set out in the Consultation Statement that accompanies this Plan.

Other Planning Documents

12.1 In addition to the Development Plan there are also a number of other planning documents known as [Supplementary Planning Documents](#)⁷ which cover the whole of Huntingdonshire. These include:

- Huntingdonshire Design Guide SPD (2017)
- Cambridgeshire Flood and Water SPD (2017)
- Wind Energy Development in Huntingdonshire SPD (2014)
- Developer Contributions SPD (2011) (with updated costs annually or successor documents)
- Huntingdonshire Landscape and Townscape Assessment SPD (2007)

12.2 Part of the Parish of Bury is within the Ramsey Conservation Area. The Ramsey Conservation Area Character Statement was published in December 2005 by Huntingdonshire District Council. This is a [character appraisal](#)⁸ whose purpose is to identify and record those special qualities that make up the architectural and historic character. This Neighbourhood Plan draws upon this Statement as part of its evidence base.

⁵ <http://www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/media/1132/bury-neighbourhood-area-application-letter-and-plan.pdf>

⁶ <http://buryvillagenp.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/151007-Bury-NP-Area-designation-signed-by-ClrDD-APPROVAL.pdf>

⁷ <http://www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/planning/planning-policy-documents/>

⁸ <http://www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/media/2329/ramsey-conservation-area-character-assessment-adopted-december-2005.pdf>

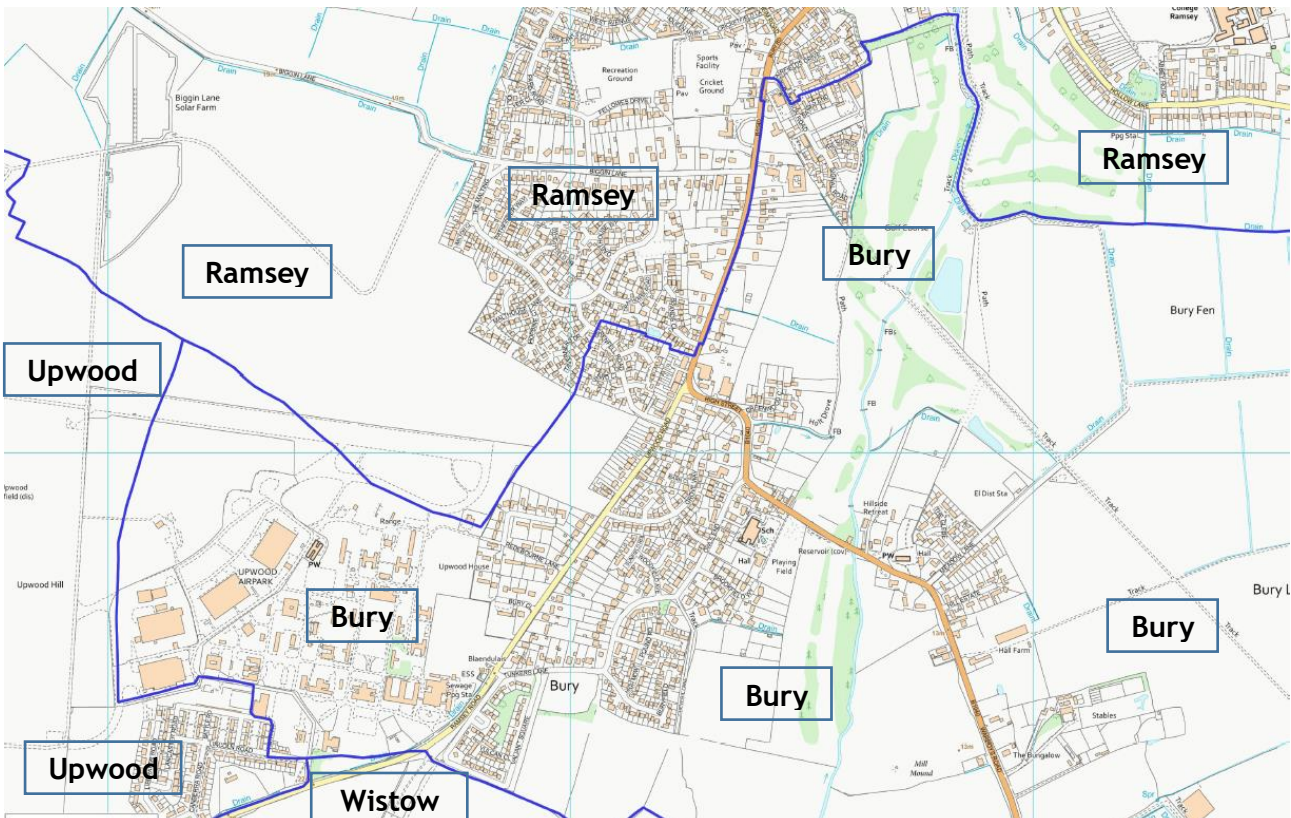
Bury Village

13.1 Bury and Hepmangrove were traditionally two settlements but now form one single village known as Bury. The village has grown in population from 179 in 1911, peaking at 2,064 in 1951 before dropping back to 975 in 1981 at the end of the RAF use of Upwood Airfield. The population has risen again to 1,938 in 2011. A more detailed background on Bury is included in Appendix 1.

Parish	1911	1921	1931	1951	1961	1971	1981	1991	2001	2011
Bury	179	300	303	2064	1165	1069	975	1710	1713	1938

Relationship to Ramsey and Upwood

14.1 Most, but not all of Upwood Airfield lies in Bury Parish with parts also lying within the Parishes of Ramsey and Upwood and the Raveleys. Parts of Bury immediately abut the town of Ramsey, that town has a population of 8,479. It provides a number of higher order local services and facilities that are used by the residents of Bury Village. The relationship between Bury and these neighbouring areas is shown on Map 1 below.

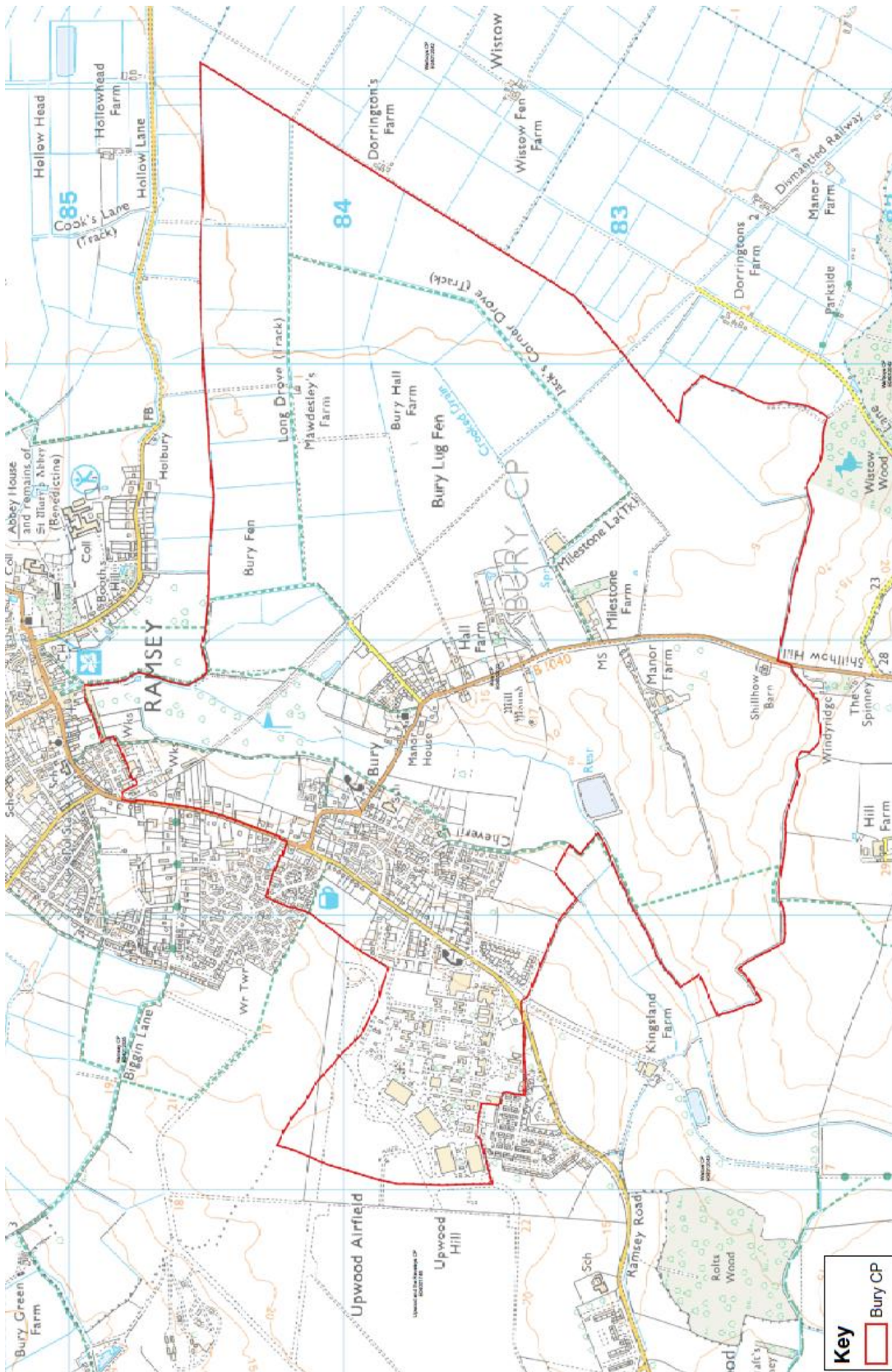


Map 1 - Bury and Surrounding Areas © Crown Copyright OS Licence Number 0100055891

 Parish Boundaries

The Bury Neighbourhood Plan Area

15.1 The plan below identifies the designated Neighbourhood Area:



Map 2 - Bury Designated Neighbourhood Plan Area

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Vision

16.1 The following vision has been developed for the Bury Village Neighbourhood Plan:

To provide a planning framework and policies that will result in sustainable growth for the local community, ensuring that appropriate infrastructure, services and facilities are provided whilst also conserving the village and countryside environment.

Goals and Objectives

16.2 The following four headline goals and thirteen underlying objectives have been set out for the Bury Village Neighbourhood Plan. These were developed through the early stages of the plan preparation process and have been refined as the Plan policy content has been developed:

(A) Provide existing and future residents with the opportunity to live in a decent home

- Provide new housing including affordable housing and housing required to meet the local needs of Bury residents; including smaller homes for elderly villagers wishing to downsize and for young singles, couples or families needing their first home, and those working locally in businesses including agriculture.
- Ensure that new development is of high quality design, is built to a high sustainability standard and reinforces local distinctiveness.
- Ensure that the design and location of new development is resilient to the effects of climate change and flooding.

(B) Seek opportunities for landscape, recreational and ecological gain whilst minimising the environmental impact of new development

- Protect, enhance and conserve the village's open spaces; landscape; views; and biodiversity.
- Protect and enhance the historic environment of the village.
- Use land efficiently and to preserve high quality agricultural land.

(C) Reduce the need for travel by car and shorten the length and duration of journeys facilitating a reduction of road traffic congestion

- Locate development within easy walking distance of local services and facilities and public transport infrastructure.
- Ensure that new development integrates into the existing village including linking all developments to the rest of the village with footpaths, where appropriate.
- Locate new development such that current problems with congestion, parking and road safety are not exacerbated and, if possible, reduced.

(D) Maintain the character and vitality of the village

- Integrate new housing into Bury such that the character, appearance and distinct village identity is maintained; ensuring that further coalescence with Ramsey does not take place
- Provide homes for younger people and young families to address and counter the growing demographic imbalance.
- Promote the comprehensive regeneration and redevelopment of Upwood Airfield.
- Protect and preserve important village assets including its local services and facilities.

Policy Delivery of Goals and Objectives

16.3 The following table demonstrates how the policies set out in the Neighbourhood Plan meet the objectives contained within the previous chapter. The policies that have been developed seek to address at least one of the objectives:

	Goal B Objective A	Goal B Objective B	Goal B Objective C	Goal B Objective D
Sustainable Growth				
Policy G1 - Definition of 'Built-up Area' (Settlement Boundary)	✓	✓	✓	✓
Policy G2 - Comprehensive Development of Former Airfield	✓	✓	✓	✓
Policy G3 - Community Engagement	✓	✓	✓	✓
Policy G4 - Local Housing Needs	✓			✓
Infrastructure, Services and Facilities				
Policy ISF1 - Sustainable Transport			✓	
Policy ISF2 - Highway Impact			✓	
Policy ISF3 - Rights of Way Network		✓	✓	✓
Policy ISF4 - Infrastructure Provision	✓	✓	✓	✓
Policy ISF5 - Protection of Community Assets	✓	✓	✓	✓
Natural and Built Environment				
Policy NE1 - Local Green Space	✓	✓	✓	✓
Policy NE2 - Protected Settlement Breaks	✓	✓	✓	✓



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Sustainable Growth



Sustainable Growth

17. Profile of Bury

17.1 The parish of Bury is mostly rural located in the north-western part of Huntingdonshire and lies on the edge of the Cambridgeshire Fens. The village of Bury is located at the western edge of the parish and it lies to the south of Ramsey. Now a single village, Bury still has two distinct parts: the older part of Bury to the east of the Brook and the former settlement of Hepmangrove to the west of the Brook. This area now includes most of the current village and over time some coalescence has taken place with the adjacent town of Ramsey. Bury is a distinct village with a strong community identity which the Neighbourhood Plan seeks to protect.

17.2 The B1040 runs through the village linking Ramsey to the north with Warboys to the south-east. The parish includes most but not all of Upwood Airfield, the remaining parts of the airfield fall within the parishes of Ramsey and Upwood and The Raveleys.

17.3 Cambridgeshire ACRE⁹, on behalf of Bury Parish Council, put together in March 2017 a demographic profile of the parish of Bury. This draws from information available from the census and Cambridgeshire Insight¹⁰. The key findings were:

- The age profile of the population of Bury has a low representation of people in their 20s and early 30s - Only 12% are aged 20-34 compared with 18% in Huntingdonshire and 21% in Cambridgeshire. This is counter balanced by a higher proportion of older people in Bury compared to averages in Cambridgeshire and England;
- Households in Bury are predominantly couples with or without dependent children;
- Dwelling types and tenures are not mixed - 63% are detached, 80% are owner occupied homes;
- Dwellings are large - 40% are 4+bedrooms compared with 29% in Huntingdonshire;
- Growth in the number of dwellings in Bury from 1991 to 2011 was 22%, this is slightly lower than the 25% growth in Huntingdonshire. There is however a discrepancy with population growth over the

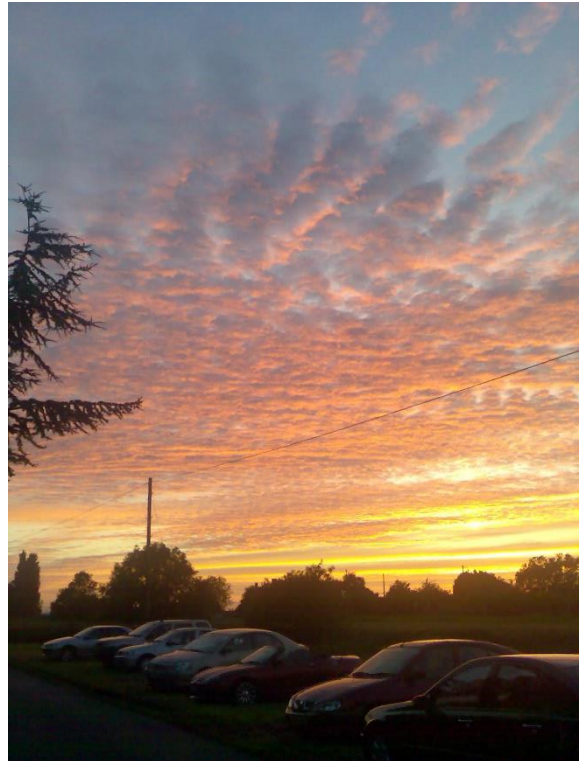


⁹ <http://www.cambsacre.org.uk/>

¹⁰ <https://cambridgeshireinsight.org.uk/>

same period in Bury which was 7.4% over the same period - this is believed to be as a result of the loss of service personnel from Upwood Airfield;

- Generally people in Bury work in higher skilled occupations; those working tend to commute out of the village to other parts of Huntingdonshire; other parts of Cambridgeshire; and Peterborough;
- At the 2011 census there were 125 people self-employed in Bury with 132 people mainly working from home;
- The main local employment in Bury is currently within just a handful of businesses dominated by a large pallet maker; and
- Bury experiences low levels of deprivation.



18. Strategic Planning Framework

18.1 The adopted strategic policies for Bury are contained in the Huntingdonshire Local Plan to 2036. This forms the strategic planning framework; one of the requirements of a Neighbourhood Plan is that they should be in line with the 'strategic policies' of the adopted development plan for the local area. Paragraph 29 of the NPPF states: *“Neighbourhood plans should not promote less development than set out in the strategic policies for the area, or undermine those strategic policies.”*

18.2 In the Huntingdonshire Local Plan to 2036, Bury is part of the ‘Ramsey Spatial Planning Area’ in Policy LP 2 - Strategy for Development.

18.3 The Huntingdonshire Local Plan to 2036 proposes that the ‘Ramsey Spatial Planning Area’ has allocations for 895 homes and 2 hectares of employment land. The allocations in the parish of Bury are as follows:

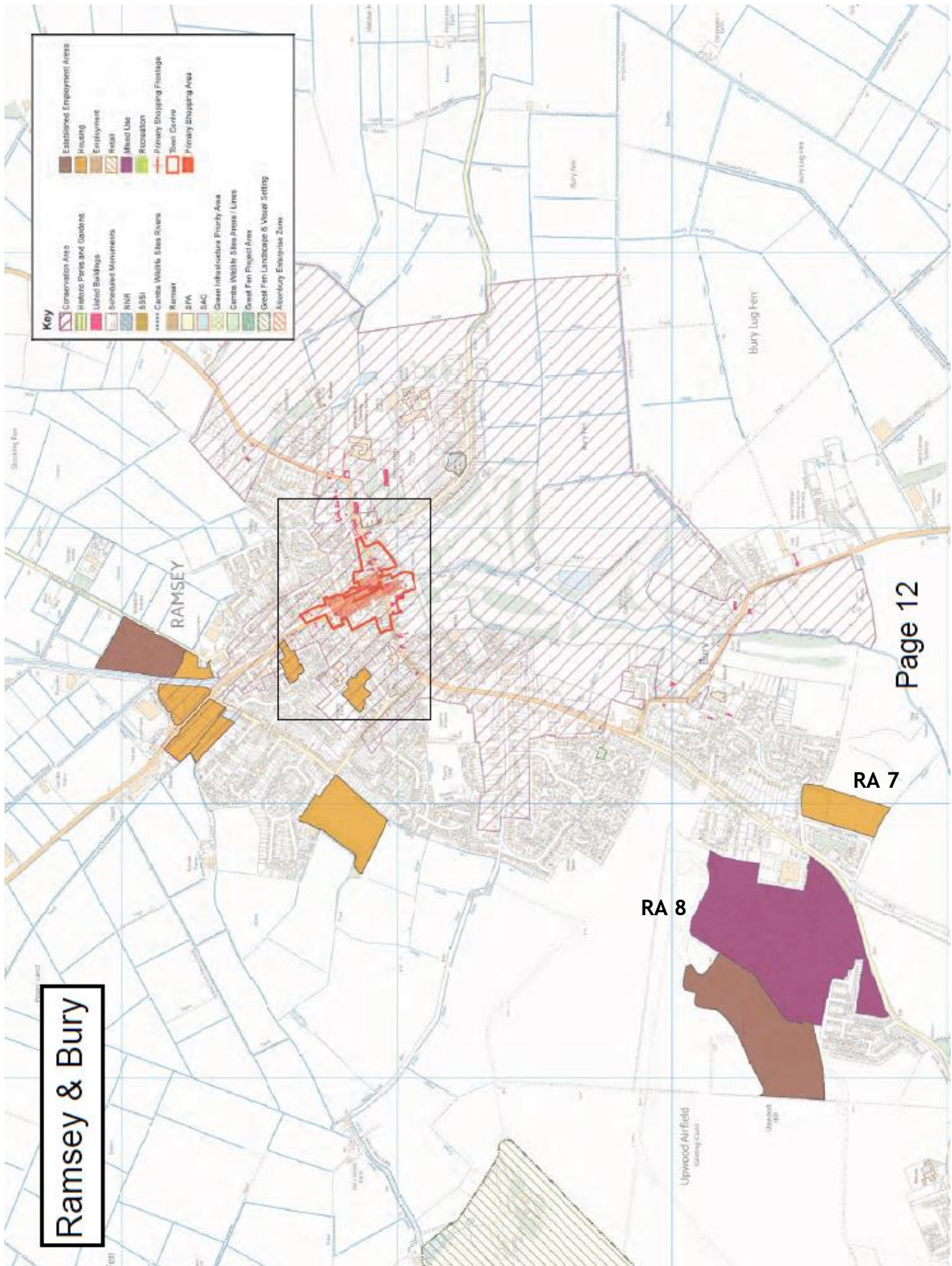
RA 7 - East of Valiant Square (3.6 ha of land is allocated for residential development of approximately 90 homes; and

RA 8 - Former RAF Upwood and Upwood Hill House (25ha of land at the former RAF Upwood and Upwood Hill House is allocated for development for a mix of uses to comprise: 2ha of employment land for business uses (class 'B1'); approximately 450 homes; community facilities appropriate to the scale of development)



18.4 In relation to Policy LP 7 - Spatial Planning Areas the framework for development on unallocated sites, supports development where it is appropriately located within a built-up area of an identified Spatial Planning Area settlement. The Huntingdonshire Local Plan to 2036 goes on to set out a comprehensive definition of ‘built-up area’ in paragraphs 4.84;

4.85; and the table following paragraph 4.85. The Neighbourhood Plan defines the ‘built-up area’ for Bury through use of a settlement boundary.



Page 12

RA 7

RA 8

Ramsey & Bury

Extract from Huntingdonshire Local Plan to 2036 Policies Map © Huntingdonshire District Council

19. Definition of 'Built-up Area' (Settlement Boundary)

19.1 Bury has seen numerous large scale planning applications coming forward for residential development on greenfield sites which are not allocated. Continued speculative development has the potential to undermine the strategic policies of the Huntingdonshire Local Plan to 2036. It also has the potential to affect the distinctive character and separate identity of Bury as a village. The Huntingdonshire Local Plan to 2036 does not continue the village limits for Bury which were contained in the now superseded Huntingdonshire Local Plan (1995); instead it moves to use of a definition of 'built-up area'. Bury is part of the 'Ramsey Spatial Planning Area' in Policy LP 2 - Strategy for Development. Policy LP 7 - Spatial Planning Areas, supports development where it is appropriately located within a built-up area of an identified Spatial Planning Area settlement.

19.2 For Bury a settlement boundary is proposed to be identified to define the 'built-up area' as referred to in the Huntingdonshire Local Plan to 2036. The settlement boundary of Bury serves a specific purpose in that it is intended to direct the growth of the settlement and enable development to take place in a coherent manner, maintaining the structure and form of the existing settlement geography as the Huntingdonshire Local Plan to 2036 envisages. In addition, the boundary will protect the landscape setting of the village.



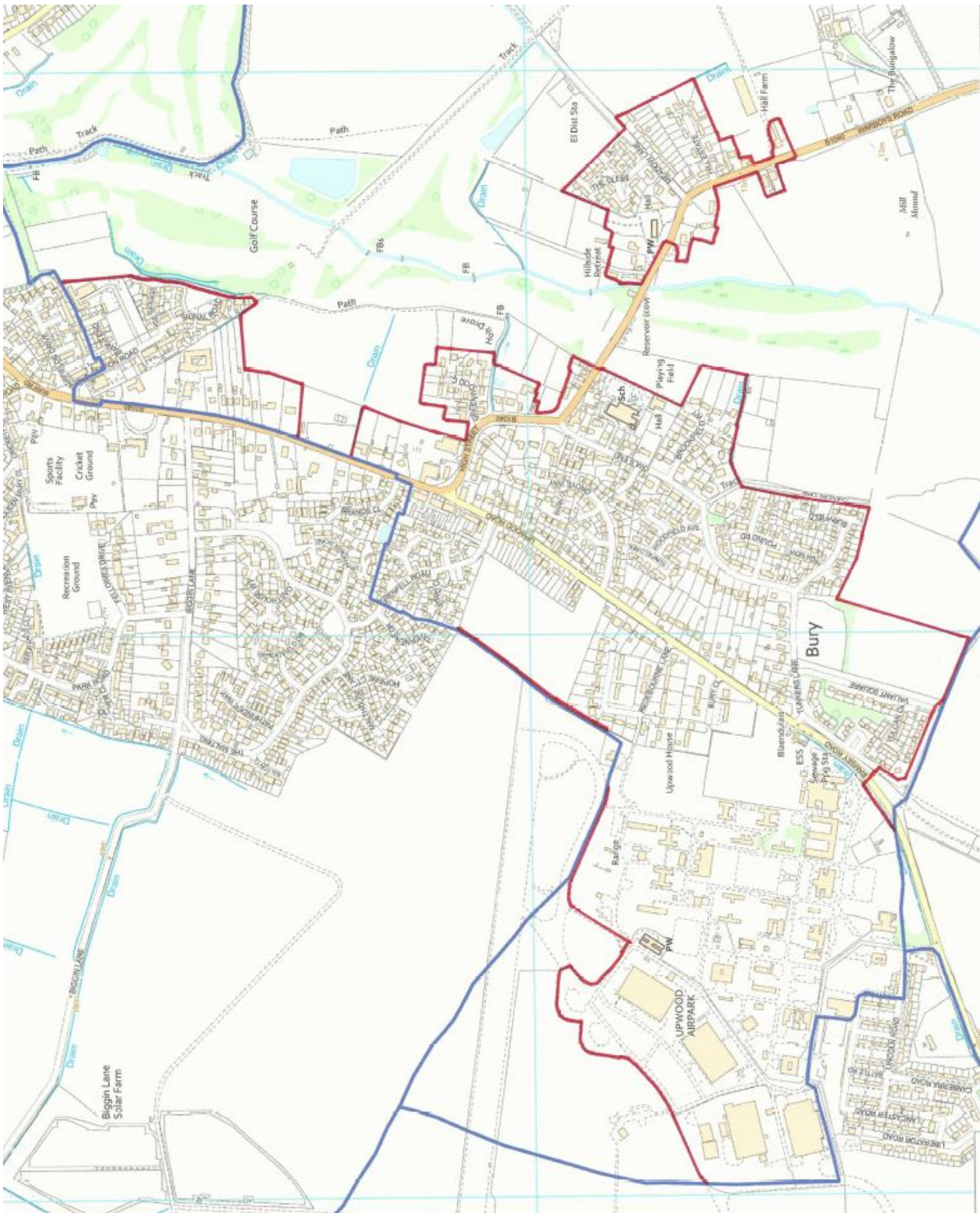
19.3 The Huntingdonshire Local Plan to 2036 sets out a comprehensive definition of 'built-up area'. Regard has been had to this definition in drawing the settlement boundary in this Neighbourhood Plan in order to define the 'built-up area'. The allocations in the Huntingdonshire Local Plan to 2036 have also been included in the settlement boundary; as has land which has been granted planning permission for development. Details of the criteria used to define the settlement boundary in this Neighbourhood Plan is set out in the Settlement Boundary Methodology document.

Policy G1 - Definition of 'Built-up Area' (Settlement Boundary)

The settlement boundary of Bury is defined on the Map 3; this defines the 'built-up area' for Bury. It serves the purpose of directing the growth of the settlement and protecting the countryside from encroachment.

Within the settlement boundary proposals will be supported on sites not allocated for development where development would not adversely affect the structure and form of the existing settlement and the undeveloped nature of the surrounding rural areas; and would respect its landscape setting.

The land outside of the settlement boundary is considered as countryside outside of the 'built-up area'. Proposals outside the settlement boundary will only be supported for development where it meets the requirements of other policies in the Development Plan or National Planning Policy; such as that which requires a countryside location, agriculture, horticulture or forestry; or are related to community, leisure or recreation. In particular community, leisure or recreation proposals designed to meet the needs of local residents will be supported.



Map 3 - Settlement Boundary © Crown Copyright OS Licence Number 0100055891

Settlement Boundary Plan Area Boundary

Note - The Settlement Boundary can only be shown within the area covered by the Bury Neighbourhood Plan. In the Upwood Airfield area the employment and housing allocations in the emerging Huntingdonshire Local Plan to 2036 extends into the adjoining parish of Upwood to the west of the former hangars and south around the Lincoln Road area. The allocations also extend into the adjoining parish of Ramsey to the north at the Air Training Corps Building to the rear of Redebourne Lane.

20. Comprehensive Development of Former Airfield

20.1 The Neighbourhood Plan does not allocate any housing or employment sites for growth. The principal housing allocation for Bury set out in the Huntingdonshire Local Plan to 2036 is the 'Upwood Airfield' site, known as RA 8; which is a mixed use site allocation. Most but not all of site RA 8 lies within the Neighbourhood Plan boundary.

20.2 Given the demographics of Bury there is importance in ensuring that the right mix of housing is provided within the strategic allocation at Upwood Airfield. There is also concern that the delivery of this allocation may take place in a piecemeal manner without proper consideration as to how the redevelopment of the site will integrate into the surrounding area. In consultation 66% of local residents either agree or strongly agree there a need for new homes in the Parish, with 70% agreeing that we need Affordable Houses for those with a local connection.



20.3 To date the former 'Clinic' site within the overall Airfield has been granted full planning permission¹¹ for 60 dwellings. The 'Clinic' site lies outside of the allocated site RA 8 so is not counted towards the 450 dwellings in that allocation. Also outline planning permission¹² exists on the southern half of the airfield for selective demolition and about 2 hectares of employment (Use Class Order B1 uses) and residential (not more than 160 dwellings). This gives a total of 160 dwellings currently approved out of the envisaged 450 dwellings allocated in the Huntingdonshire Local Plan to 2036.

20.4 Policy RA 8 of the Huntingdonshire Local Plan to 2036 is seeking production of a masterplan for the allocation and sets out a number of policy requirements regarding factors including drainage; contamination; and transport. That policy does not however set out what planning considerations the masterplan should address and the local community is concerned that the current approach is leading to piecemeal development without the holistic approach towards the comprehensive redevelopment of the entire airfield site that is necessary. It is noted that the outline planning permission¹³ has a requirement in its planning conditions for a development brief to be produced for the approved site as part of any reserved matters submission. This demonstrates the piecemeal approach to date, this planning condition requirement will need to be balanced against the need to achieve proper planning towards the comprehensive redevelopment of the entire airfield site.



¹¹ 15/00029/FUL – Granted 23rd December 2015 amended by 18/01148/S73 – Granted 28th November 2018 and amended further by 18/02636/NMA – Granted 10th December 2018

¹² 1201274OUT – Granted 7th June 2017

¹³ 1201274OUT

- 20.5 Development of the Airfield site will result in Bury effectively doubling in size, as such the community want to ensure through a policy in the Neighbourhood Plan that a comprehensive approach is taken to the former airfield. It is understood that the demolition¹⁴ will involve all existing buildings on the airfield apart from two buildings at the southern end, east of Lincoln Road and a third building in the south-western corner, east of the southernmost hanger.
- 20.6 Without such a policy, it is considered that further ad-hoc development proposals would be difficult to resist and the required infrastructure and balanced development would not be delivered. The concept of this area being planned comprehensively is considered to meet the aims of Policy RA 8 of the Huntingdonshire Local Plan to 2036.

Policy G2 - Comprehensive Development of Former Airfield

Proposals for development in the 'Former Upwood Airfield' that lies within the parish of Bury (Land west of Upwood Road and Ramsey Road known as Site Allocation RA 8 in the Huntingdonshire Local Plan to 2036) will be supported where they are accompanied by an overall masterplan developed in collaboration with the local community. The masterplan shall where feasible cover the entire site having regard to any extant consents¹⁵ and should illustrate the following aspects:

- How a mix of residential, employment and community uses will be secured and delivered across the site having regard to a balanced approach to enable viable delivery whilst providing locally specific benefits to the community;
- How phasing and co-operation between landowners will be secured and delivered including how site preparation work, demolition, site investigations, contamination remediation, and infrastructure provision are to be programmed;
- Proposals to ensure a well-designed quality residential environment as envisaged in Policy LP 12 of the Huntingdonshire Local Plan to 2036 as part of a sustainable extension to Bury and Upwood;
- The relationship to existing development including proposals to ensure the protection of the living conditions of existing residents; how the existing character of surrounding areas will be retained; and how surrounding uses including those on the overall airfield but outside of the plan area will not be adversely affected;
- Incorporation of suitable measures to ensure the protection of the living conditions of future occupiers from existing and proposed employment development in order to safeguard existing and proposed employment from potential sterilisation arising from nearby residential development;
- Provision of new green infrastructure, open space, ecological corridors and structural landscaping that contributes to amenity; and how this will secure ecological enhancement¹⁶;
- Provision of on-site community facilities, including how these meet the needs of future residents;
- Impact assessment on off-site infrastructure, services and facilities including the need for additional capacity;
- Sustainable drainage and measures to promote water re-use;
- Internal access and circulation routes including those to/from the employment areas and/or the 'Clinic' site;

¹⁴ Under application 18/80345/COND to discharge planning condition No.6 on 12/01274/OUT

¹⁵ This includes 1201274OUT granted on the 7th June 2017

¹⁶ The Natural Cambridgeshire publication '[Developing with Nature Toolkit](https://naturalcambridgeshire.org.uk/projects/developing-with-nature-toolkit/)', seeks to guide developers through the decisions they make with a view to being able to demonstrate enhancement of biodiversity above and beyond mitigation and compensation, so that a net gain is achieved (<https://naturalcambridgeshire.org.uk/projects/developing-with-nature-toolkit/>)

- Highway access links to/from the existing village road network and whether any off-site highway improvements are necessary;
- How a network of footpath and cycle routes can be integrated around the site and how links into the remainder of Bury village and wider afield, as detailed in the Transport Strategy section of the Neighbourhood Plan, can be achieved to promote the use of non-vehicle modes of transport for short journeys;
- Accessibility to existing public transport (bus) provision and how opportunities to develop additional public transport (bus) provision can be incorporated to promote the use of non-vehicle modes of transport; and
- How the proposed housing mix relates to the local housing need identified in the Bury Housing Needs Survey; including consideration of starter homes, affordable housing, family housing, smaller homes, housing for the elderly and self-build housing.

21. Community Engagement

21.1 The Neighbourhood Plan area is due to undergo a significant level of change. The local community wishes to encourage developers to proactively engage in community engagement with the Parish Council and local residents. There is a limited range of applications for which compulsory pre-application community engagement is required. Through the Neighbourhood Plan proactive community engagement is encouraged, this is considered to be in the best interests of both those proposing development and the local community that wants to help ensure that appropriate growth and development is secured.

Policy G3 - Community Engagement

Developers considering making proposals for major¹⁷ development within Bury should contact Bury Parish Council at the earliest opportunity to discuss how pre-application community engagement can be undertaken.

Bury Parish Council will work with developers to facilitate effective and proactive community engagement and to ensure that the requirements of this Neighbourhood Plan are taken into consideration.

Proposals for development which are accompanied by a community engagement report that details how the outcome of the pre-application community engagement has been taken into account in the scheme submitted will be particularly supported.

22. Local Housing Needs

22.1 The Parish Council has commissioned a local housing needs survey which was undertaken by Cambridgeshire Acre. The survey was undertaken during February and March 2019 and the results have been collated. The survey will be used to help inform the provision of affordable housing on sites within the Neighbourhood Plan area. Affordable housing targets are set out in Policy LP 24 Affordable Housing Provision in the Huntingdonshire Local Plan to 2036. In aggregate, from the local housing needs survey, there are 29 households identified as being

¹⁷ 'major development' in terms of this policy means development of 10 or more dwellinghouses (or a site having an area of 0.5 hectares or more where dwelling numbers are not known); the provision of a building or buildings where the floor space to be created by the development is 1,000 square metres or more; or any development carried out on a site having an area of 1 hectare or more

Bury Village Neighbourhood Plan

in need of affordable housing who either live in, or have a local connection to, Bury. These 29 households can be broken down as requiring affordable housing as follows:

1 bed		2 bed		3 bed		4 bed		5+ bed		Total
F/H	B	F/H	B	F/H	B	F/H	B	F/H	B	
8	2	9		8		2				29

Extract from Housing Need Survey Results Report for Bury (Cambridgeshire Acre)

Key: F/H - Flat/House; B - Bungalow

22.2 In addition Policy LP 28 Rural Exceptions Housing in the Huntingdonshire Local Plan to 2036 supports a proposal for housing on a site well-related to a built-up area, as an exception to the requirements of relevant policies. This is another mechanism to deliver affordable housing which meets local needs. In the future if affordable housing to meet local needs is not being delivered the Parish Council will consider the option of a Neighbourhood Development Order, which is a tool which grants planning permission for development that the community wants to see in their area.

22.3 Policy LP 28 envisages that at least 60% of housing on a rural exceptions site should be affordable housing. Policy LP 28 envisages that the remaining 40% of housing can be open market housing or self-build and custom housing. Policy LP 25 of the Huntingdonshire Local Plan to 2036 supports the provision of self-build and custom housing. Huntingdonshire District Council is required to maintain a [Custom and Self-build Register](#)¹⁸ which assists in demonstrating need for such housing.



22.4 Given that the majority of housing in Bury is to be provided on sites of a scale likely to be delivered by larger housebuilders there is likely to be limited options to provide self-build and custom housing. Such individual housing provision can assist in allowing local residents who need alternative housing as their needs change to remain within the community. Consequently where a rural exceptions site is provided the remaining 40% of housing should be prioritised for self-build and custom housing.

Policy G4 - Local Housing Needs

Proposals will be supported where the housing mix reflects the local housing need in Bury as demonstrated through the Bury Housing Needs Survey or successor document or other suitable local evidence.

A proposal for rural exceptions housing where it meets the requirements of the Huntingdonshire Local Plan to 2036 will be supported where at least 60% of the site area is for affordable housing which has a housing mix that reflects the local housing need in Bury as demonstrated through the Bury Housing Needs Survey or other suitable local evidence. The remaining up to 40% of the site area should be prioritised for the provision of plots for self-build and custom housing aimed at meeting local needs.

¹⁸ <https://www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/planning/new-local-plan-to-2036/monitoring-research-and-evidence-base/custom-and-self-build-homes/>

Infrastructure, Services and Facilities



23. Sustainable Transport

23.1 Local planning policy recognises that Bury, Ramsey and the surrounding area has relatively poor transport infrastructure, being well off the primary road network and relatively remote. Its comparatively limited services, facilities and employment opportunities make it a less sustainable location in terms of travel than some of the other market towns in Cambridgeshire.

23.2 Bury along with Ramsey and the surrounding villages is classed as a rural area, there are high levels of car ownership and reliance on the car to maintain access to key services. In addition, high house prices and lack of affordable housing has led to more people travelling further to work, with the average length of commute in Bury and Ramsey greater than the national average. Access to employment, education and services can be a real challenge without a car in rural areas.

23.3 The Huntingdonshire Local Plan to 2036 contains Policy LP 16 which indicates that new development will be expected to contribute to an enhanced transport network that supports an increasing proportion of journeys being undertaken by sustainable travel modes.

23.4 Access to high quality public transport is known to be hugely beneficial to improving access to services for those members of society who cannot, for a variety of reasons, access a car. This is particularly acute in rural areas such as Bury where distances between households and services are often large, making walking and cycling less practical than in urban areas. Bury is reliant upon Ramsey for many higher order services and facilities.



23.5 The main location for growth in Bury at Upwood Airfield is somewhat distant from those higher order services and facilities in Ramsey so new opportunities for walking and cycling are required to promote non-vehicle modes of transport. Upwood Airfield is also less well served by public transport and low population densities make service provision economically unjustifiable. Poor access to key services can lead to areas of social exclusion and deprivation. Therefore, the Neighbourhood Plan contains a transport strategy that will seek to support where possible other strategies and schemes that are aimed at improving services to the area, with an acknowledgement that this would be desirable and providing a policy basis for future improvements. These could include local Partnerships of Parish/Town Councils and local community organisations.

23.6 Huntingdonshire District Council and the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority are to produce the upcoming Ramsey Prospectus for Growth which is part of a district-wide proposal to promote growth and economic development within the Huntingdonshire market towns. This could provide further information to applicants especially in relation to safer pathways into Ramsey from other settlements including Bury as identified in the transport strategy section below; and may indicate potential funding sources.

23.7 The Neighbourhood Plan can support these ambitions and promote sustainable transport modes such as public transport, walking and cycling. It seeks to move away from the use of private car to help tackle climate change, pollution and congestion. Many routes within Bury, particularly around the village are already at or close to capacity in peak times and managing travel demand must form a key part of the approach to transport planning.

23.8 Bus services¹⁹ available within Bury are limited, of these services only number 31 currently passes the Upwood Airfield, the remainder pass along the B1040. The bus services do not generally suit the requirements for work commuting. The services available are as follows:

- 21 - St Ives - Earith - Somersham - Ramsey (Operated by Dews Coaches)
- 30 - Huntingdon - RAF Wyton - Warboys - Ramsey (Operated by Stagecoach)
- 31 - Peterborough - Whittlesey - Ramsey (Operated by Stagecoach)
- A - Trumpington - Central Cambridge - Longstanton - St Ives [note this service runs to Ramsey in the morning and evening peak] (Operated by Stagecoach)

23.9 Community transport services²⁰ within Bury include the following:

- [Huntingdonshire Association for Community Transport](#)²¹ - Offers regular ‘Ring-and-Ride’ services into Huntingdon, Peterborough, St Ives and St Neots, plus frequent trips to other destinations and places of interest, including excursions and pub lunches;
- Ramsey, Warboys & District Volunteer Centre - For residents of Ramsey, Warboys, Bury, Upwood, Broughton and area for social and medical purposes, i.e. GP surgery appointments, opticians, dentists, picking up prescriptions, visiting friends, and shopping. Can undertake journeys to visit friends and family in hospital and outpatient department appointments; and
- Rural Hoppa Services - [Ramsey & District Community Bus Association](#)²² run three weekly “Rural Hoppa” services into Ramsey and Huntingdon. These services are open to members of the public (there is no membership), and bus pass holders can use their passes on Rural Hoppa services for discounted journeys. RH2 (Fridays only) Upwood - Bury - Ramsey; RH3 (Thursdays only) Upwood - The Raveleys - Wood Walton - The Riptons - Broughton - Huntingdon; and RH5 (Fridays only) Ramsey - Mereside - Pondersbridge - Forty Foot - Ramsey.



Policy ISF1 - Sustainable Transport

Development proposals will be supported where they demonstrate how opportunities for the use of sustainable modes of transport are maximised. This should be achieved through maximising the potential for cycling and walking throughout the site; provision of safe crossings; secure cycle storage in public places, workplaces and in new dwellings; and linkages through to adjacent sites and existing parts of Bury and further afield including Ramsey. Where a proposal will have a significant impact on the existing transport network this would be best demonstrated through a transport assessment.

¹⁹ https://www5.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/site/custom_scripts/bus_timetable_by_location.aspx?Loc=Bury

²⁰ <http://www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/people-communities/community-transport/>

²¹ <http://www.hact-cambs.co.uk/>

²² <http://ramseybus.org.uk/>

Development proposals should include recreational routes for pedestrians which link into existing and proposed green infrastructure in order to contribute to health and well-being.

In all proposals consideration should be given to how the development can contribute the delivery of the transport strategy set out in the Neighbourhood Plan below; including how they can contribute to the provision of a network of walking and cycling linkages to the key services & facilities in the centre of Bury village including the Shop, Primary School, Village Hall, Play Area and Recreation Ground.

Development proposals should demonstrate how they ensure accessibility to existing public transport and community transport provision. Development proposals will be supported where they secure improvements to public transport provision such as waiting facilities, raised kerbs, signage and real time information systems.

24. Transport Strategy

24.1 Consultation has highlighted the need for measures to improve public transport and communications to serve the village including bus services, community transport, school transport, and access to rail services. The Parish Council will work with Cambridgeshire County Council and local bus operators to try and secure improvements in public transport provision. The [Cambridgeshire Long Term Transport Strategy](#)²³ (LTTS) forms part of the [Cambridgeshire Local Transport Plan](#)²⁴ and contains more detail on the major transport schemes and services that may be needed to support housing growth and the local economy up to 2031. One of the highlights of the LTTS is the development of a more comprehensive network of cycling and walking links to and from key destinations around the county.

24.2 In May 2017, a Mayor was directly-elected and the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority (CPCA) was formed as part of the devolution deal agreed with Central Government. The CPCA now has the strategic transport powers and is the Local Transport Authority for the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough area. The Mayor sets the overall transport strategy for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, called the Local Transport Plan. While a new CPCA Local Transport Plan is being prepared for the CPCA area, an interim document - an amalgamation of Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council's Local Transport Plans - was adopted by the CPCA in June 2017 as single plan for the whole area. Consultation on the new CPCA Local Transport Plan is scheduled to end in September 2019.



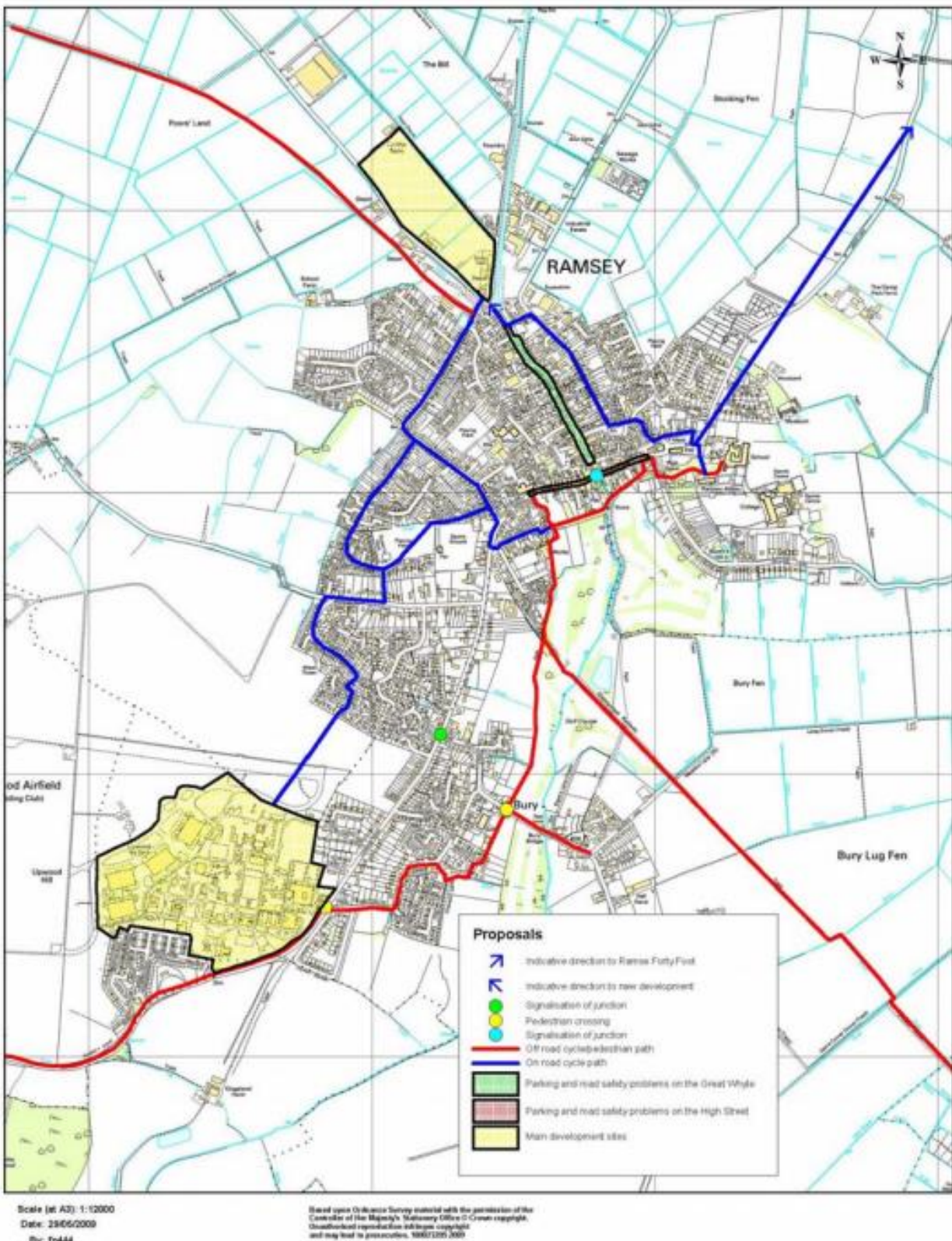
24.3 The County Council has produced area specific [transport strategies](#)²⁵ for all of the market towns in Cambridgeshire. Each market town strategy aims to provide a five year programme of transport improvements and support the Local Transport Plan objectives and contribute towards the prosperity and wellbeing of each town. They were written in partnership with the district councils. These market town strategies are gradually being replaced with district wide transport strategies that cover both the market towns and rural areas in each of the five Cambridgeshire Districts. Transport strategies for Huntingdonshire and Fenland are

²³ <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/travel-roads-and-parking/transport-plans-and-policies/long-term-transport-strategy/>

²⁴ <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/travel-roads-and-parking/transport-plans-and-policies/local-transport-plan/>

²⁵ <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/travel-roads-and-parking/transport-plans-and-policies/market-town-transport-strategies/>

currently under development and, once approved, will replace the market town strategies in those districts. At present however the [Ramsey Market Town Transport Strategy](#)²⁶ (2010) remains in place, notwithstanding its name it actually covers Ramsey, Bury, Upwood and the Raveleys, Wistow and Worboys.



Extract from Ramsey Market Town Transport Strategy © Cambridgeshire County Council

²⁶ https://ccc-live.storage.googleapis.com/upload/www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/travel-roads-and-parking/RTP-Ramsey_Market_Town_Transport_Strategy.pdf?inline=true

- 24.4 The [Cambridgeshire Transport Investment Plan](#)²⁷ (TIP) sets out the transport infrastructure, services and initiatives that are required to support the growth of Cambridgeshire. The schemes included in the TIP are those that the County Council has identified for potential delivery to support growth. These range from strategic schemes identified through the County Council's transport strategies, to those required to facilitate the delivery of Local Plan development sites for which Section 106 contributions will be sought, through to detailed local interventions.
- 24.5 Consultation has confirmed that traffic management is a major concern for most residents. The volume and speed of traffic are perceived to be outside the control of residents. The road network is already busy and this can lead to difficulties in using non-car borne methods of transport.
- 24.6 The Parish Council has developed a transport strategy and will work with Huntingdonshire District Council and Cambridgeshire County Council to explore the options that may be available to address traffic management in the village.
- 24.7 Local planning policy recognises that Ramsey and the surrounding area has relatively poor transport infrastructure, being well off the Primary road network and relatively remote. Its comparatively limited services, facilities and employment opportunities make it a less sustainable location in terms of travel than some of the other market towns in Cambridgeshire.
- 24.8 Ramsey and the surrounding villages is classed as a rural area, there are high levels of car ownership and reliance on the car to maintain access to key services. In addition, high house prices and lack of affordable housing has led to more people travelling further to work, with the average length of commute in Ramsey greater than the national average²⁸. Access to employment, education and services can be a real challenge without a car in rural areas. The strategy recognises that the private car will often be the most viable option for many journeys. However, for those without access to a car, the bus and community transport network is vital
- 24.9 The strategy will seek to:
- Support sustainable growth across the Ramsey Spatial Planning Area;
 - Consider longer term aspirations in support of sustainable growth to 2036 and beyond;
 - Improve accessibility to employment and key services; and
 - Encourage sustainable alternatives to the private car, bus, walking and cycling, car sharing
- 24.10 Therefore the strategy needs to address:
- Developing services designed by local communities that meet their needs;
 - Ensuring services provide best value for money;
 - Better integrating health, education and social services transport;
 - Demand Responsive Transport (DRT) such as Dial a Ride, including timetabled services at peak times;
 - Taxi sharing schemes; and
 - Community/voluntary car schemes
- 24.11 Road safety is an important issue in all areas, however small rural towns such as Bury often have different problems to larger towns or extended urban areas. Modes such as cycling and

²⁷ <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/travel-roads-and-parking/transport-plans-and-policies/transport-investment-plan/>

²⁸ As identified in the Ramsey Market Town Transport Strategy 2010

walking are often proportionately more dangerous as rural roads linking villages are frequently fast and narrow, often lacking lighting and footpaths. This can discourage use of sustainable transport and contribute to higher levels of car use.

24.12 Problems with personal safety were raised by both the Bury Neighbourhood Plan survey and PC members. A general feeling of poor safety can also result in increased social exclusion, particularly of the very young and the older community, as other “safer” modes may not be available to them. This results in people making fewer trips and accessing services less frequently. This can be a particular issue with health care. Improving road safety would therefore enhance the quality of life of some of the most vulnerable members of the community.



24.13 **Road Safety Schemes** to be explored are (Note - the costings in the following table is derived originally from Cambridgeshire County Council in the [Ramsey Market Town Transport Strategy](#)²⁹ which the Parish Council has sought to bring up-to-date as far as possible):

The Problem	Scheme	Impact	Cost
Poor pedestrian safety crossing Upwood Road	Installation of a crossing to aid both pedestrians and cyclists to cross the road safely. It will also link in with the off road cycle path along Upwood Road	Improved safety for pedestrians and cyclists and potential increase in uptake of sustainable travel	£70,000 -£90,000
High Street - poor safety for pedestrians and cyclists	The exact nature of this scheme will depend on the outcome of design work. It will be aimed at improving the environment for pedestrians and cyclists while keeping traffic speeds low and reducing the number of accidents	Improved environment for pedestrians and cyclists, lower accident rates and increased uptake of sustainable transport modes	Unknown at present time

24.14 There is a strong perception in the Village that HGV speeds, particularly on the Upwood Road and High Street, are excessive. It is possible that this is due to the confined nature of the space causing speeds to seem higher than they are. Further work would need to be carried out to define whether there is a significant problem and what would be the best approach for dealing with it.

24.15 **Traffic Management Schemes** to be explored are (Note - the costings in the following table is derived originally from Cambridgeshire County Council in the [Ramsey Market Town Transport Strategy](#)³⁰ which in this case the Parish Council has not been able to update):

²⁹ https://ccc-live.storage.googleapis.com/upload/www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/travel-roads-and-parking/R-TP-Ramsey_Market_Town_Transport_Strategy.pdf?inline=true

³⁰ https://ccc-live.storage.googleapis.com/upload/www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/travel-roads-and-parking/R-TP-Ramsey_Market_Town_Transport_Strategy.pdf?inline=true

Problem	Scheme	Impact	Cost
Upwood Road / Bury Road junction	Signalisation or installation of a roundabout	Improve the traffic flow at this junction and reduce the probability of accidents occurring	£200,000
Perceived high HGV speeds on the B1040 High Street and the Upwood Road, Speed measurement work to define the problem and potential issues	Speed measurement work to define the problem and potential mitigation measures if it is proven there is one	Improved environment for other road users	Dependent on measures employed

24.16 The main problems concerning access to the school in Bury are focussed on parking and safety. The consultation Survey BNVP conducted was that congestion generated by the school run was cited as a concern, as was the safety of children cycling to Bury School along the High Street. It should be noted that many of these problems are likely to be reduced by schemes set out in the above strategy.



24.17 Increasing cycling and walking will help achieve the objectives of the strategy Plan, increased use of these modes also aids the progress of the health agenda and helps reduce congestion on the road network. They are also non-income dependent and so help reduce the isolation and social exclusion which can be a problem for those on low incomes. They are however subject to concerns of personal safety with regards to road accidents and crime.

24.18 Current provision for pedestrians and cyclists is not significant. There are a number of footpaths that pass through the village, including footpaths, in the centre of the village are poor, with the High Street being a particular example. Narrow streets and on street parking also make cycling difficult and increase the feeling of danger, particularly for young people travelling to school. The strategy therefore includes a number of routes for cyclists and pedestrians which will enhance their safety and provide faster routes to main destinations. This will involve a combination of on and off road paths forming a network around the village. The paths reflect the ideas raised by consultation.



24.19 **Walking and Cycling Schemes** to be explored are (Note - the costings in the following table is derived originally from Cambridgeshire County Council in the [Ramsey Market Town](#))

[Transport Strategy](#)³¹ which the Parish Council has sought to bring up-to-date as far as possible):

Problem	Scheme	Impact	Cost
Lack of cycling infrastructure	Off-road path from Upwood School to the High Street and Abbey School.	A safe route that travels the length of the village without use of busy roads should help increase the uptake of cycling and walking as well as improve safety for those who already use these modes	£1,250,000
	Improvement of the existing right of way including better surfacing and installation of a pedestrian crossing over Bury Road where it intersects the path potentially linking in with the RAF Upwood development an on-road signed route through the Maltings to Ramsey High Street	Provide cyclists with an alternative route from Upwood Road and the High Street, both of which are busy	£450,000
Cycle Information	Provision of up to date information on the paths in and around Ramsey	Increasing awareness of the paths and providing route information will help encourage greater use	£10,000

25. Highway Impact

- 25.1 Traffic has been identified as a major issue of concern to the parish residents in consultation that has been undertaken. It is the volume and speed of traffic that are the primary concerns; the safety of pedestrians and cyclists, air pollution and noise pollution are also issues. The impact of traffic on life in Bury cannot be overstated. It is an aim of the Neighbourhood Plan to deliver improvements to the pedestrian environment through new development. In consultation 80% of local residents thought the major issue was the speed of traffic.
- 25.2 The Huntingdonshire Local Plan to 2036 contains Policy LP 16 on Sustainable Travel and Policy LP 17 on Parking Provision and Vehicle Movement. This latter policy indicates that proposals must incorporate adequate parking for vehicles and cycles. Advice on parking arrangements is contained in the Huntingdonshire Design Guide [SPD](#) (2017)³².
- 25.3 Policy ISF1 sets out a proactive policy to promote sustainable transport options. The Transport Strategy identifies that road safety is an important issue in Bury and problems with personal safety were raised through public consultation including in the Bury Neighbourhood Plan survey. The Transport Strategy sets out a number of schemes which the Neighbourhood Plan is looking to explore and secure for the benefit of the local community, both existing and future residents.

³¹ https://ccc-live.storage.googleapis.com/upload/www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/travel-roads-and-parking/R-TP-Ramsey_Market_Town_Transport_Strategy.pdf?inline=true

³² <http://www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/media/2573/huntingdonshire-design-guide-2017.pdf>

25.4 Improving road safety would therefore enhance the quality of life of some of the most vulnerable members of the community. Unfortunately, traffic management is not an issue over which the Parish Council have direct control. Most of the traffic originates outside the parish. As a consequence, traffic management cannot be easily addressed by this Neighbourhood Plan. However, the Neighbourhood Plan contains a transport strategy in the previous section that will seek to support road safety improvements around the plan area.

25.5 As part of the overall approach the Neighbourhood Plan can support these wider ambitions and ensure that new development does not adversely affect the highway network or that where it does contributions through a Planning Obligation address the impacts. A Planning Obligation can only be sought where it meets the relevant tests; namely: it is necessary to make the development acceptable in planning terms; is directly related to the development; and is fairly and reasonably related in scale and kind. In some cases Cambridgeshire County Council is seeking more direct off-site delivery of highway improvements; i.e. rather than paying the County Council a fee the developer will undertake the works in the highway directly. As such in some cases a planning condition may be the appropriate implementation measure. In some cases Community Infrastructure Levy monies will cover highway improvements.



25.6 The policy includes reference to the storage and collection of refuse bins as where insufficient on-site provision is made this can result in a highway impact. This impact involves bins blocking pedestrian use of footways that can lead to pedestrian and vehicle conflict. The Cambridgeshire RECAP [Waste Management Design Guide SPD](#)³³ sets out advice on access, maximum travel distances, number of bins per property type etc. and take into account the Council's Waste Collection Policies. The policy looks to provide the opportunity for developers to promote alternative or innovative methods of storage such as underground bin storage, for example on larger sites if viability and operational practicalities support this approach in a development. Alternative or innovative methods of storage could have the added benefit of improving the visual aspects of recycling and waste management for the benefit of the community, particularly where smaller dwellings are concentrated and the provision of wheeled bins may be less desirable.

Policy ISF2 - Highway Impact

Proposals will be supported where they would not adversely affect the local highway network. Where proposals would negatively impact on the local highway network, contributions will be sought, where appropriate, through a Planning Obligation or planning condition in order to minimise and mitigate those impacts associated with the development.

³³ <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/business/planning-and-development/planning-policy/recap-waste-management-design-guide/>

Any new development which involve alterations to existing highways and the provision of new highways would be supported where it meets the following design criteria:

- Provide suitable measures to accommodate traffic (including at peak times)³⁴;
- Improve the safety and attractiveness of the street scene; and
- Integrate appropriate traffic-calming measures within the development.

Development should incorporate adequate dedicated on-site provision for parking within the curtilage of properties or in parking courts or similar. Development proposals which would result in the displacement of existing off-street parking provision to on-street parking will not be supported. Proposals that incorporate car-free areas such as play streets would be supported.

New development should incorporate adequate on-site provision for the storage and collection of refuse bins. Where appropriate refuse collection storage should be screened and be easily accessible to the collection point. Where developers want to promote alternative or innovative methods of storage such as underground bin storage where viability and operational practicalities this would be supported; particularly where this improves the visual aspects of recycling and waste management for the benefit of the community.

26. Rights of Way Network

26.1 Bury covers a large area of countryside and as a consequence it benefits from an extensive and well-used rights of way network. These connect the different parts of the village and provide important links to local services and facilities. They also contribute to the recreational value of many of the Local Green Spaces designated under Policy NE1.

26.2 An effective rights of way network provides a dual role for recreation and for sustainable travel. Their recreational use makes an important contribution to health and well-being. The areas allocated for housing are distant from the main services and facilities in Bury and that the village also relies on Ramsey to provide a number of higher order services and facilities. As such the rights of way network contributes to accessibility and providing the opportunity for sustainable travel using non-vehicle modes. The Neighbourhood Plan looks to improve and extend the rights of way network, some specific proposals are detailed in the transport strategy.



26.3 Current provision for pedestrians and cyclists is not significant. There are a number of footpaths and footways that pass through the village, including footways in the centre of the village that are narrow and/or are in poor quality, with the High Street being a particular example. Narrow streets and on street parking also make cycling difficult and increase the feeling of danger, particularly for young people travelling to school. The transport strategy in the Neighbourhood Plan therefore includes a number of routes for cyclists and pedestrians which will enhance their safety and provide faster routes to main destinations. This will involve a combination of on and off road paths forming a network around the village. The paths reflect the ideas raised by consultation and support for schemes that help to deliver these are referred to in the policy below.

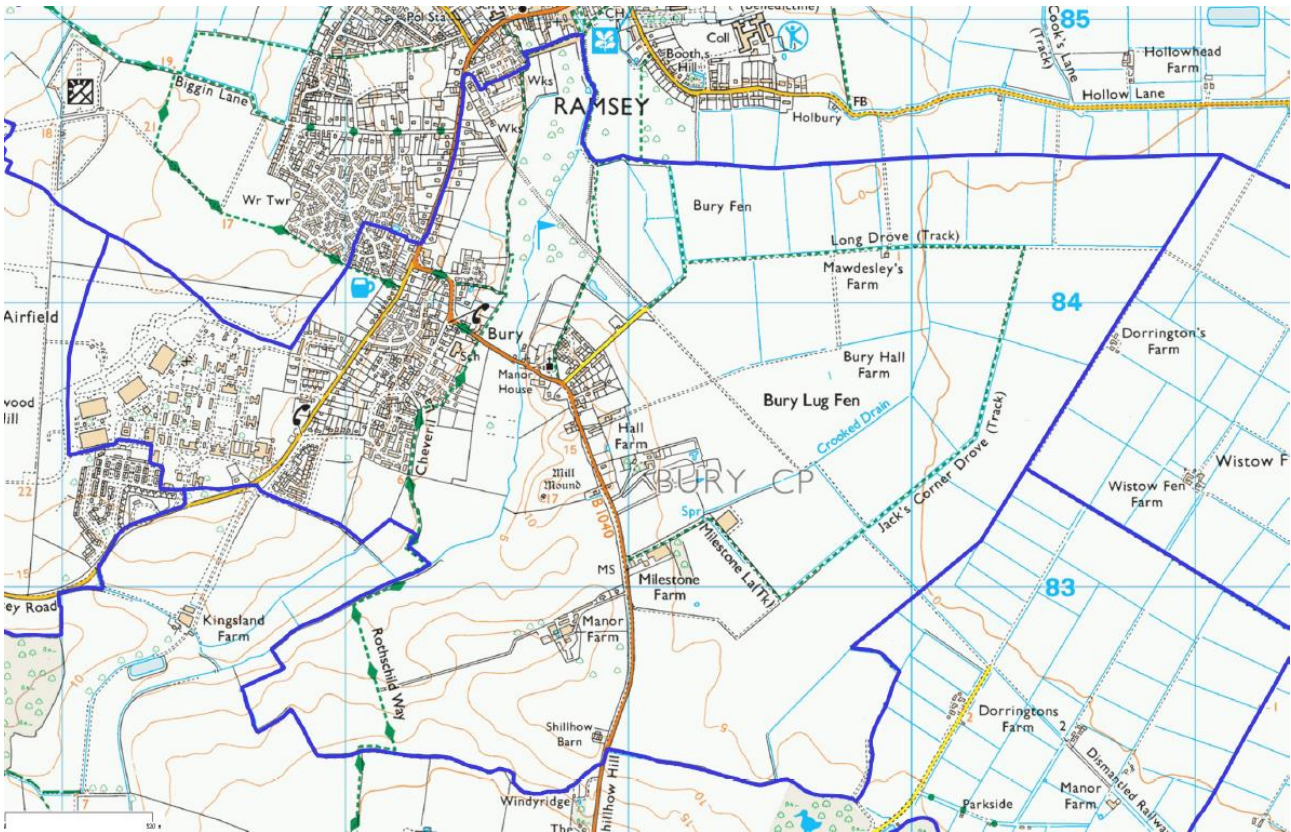
³⁴ Identified improvement projects and their sources can be found in paragraphs 24.13 and 24.19 and associated tables

26.4 The Rothschild Way is a footpath extending to Woodwalton Fen from Wicken Fen commemorating the early wildlife conservation work of Charles Rothschild. It is 39 miles in length and is recognised as a long distance route, it runs through Bury.

Policy ISF3 - Rights of Way Network

Measures to support and improve green infrastructure across Bury through the improvement of the existing network of public rights of way and proposals to extend the network of public rights of way will be supported where this does not result in harm to ecology or landscape character. In particular schemes that contribute to the delivery of the following proposals from the Neighbourhood Plan transport strategy would be supported:

- Off-road path from Upwood School to the High Street and Abbey School, improvement of the existing right of way including better surfacing and installation of a pedestrian crossing over Bury Road where it intersects the path;
- On-road signed route through the Maltings to the High Street, potentially linking in with the RAF Upwood development.



Map 4 - Rights of Way in Bury © Crown Copyright OS Licence Number 0100055891

- Footpath
- - - - - Bridleway
- ◆ ◆ ◆ Recreational route

27. Health and Education Provision

27.1 The provision of health services was a concern highlighted by many residents, and the delivery of new housing can help to influence the provision of such facilities. Residents in

Bury largely rely upon the primary healthcare facilities in Ramsey at Ramsey Health Centre³⁵ or Rainbow Surgery³⁶ (Part of Fenland Group Practice). Moat House Surgery³⁷ at Warboys also covers Bury. Dental provision is available in Ramsey at Ramsey Dental Surgery³⁸ and at mydentist at Warboys³⁹.

27.2 As at September 2018 the position regarding primary healthcare in Ramsey and Warboys is as follows⁴⁰:

Doctors

Location	Name of practice	Address	Registered Patients	Doctors
Ramsey	Ramsey Health Centre	Mews Close, Whytefield Road, Ramsey PE26 1BP	7,142 (Accepting new patients)	6
Ramsey	Rainbow Surgery p/o Fenland Group Practice	1B Stocking Fen Road, Ramsey PE26 1SA	Not accepting new patients	2
Warboys	Moat House Surgery	Beech Close, Warboys PE28 2RQ	6,633 (Accepting new patients)	5

Dentists

Location	Name of practice	Address	Registered Patients	Dentists
Ramsey	Ramsey Dental Surgery	2 High Street, Ramsey, PE26 1AE	Not accepting new patients	5
Warboys	mydentist	60 Mill Green, Warboys, Huntingdon PE28 2SB	Accepting new patients	5

27.3 At present the local GP provision is able to meet the recommended guidelines for doctor to patient ratios. However, as Bury grows alongside Ramsey, Warboys and surrounding villages the GP Practices will need to employ more staff, and will also require additional space for them to allow them to develop enhanced services to improve healthcare.

27.4 Bury has a primary school, Bury Church of England Primary School⁴¹. This school was founded in about 1845 on land in Bury High Street, in 1970 it was rebuilt and was expanded in 1992

³⁵ <https://www.ramseyhealthcentre.co.uk/>

³⁶ <https://www.rainbowsurgery.co.uk/index.aspx>

³⁷ <http://www.moathousesurgery.co.uk/index.aspx>

³⁸ <https://www.ramseydentalsurgery.co.uk/>

³⁹ <https://www.mydentist.co.uk/dentists/practices/england/east-of-england/huntingdon/60-mill-green>

⁴⁰ Primary healthcare needs and capacity can be obtained by contacting the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Clinical Commissioning Group

⁴¹ <https://www.bury.cambs.sch.uk/website>

and in 2003-2004. Other primary school provision is available in Ramsey and Upwood. Secondary school provision is available at Abbey College in Ramsey.

27.5 As at September 2018 the position regarding education provision in and around Bury is as follows⁴²:

Primary Education

Location	Name of school	Address	Students on roll	Capacity
Bury	Bury CofE Primary School (4-11)	Owls End, Bury PE26 2NJ	191	210
Ramsey	Ramsey Junior (7-11)	Station Road, Ramsey PE26 1JA	220	355
Ramsey	Ramsey Spinning Infants (5-7)	High Street, Ramsey PE26 1AD	173	270
Upwood	Upwood Primary Academy (5-11)	Huntingdon Road, Upwood PE26 2QA	189	210

Secondary Education

Location	Name of school	Address	Students on roll	Capacity
Ramsey	Abbey College (11-18)	Abbey Road, Ramsey, PE26 1DG	986	1,260

27.6 At present there is capacity at primary school level in all local schools. The schools at Bury and Upwood are the closest to the strategic allocation at Upwood Airfield and are therefore the schools most likely to be affected. The Huntingdonshire Developer Contributions Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) 2011⁴³ identifies in Table 7 the ratios to be used to calculate pupil generation from new housing. The SPD is currently under review so a successor document may apply during the lifetime of this Neighbourhood Plan. In responding to recent planning applications⁴⁴ the general multiplier ranges that have used by Cambridgeshire County Council as the Education Authority are:

- 30 early years places (0-4 year olds) per 100 new dwellings;
- 40 primary age children places (4-10 year olds) per 100 dwellings; and
- 25 secondary pupils (11-15 year olds) per 100 dwellings.



⁴² Educational need and capacity figures can be obtained by contacting Cambridgeshire County Council

⁴³ <http://www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/media/1127/developer-contributions-spd.pdf>

⁴⁴ 18/02596/OUT – Consultation Response titled ‘Emerging education Requirements 27.03.19’

27.7 Based on these multipliers the planned allocations in Bury in the Huntingdonshire Local Plan to 2036 alongside other planned allocations in the school catchment areas; together with existing and potential commitments will result in the following impacts according to Cambridgeshire County Council:

- A shortfall of around 68 early years (0-4 year olds) places will occur;
- Bury Primary School is expected to not have capacity by 2022/23 so additional capacity for primary age children (4-10 year olds) will be required; and
- Abbey College is expected to not have capacity by 2022/23 so additional capacity for secondary pupils (11-15 year olds) will be required.

27.8 The estimated number of primary aged pupils from planned development across the planned period is likely to far exceed the collective current capacity of places available in the Bury and Upwood primary schools. However the current capacity of places available in the Ramsey infant and junior schools may assist in meeting some of the overall demand; dependent upon the levels of overall housing built across their catchments. The [Infrastructure Delivery Plan](#)⁴⁵ supporting the Huntingdonshire Local Plan to 2036 identifies the elements of educational provision required to support growth over the plan period.



27.9 The estimated number of secondary aged pupils could not be met within the current capacity of places available in Ramsey at Abbey College; again this is also dependent upon the levels of overall housing built across the overall wider catchment. Education capacity fluctuates over time and the Neighbourhood Plan needs to be sufficiently flexible to account for circumstances where demand might outstrip capacity.

28. Infrastructure Provision & Developer Contributions

28.1 The Huntingdonshire Developer Contributions [SPD](#)⁴⁶ sets out the need to secure infrastructure and developer contributions from new development in the form of:

- Affordable Housing
- Green Space
- Footpaths and Access
- Health
- Community Facilities
- Libraries and Life Long Learning
- Education and Schools
- Residential Wheeled Bins

(Note - The SPD is currently under review so a successor document may apply during the lifetime of this Neighbourhood Plan. The costs are updated annually the 2019/2020 updated costs can be found on the Huntingdonshire [website](#)⁴⁷)

28.2 Policy LP 4 - Contributing to Infrastructure Delivery in the Huntingdonshire Local Plan to 2036 sets out the focus at the District level to secure infrastructure and developer contributions from new development in the form of:

⁴⁵ <https://www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/planning/new-local-plan-to-2036/monitoring-research-and-evidence-base/>

⁴⁶ <https://www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/media/1127/developer-contributions-spd.pdf>

⁴⁷ <https://www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/media/1239/developer-contributions-updated-costs.pdf>

- Affordable housing
- Recreation (including leisure and sports facilities)
- Green infrastructure and biodiversity enhancement/mitigation
- Transport
- Community facilities
- Education, health and social care and community safety
- Utilities infrastructure and energy
- Emergency and essential services
- Environmental improvements
- Drainage and flood prevention and protection
- Waste recycling facilities
- Public art, heritage and archaeology

28.3 The Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)⁴⁸ allows local planning authorities to raise funds from new development. The money raised is used to fund district-wide and local infrastructure projects that benefit local communities. The CIL charges are based on the size and type of development. For most developments the CIL charges are designed to cater for the required infrastructure provision. For large scale major development⁴⁹ there is still a need for infrastructure provision that will not be CIL funded. Therefore section 106 planning obligations will still be used as appropriate. The [CIL Charging Schedule](#)⁵⁰ is currently under review so may change during the lifetime of this Neighbourhood Plan.

28.4 In addition section 106 planning obligations and planning conditions also continue to be used for local infrastructure requirements on development sites for things such as site-specific local provision of open space, affordable housing, habitat protection and access roads.

28.5 In relation to Bury the Neighbourhood Plan identifies the following infrastructure and community facilities to be the priority in the policy below. As CIL is a mandatory process, this policy applies where it is appropriate for section 106 planning obligations and planning conditions to be used.



28.6 The Parish Council obtains 15% of the CIL collected from new development within Bury to spend locally on infrastructure provision. When the Neighbourhood Plan is finalized and ‘made’ the Parish Council will receive 25% of the CIL collected from new development within Bury to spend locally on infrastructure provision. The policy below also sets out the priorities and projects on which the Parish Council intends to spend the CIL monies it obtains. It should be noted that CIL monies can only be spent on infrastructure, in particular it cannot be spent on supporting private enterprises.

28.7 The Green Space and Play Needs Analysis undertaken by Huntingdonshire District Council in 2016 identified that Bury had a moderate deficiency in the total provision of green space and a substantial shortfall in play provision. In terms of green space the village is particularly short of Parks & Gardens; Natural & Semi-natural green space; and Allotments and

⁴⁸ <https://www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/planning/community-infrastructure-levy-cil/>

⁴⁹ Defined in the Huntingdonshire CIL Regulation 123 List as: Residential development of 200 or more dwellings or, where the residential units is not given, a site area of 4 hectares or more, or any other development where the floor space to be built is 10,000 sq m or more or where the site is 2 hectares or more

⁵⁰ <https://www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/planning/community-infrastructure-levy-cil/calculating-and-paying-cil/>

Community Gardens. The Huntingdonshire [Sports and Leisure Facilities Strategy](#)⁵¹ 2016-21 identifies potential future need in the district for facilities such as MUGAs, tennis courts etc. In Bury it confirms the need for a 3G Artificial Turf Pitch; MUGA; and an outdoor gym. New development will exacerbate these deficiencies in green space and generate additional demand for green space and sports and leisure facilities.

Policy ISF4 - Infrastructure Provision

Proposals for residential development where appropriate, will only be supported where it provides for the required community infrastructure including improvements to Bury village hall; existing schools; and primary healthcare provision commensurate with the need arising from the new development. This is to ensure that the existing and new population have access to community infrastructure.

Residential development proposals where appropriate, will only be supported where it provides for the necessary green community infrastructure, relevant to the size of the development, including children's play areas; sports playing pitches; open space; natural greenspace; and allotments.

Development proposals will be supported where they provide improvements if necessary to the local surface water drainage system; and the water and sewerage network.

28.8 The priorities and projects for local infrastructure on which developer contributions (through a planning obligation or a planning condition as relevant) will be sought where appropriate; and on which the Parish Council intends to spend the CIL monies it obtains are:

- Additional Pedestrian Footways and Safe Pedestrian Crossings on Upwood Road, including adjacent to the Clinic Site and Safe Pedestrian Crossings on the B1040;
- The White Lion Junction Improvement;
- An off-road Pedestrian Path and Access from the BMX Track Area to the Rear of Bury Primary School;
- Provision of a safe Cycle/Pedestrian Path from Upwood Primary School to Tesco Ramsey through the Upwood Airfield site and the development off Upwood Road;*
- Provision of a Network of Safe Pedestrian Walkways through the Village linking the 3 parts of the Village;
- Review of the Parking Arrangements around the retail unit at the junction of Upwood Road and Grenfell Road;
- Consideration of a 20 MPH Zone along Owls End and Tunkers Lane to improve pedestrian safety and the risk to children walking and cycling to school;
- On-site and Off-Site Traffic Calming Measures;
- Update of the Present Speed Indicators around the Village;
- Improvement to the Part of Tunkers Lane Between the Junction with Valiant Square and the Junction with Buryfield;
- Improvements to Footpath Route along Cheveril Lane;
- Provision of a 3G Multi-use Games Area (MUGA) and Possible Tennis Courts at the Upwood Airfield Site;
- Provision of a Possible Sports Hall at the Upwood Airfield Site;
- Provision of a Possible Youth Club;
- Potential Provision of Land for or Purchase of Land for a Possible Second Playing Field;

⁵¹ <https://www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/planning/new-local-plan-to-2036/local-plan-document-library/>

- Provision of Open Green Spaces and Play Areas on New Developments and Satisfactory Arrangements for Ongoing Management and Maintenance;
- Provision of Notice Boards on New Developments.

Note - * This route includes areas outside of the Parish of Bury

29. Protection of Community Assets

29.1 Community Assets is a generic term used for community infrastructure, services and facilities. This includes village halls, church halls, community centres and multi-use facilities. These facilities typically provide opportunities for community uses such as adult learning courses, events, sports and activities. Community facilities can also provide space for arts or cultural activities, and serve wider purposes such as providing affordable space for events or small businesses to hire. There is a relatively limited provision of community and meeting space available for use in Bury, the village hall provides a home for local organisations. The hall was built in 1996 to serve the residents of Bury, it can accommodate up to 150 people at one time. The annexe attached to the hall, with its own access includes a separate meeting room, which will accommodate 15 -20 people, is equipped with projector, screen and speaker all connected via HDMI to a laptop.



29.2 The village hall is actively used for regular bookings on a weekly basis, the regular weekly use as at January 2019 was as follows:

Day	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
Monday	Bury Play Group	Bury Play Group	Judo Club
Tuesday	Bury Play Group	Bury Play Group	1 st Bury & Upwood Beavers and Cubs
Wednesday	Bury Play Group		Bury Carpet Bowls Club
Thursday	Bury Play Group	Bury Play Group	Bridge Club
Friday	Bury Play Group	Bury Carpet Bowls Club	Bury Table Tennis Club
Saturday	Bury & Ramsey Concert Band		
Sunday			

29.3 The village hall is also used by the Abbey Women's Institute which meets every 1st Thursday of the month, the Ramsey Senior Citizens every first Wednesday (except January and August), Huntingdonshire Society for the Blind one Monday every other month. The Parish Council holds all of its meetings and events at the village hall. The village hall is located as part of a community hub in the centre of the village which includes the primary school; the play area; and the recreation field.



29.4 Other important community assets providing retail services include Bury Stores (the village convenience store); Bury Cakes & Pies; and the Egg Vending Machines at Manor Farm. Vehicle repairs and servicing is available at Burton Brothers; G. Tinkler; and Carl's Motors. Other important services and facilities include the White Lion public house; parish church; and the petrol filling station. Local community support facilities includes Honey Bumpkin Childminding; Friend for Life Grooming Parlour; Cromwell Farm Boarding Kennels & Cattery; The Hairy Barkers dog walking service; and Netman Computer and Web Services. Shirelodge also provides bed and breakfast accommodation in Bury. The golf course of Ramsey Golf and Bowls Club extends through the centre of Bury although the built facilities are in Ramsey. The most popular facilities used and supported by our community are the Village Stores and Burtons Garage with 92% using the Stores and 77% using the garage either often or at least sometimes as demonstrated through consultation results.

29.5 Policy LP 22 - Local Services and Community Facilities of the Huntingdonshire Local Plan to 2036 looks to support new community facilities and to safeguard against their loss. Bury has a small number of highly valuable community assets which are vital to be retained in order to help protect the distinct identity of Bury as a village which is separate to the town of Ramsey.

29.6 Another mechanism to protect and keep valued buildings or land in use for the community is the Community Right to Bid Scheme. It gives local community groups the opportunity to nominate buildings or other land to be included on the Huntingdonshire Council's [list](#)⁵² of Assets of Community Value. An asset should contribute to the community's social well-being or social interests. Once on the register, if an asset comes up for sale or lease, a community group has a period of time in which they can register their interest as a potential bidder, delaying a sale on the open market. Currently Bury has no recorded Assets of Community Value.



29.7 The planned growth will necessitate additional or enhanced provision of community assets. Consequently the Neighbourhood Plan sets out a framework to address the specific requirements of community assets in Bury. Any new community facilities should be accessible to the community they are intended to serve. Where it is proposed to relocate and existing community facility or provide a replacement community asset it would need to be provided in a location with an equal or better level of accessibility for the community it is intended to serve. Such criteria would enable the expansion and improvement of community facilities, where land may not be currently available to facilitate expansion and improvement in their current location.

Policy ISF5 - Community Assets

Development proposals that result in the improvement/enhancement of existing community assets including the village hall; play area; recreation ground; primary school; village shop; or public house will be supported subject to their compliance with other development plan policies.

Development proposals that result in the provision of new community assets both within and outside of but adjacent to the settlement boundary will be supported subject to their compliance

⁵² <https://www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/council-democracy/community-right-to-bid/>

Bury Village Neighbourhood Plan

with other development plan policies; provided the scale is commensurate with size of facility to meet the needs of Bury. In particular proposals for new play areas; sports/recreation facilities; local retail provision; and local health provision will be supported.

Proposals that would result in the loss of the following community assets will be resisted unless it can be shown that they are poorly used, not viable or adequate replacement provision is made elsewhere in Bury which is an equivalent service or community facility located where it is equally or more accessible to the existing and planned new community it is intended to serve:

- Bury CofE Primary School and associated grounds
- Recreation Ground and Play Area
- Village Hall
- Bury Church and associated space
- Bury Stores
- White Lion Public House
- Burton Brothers Filling Station (excluding car showroom, workshop and yard)



Natural and Built Environment



30. Heritage Assets

30.1 There are few buildings in Bury taller than two storeys with the notable exceptions of the tower of Bury Church. The church of Holy Cross is built of rubble with Barnack stone dressings and the roofs are covered with slates and tiles.

30.2 Heritage assets are buildings, monuments, sites, landscapes and townscapes which have historic or architectural significance; collectively they help make the historic environment. The protection of individual heritage assets is important not only to safeguard the significance of the asset itself but also to protect the wider historic environment.



30.3 Part of Ramsey Conservation Area extends into the parish of Bury, in Bury it covers the Church of Holy Cross; the Ramsey golf course; part of High Street; and part of Bury Road. The Ramsey Conservation Area Character Statement was published in December 2005 by Huntingdonshire District Council. This is a [character appraisal](#)⁵³ whose purpose is to identify and record those special qualities that make up the architectural and historic character. This includes significant trees; significant green spaces; landscape views; and native hedgerows. The plans and text within the Conservation Area Statement provide additional information on the architecture of the conservation area, including the distinctive building materials. This Neighbourhood Plan draws upon this Statement as part of its evidence base.

30.4 Areas of special architectural or historic interest are designated as Conservation Areas to help preserve and enhance them for future generations. Once designated, there are restrictions on the nature of works within Conservation Areas that can be carried out to properties and trees without permission from the local planning authority. Section 72 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 also requires that “*special attention shall be paid to the desirability of preserving or enhancing the character or appearance of that area*”. The effect of development proposals on the special character and significance of Conservation Areas should be given considerable weight when determining planning applications.



30.5 There are no Scheduled Monuments (SAMs) within the Plan Area. The Neighbourhood Plan area only contains a relatively small number of Listed Buildings as follows:

⁵³ <http://www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/media/2329/ramsey-conservation-area-character-assessment-adopted-december-2005.pdf>

Grade 1

Church of Holy Cross, Bury Hill, Bury

Grade II*

None

Grade II

Hall Farmhouse, Bury Hill, Bury

Milestone to East of Milestone Farmhouse, B1040, Bury

Bridge Approximately 150 Yards West of Church of Holy Cross, B1040, Bury

Home Close, High Street, Bury

Julians, Owls End, Bury

Manor House, Bury Hill, Bury

The Thatched Cottage, High Street, Bury

10 Owls End, Bury

31. Local Distinctiveness and Public Realm

31.1 All new development should respect the local character of the area, ensuring that the building height, size and choice of external materials complement the existing fabric and do not obscure important views into and out of the village.

31.2 A high quality public realm made up of well-designed streets, pavements and other publicly accessible areas, together with the boundary treatments to local properties and front gardens, make a positive contribution to how Bury looks. Within the village the public realm is seen by local people as being an important element of the overall urban design of the settlement. A high quality public realm contributes to a high quality of life which can help to maintain healthy living, prevent anti-social behaviour and encourage high standards of property maintenance. The public realm of the village reflects its rural village character and the evolution of the village over time.



32. Natural Environment

32.1 Most of the Parish of Bury is rural, and contains substantial areas of farmland which contributes significantly to the character of the Parish and the setting of the village. A substantial land area, the former Upwood Airfield was formerly owned by the Ministry of Defence. This is now a substantial previously developed site whose redevelopment offers significant potential to enhance both the natural and built environment of Bury.

32.2 In the vicinity of the Bury Neighbourhood Plan area the key European and International designations of interest are the Orton Pit SAC (Peterborough); Nene Washes SAC; Ouse Washes SAC/SPA; Portholme SAC (Huntingdon/Godmanchester); and Fenland SAC/Woodwalton Fen Ramsar. The latter of these is the closest to the Neighbourhood Plan area lying approximately 4km to the west. Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) are designated under the 'Habitats Directive' - EU Directive 92/43/EEC and Special Protection Area (SPAs) are designated under the 'Birds Directive' - EU Directive 2009/147/EC on the Conservation of Wild Birds. Ramsar sites are designated under the Convention on Wetlands, called the Ramsar Convention, an intergovernmental treaty that provides the framework for

national action and international cooperation for the conservation and wise use of wetlands and their resources.

32.3 The Habitats Regulation Assessment screening identifies that the Neighbourhood Plan proposals would not individually or cumulatively result in any potential significant effects on any European designated site.

32.4 The Parish of Bury contains no National Nature Reserves (the nearest is at Upwood Meadows - west of Upwood). The Plan area does not contain but abuts a Sites of Special Scientific Interest: Warboy's and Wistow Wood; which is recorded as being in favourable condition.



33. Trees and Woodlands

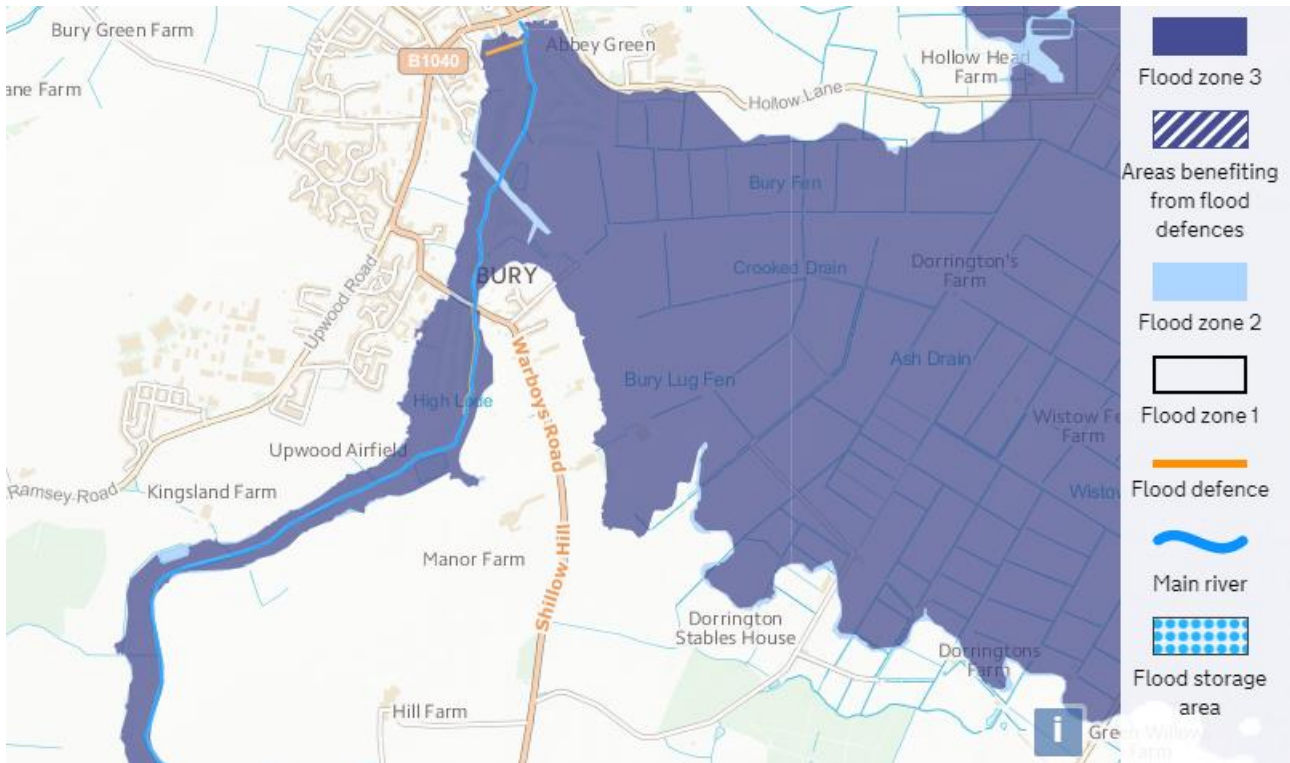
33.1 As much of the Parish of Bury contains substantial areas of farmland there are actually few areas of trees and woodlands as can be seen on the aerial photo below. Jack's Corner Spinney is an area of broadleaved woodland located to the east of Milestone Farm. Other significant groups and belts of trees within Bury are located within Ramsey Golf Course where they are largely utilised as separation between the various fairways. Additional tree and woodland planting within Bury would help to improve ecological networks within Bury.



Bury Aerial View © Crown Copyright OS Aerial Photos, used under Open Government Licence

34. Flood Risk

34.1 Much of the Parish of Bury is subject to flood risk as shown on the map below. Inappropriate development in areas at risk of flooding should be avoided, by directing development away from areas at highest risk (whether existing or future). Where development is necessary in such areas the development should be made safe for its lifetime without increasing flood risk elsewhere⁵⁴.



Map 5 - Flood Zones 2 and 3 in Bury © Environment Agency

35. Local Green Space

35.1 In 2012, the Government introduced a new designation of Local Green Space through the NPPF allowing local communities to put forward green areas of particular importance to them for protection. Once designated, planning permission will only be granted for the development of the sites in very special circumstances or if the development clearly enhances the Local Green Space for the purposes it was designated. In consultation 78% of local residents thought one of the strengths of Bury was the rural character, with 73% valuing the open and green spaces.

35.2 Local Green Space designation will not be appropriate for most green areas or open space. The designation should only be used where the green space meets the criteria set out in the NPPF. Namely that it is in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves; where the green area is demonstrably special to a local community and holds a particular local significance, for example because of its beauty, historic significance, recreational value (including as a playing field), tranquillity or richness of its wildlife; and where the green area concerned is local in character and is not an extensive tract of land.

35.3 The sites listed in the policy have been assessed as according with the criteria for Local Green Space as set out in the NPPF. A tabular assessment of each of the designated Local Green Spaces against these criteria, together with a brief summary of each of the areas is

⁵⁴ See NPPF paragraphs 155 onwards and policy LP 5 of the Huntingdonshire Local Plan

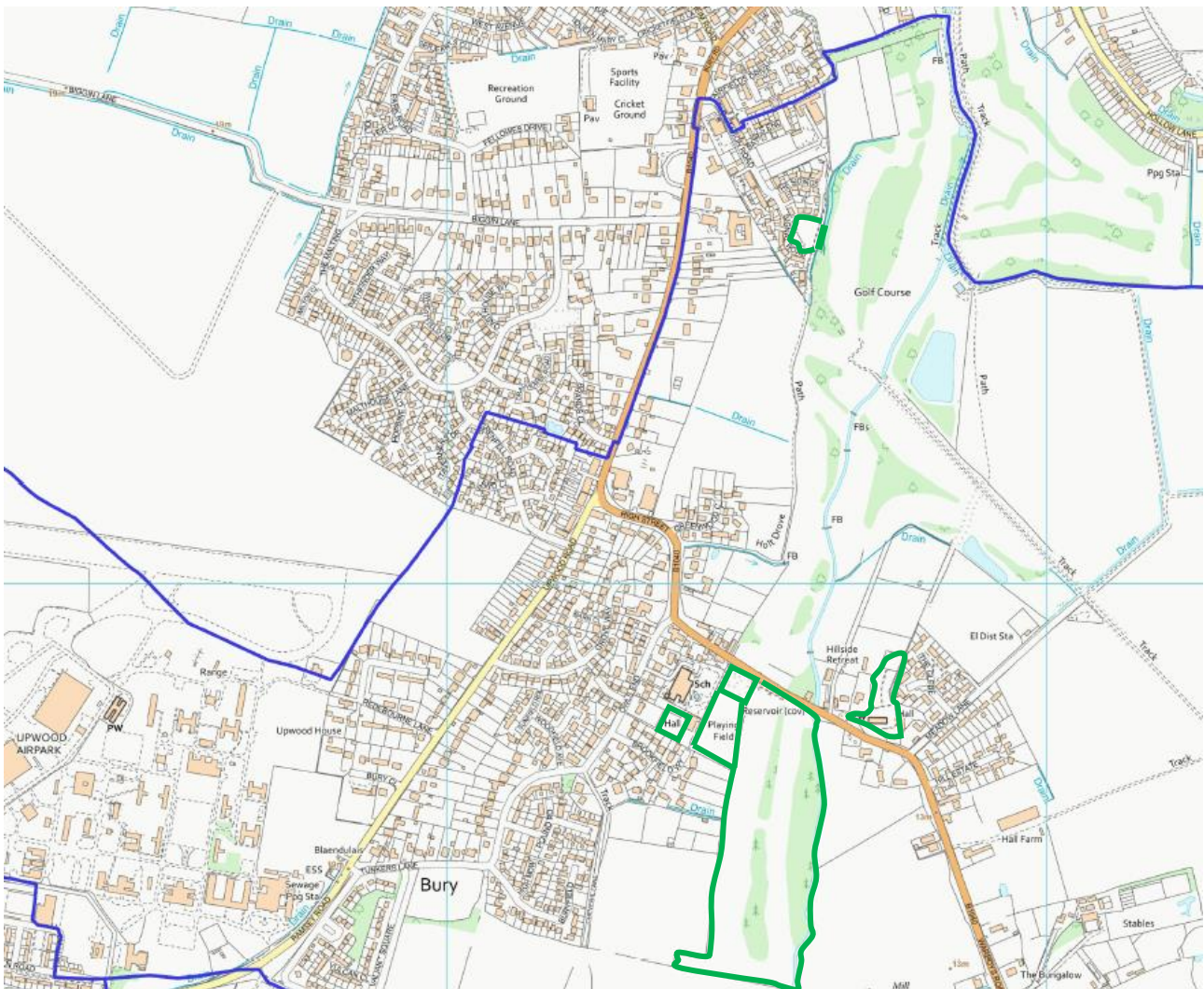
set out in Appendix 2. A detailed map of each of the Local Green Spaces is also included in Appendix 2. More detail on the sites considered and the assessment process is also set out in the Local Green Spaces Evidence document which accompanies this Neighbourhood Plan.

Policy NE1 - Local Green Space

The following sites are designated as Local Green Spaces and are identified on Map 6:

- Ramsey Golf Course (South of High Street)
- Bury Holy Cross Churchyard and Cemetery
- Bury Playing Fields (x2)
- BMX Track
- Land at Signal Road

The sites listed above and shown on the plan below are designated as areas of Local Green Space, which will be protected in a manner consistent with the protection of land within Green Belts



Map 6 - Local Green Spaces © Crown Copyright OS Licence Number 0100055891

 Local Green Spaces

 Plan Area Boundary

Note - More detailed plans of the Local Green Spaces are contained in Appendix 2

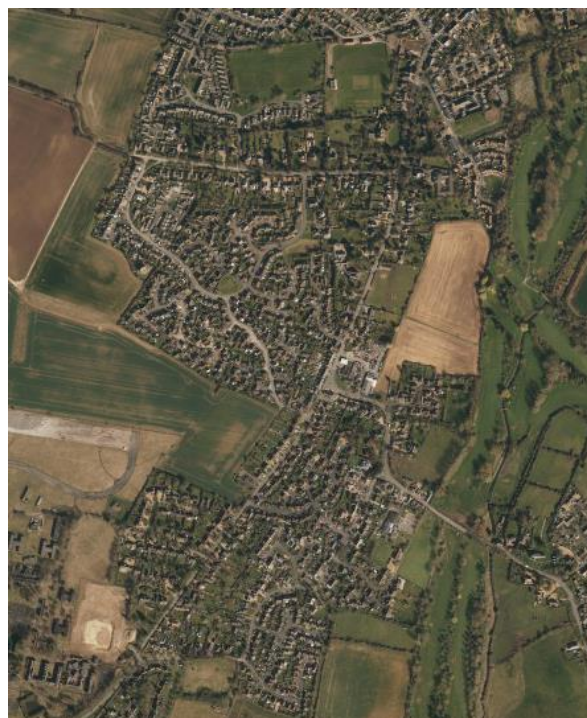
36. Protected Settlement Break

36.1 Parts of Bury immediately abut the town of Ramsey, that town has a population of 8,479. It provides a number of higher order local services and facilities that are used by the residents of Bury Village. The Parish boundary between Bury and Ramsey was established before much of the growth and development had occurred. Over time a degree of coalescence between Bury and Ramsey has already occurred. The northern part of Bury around Signal Road is contiguous with the main part of Ramsey, as such although spatially part of Bury it physically and visually appears as an extension to Ramsey.

36.2 There are in fact no gaps remaining between the two Parishes of Bury and Ramsey. However there is a gap between the northern part of Bury around Signal Road and the main part of Bury village. This remaining gap is the only visual and physical separation between the main cores of Bury and Ramsey. Consequently although being strictly between two part of Bury, it is the only gap remaining to prevent the complete coalescence of Bury and Ramsey.

36.3 The manner in which the Huntingdonshire Local Plan to 2036 places Bury and Ramsey together is considered by local residents to be contributing to a loss of identity for Bury as a distinct settlement. The local community and Bury Parish Council are concerned that the historic and distinct identity of Bury as a village is being eroded and that the Neighbourhood Plan needs to protect the historic and distinct identity of Bury as a village.

36.4 Given that the Huntingdonshire Local Plan to 2036 proposes that the ‘Ramsey Spatial Planning Area’ has allocations for 895 homes and 2 hectares of employment land there is a real threat that unchecked growth could lead to further coalescence between Bury and Ramsey. Saved Policy En15 of the now superseded Huntingdonshire Local Plan (1995) previously protected open spaces and gaps from development which would impair their open nature. This included the gap between Low Bury and White Arches on Bury Road. This is the remaining gap referred to earlier. The Huntingdonshire Local Plan to 2036 does not include any policy to prevent the coalescence of Bury and Ramsey, as such the Neighbourhood Plan needs to secure this important community objective which would otherwise disappear from the development plan.



36.5 The importance of the gap between Low Bury and White Arches on Bury Road was confirmed in appeal APP/H0520/W/16/3155400 which was dismissed in November 2016. In that appeal the value as an open gap within the established settlement pattern was confirmed. Ramsey and Bury have already coalesced in part over past decades, this means that the remaining physical and visual breaks that remain are even more important to protect. Land to the east of Bury Road between Low Bury and White Arches along with the land to the rear running back to the golf course is important to retain as undeveloped to prevent coalescence. This is the only remaining gap between Bury and Ramsey to the east of the B1040. This gap provides important views and a visual linkage through to the countryside from the B1040, it also allows a wedge of the countryside to physically extend into the heart of an otherwise substantially developed continuous road frontage in two places.

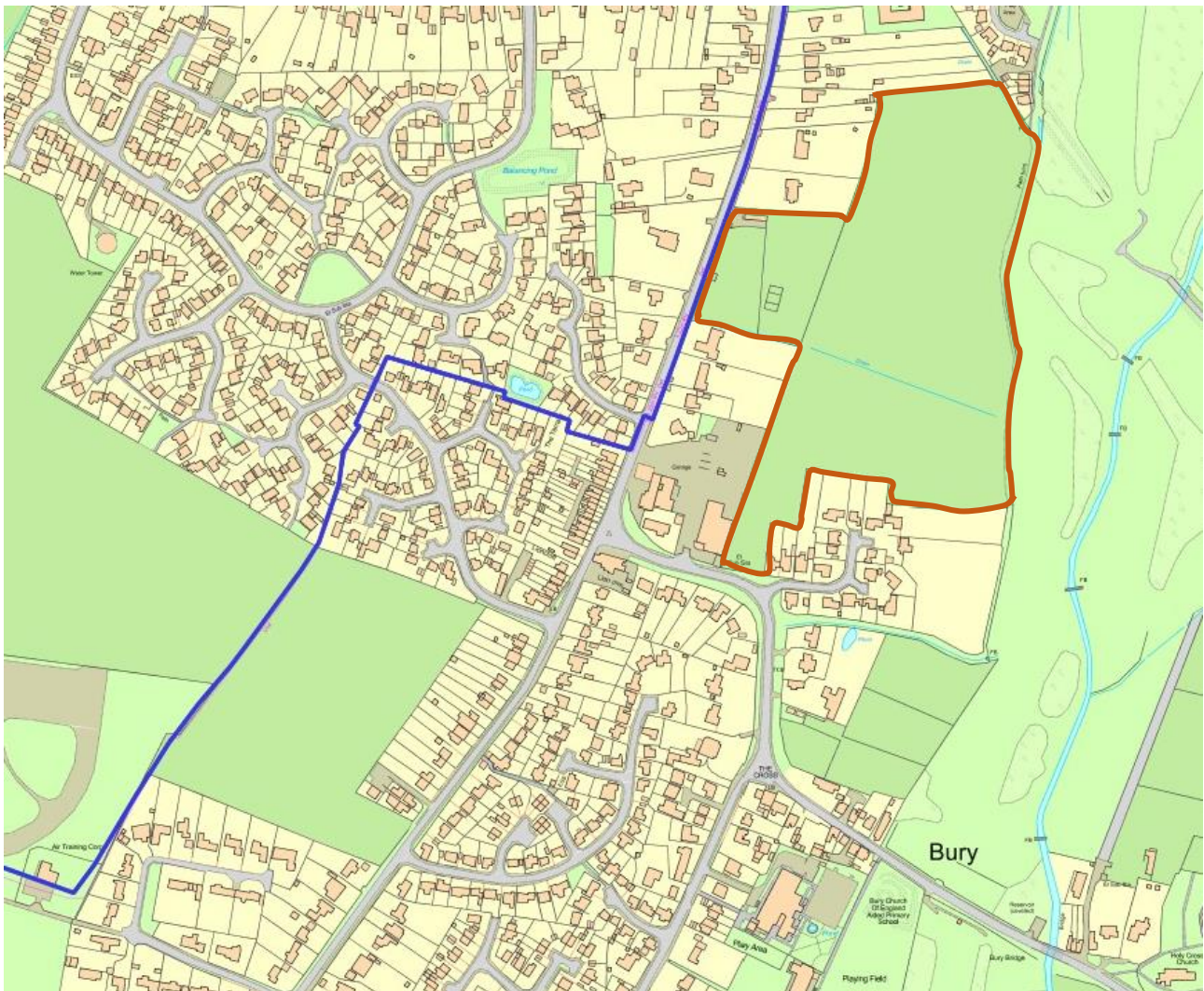
36.6 More information on the importance of the Protected Settlement Break as detailed in the appeal decision is contained in the supporting document, 'Settlement Boundary Methodology'. In the Appeal the Inspector concluded that: "The open and undeveloped nature of the site makes a significant positive contribution to the spacious and semi-rural character of Bury Road and provides a key opportunity for views out of the Ramsey Conservation Area."

Policy NE2 - Protected Settlement Break

The following area is identified as a protected settlement break to prevent the coalescence of Bury with Ramsey:

- Land to the east of Bury Road between Low Bury & White Arches and between Bury Road & Ramsey Golf Course between Greenwood Close & Signal Road.

Proposals for built development within the protected settlement break will not be supported unless the purpose of preventing coalescence and retaining spatial, physical and visual separation between Bury and Ramsey is secured.



Map 7 - Protected Settlement Break © Crown Copyright OS Licence Number 0100055891

 Protected Settlement Break  Plan Area Boundary

Implementation and Delivery

- 37.1 The implementation and delivery section sets out what actions are required to turn this Neighbourhood Plan into reality on the ground.
- 37.2 The Parish Council needs the help of public and private partners to create a sustainable community and deliver the policies set out in this Neighbourhood Plan. The Parish Council will work with a number of partners, including the following, to implement the Plan:

Delivery Partners

Bury Parish Council (PC)
 Huntingdonshire District Council (HDC)
 Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC)
 Health Providers (HP)
 Private Developers (PD)
 Local Schools (LS)
 Local Bus Operators (LBO)
 Community Groups (CG)
 Local Residents (LR)
 Local Businesses (B)

37.3 New development creates a need to provide new infrastructure, facilities and services to successfully incorporate new development into the surrounding area to benefit existing, new and future residents. As provided for within national planning policy, appropriate financial contributions will be obtained from developers to combine with public funding to deliver the necessary facilities in infrastructure. The table below sets out the relevant implementation partners for the Neighbourhood Plan policies.

37.4 The Neighbourhood Plan provides a positive framework to ensure that development in Bury will bring positive benefits to the village.

Policy	Delivery Partners	Implementation Method
Sustainable Growth		
Policy G1 - Definition of 'Built-up Area' (Settlement Boundary)	PC, HDC, PD & LR	Determination of Planning Applications
Policy G2 - Comprehensive Development of Former Airfield	PC, HDC, PD, LR & B	Determination of Planning Applications
Policy G3 - Community Engagement	PC, PD, LR, CG, B & HDC	Pre-Application Consultation and Determination of Planning Applications
Policy G4 - Local Housing Needs	PC, HDC, PD, LR & CG	Determination of Planning Applications & Planning Obligations and Community Infrastructure Levy or Community Initiatives
Infrastructure, Services and Facilities		
Policy ISF1 - Sustainable Transport	PC, HDC, CCC, PD, LBO, LR, B & CG	Determination of Planning Applications & Planning Obligations and Community Infrastructure Levy or Community Initiatives

Policy	Delivery Partners	Implementation Method
Infrastructure, Services and Facilities (Continued)		
Policy ISF2 - Highway Impact	PC, HDC, CCC, PD, LR, B & CG	Determination of Planning Applications & Planning Obligations and Community Infrastructure Levy or Community Initiatives
Policy ISF3 - Rights of Way Network	PC, CCC, HDC, PD, LR & CG	Determination of Planning Applications & Planning Obligations and Community Infrastructure Levy or Community Initiatives
Policy ISF4 - Infrastructure Provision	PC, HDC, CCC, HP, PD, LS, LBO, LR, B & CG	Determination of Planning Applications & Planning Obligations and Community Infrastructure Levy or Community Initiatives
Policy ISF5 - Protection of Community Assets	PC, HDC, PD, HP, LR, LS & CG	Determination of Planning Applications
Natural and Built Environment		
Policy NE1 - Local Green Space	PC, HDC, PD, LR, B & CG	Determination of Planning Applications & Planning Obligations and Community Infrastructure Levy or Community Initiatives
Policy NE2 - Protected Settlement Breaks	PC, HDC, PD, LR, B & CG	Determination of Planning Applications or Community Initiatives

37.5 Bury Parish Council is committed to Localism and bringing greater locally informed influence over planning decisions and it will be the key organisation in the implementation, monitoring and review of the Neighbourhood Plan. The Council will build upon its excellent track record in engaging in planning decisions (reactively through being consulted and proactively through promoting the policies and proposals of this Plan), and by delivering projects and infrastructure for the local community. However, the Council recognises the need to involve a range of other organisations if the potential of this plan is to be realised.

37.6 In England, communities that draw up a Neighbourhood Plan and secure the consent of local people in a referendum, which is then legally “Made”, benefit from 25% of the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) revenues arising from development that takes place in their area. However this only applies to development permitted after the making of the NP and is not applied retrospectively. Up until that time the provision of eligibility for 15% of the CIL generated in the area applies.



37.7 Contributions through the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) will be obtained from any housing development taking place in the Parish. The Neighbourhood Proportion of the CIL

and any financial contributions will be focused on assisting the delivery of community infrastructure projects in Bury. The money raised through CIL is used to fund district-wide and local infrastructure projects that benefit local communities as set out in Section 216 (2) of the Planning Act 2008. The Neighbourhood proportion of the CIL monies will be spent on local infrastructure as detailed in the supporting text to Policy ISF4 - Infrastructure Provision.

- 37.8 In addition, the Parish Council will seek to influence annual and other budget decisions by Huntingdonshire District Council and Cambridgeshire County Council on housing, open space and recreation, economic development, community facilities and transport, through respective plans and strategies. The Parish Council will also work with the appropriate agencies and organisations to develop funding bids aimed at achieving Neighbourhood Plan policies and objectives. This might include the Lottery, UK Government programmes, EU Funds and any partnership programmes.

Monitoring and Review

- 38.1 Continual plan review is a fundamental element of the planning system. It is important to check that the plan is being implemented correctly, ensure that outcomes match objectives and to change the plan if they are not. This Neighbourhood Plan will be carefully monitored by the Parish Council and reviewed if it becomes apparent that the vision, goals and objectives of the Plan are not being met.

- 38.2 Monitoring is a shared responsibility of the Parish Council as the qualifying body; Huntingdonshire District Council as the Local Planning Authority; and users of the Neighbourhood Plan. The Parish Council will consider the effectiveness of the policies and proposals in the Neighbourhood Plan each time it makes representations on a planning application; alongside seeking views on the Neighbourhood Plan at each Annual Parish Meeting. The Parish Council will request Huntingdonshire District Council to raise with it any issues arising out of the development management process in determining individual planning applications. Users of the Neighbourhood Plan are encouraged to make comments on monitoring of the Neighbourhood Plan to the Parish Council at any point.



- 38.3 The Neighbourhood Plan has been prepared to guide development up to 2036. It is unlikely that the Neighbourhood Plan will remain current and entirely relevant for the entire plan period and may, in whole or in part, require some amendments before 2036.
- 38.4 There are a number of circumstances under which a partial review of the plan may be necessary, in accordance with best practice, Bury Parish Council and its partners will consider undertaking a partial review of the Neighbourhood Plan no later than 5 years following its finalisation.

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Glossary

39.1 The majority of the glossary is copied from the NPPF to ensure consistency. The terms set out below are either included within the Neighbourhood Plan or are within parts of the NPPF or the Huntingdonshire Local Plan to 2036 that is referred to in the Neighbourhood Plan.

Affordable housing: Housing for sale or rent, for those whose needs are not met by the market (including housing that provides a subsidised route to home ownership and/or is for essential local workers); and which complies with one or more of the following categories: affordable housing for rent; starter homes; discounted market sales housing; and other affordable routes to home ownership including shared ownership, relevant equity loans, other low cost homes for sale (at a price equivalent to at least 20% below local market value) and rent to buy (which includes a period of intermediate rent). *[Note a more detailed definition is included in the NPPF]*

Amenity: A positive element or elements that contribute to the overall character or enjoyment of an area. For example, open land, trees, historic buildings and the inter-relationship between them, or less tangible factors such as tranquillity.

Ancient Woodland: Land that has had continuous woodland cover since 1600AD as designated by Natural England.

Conservation (for heritage policy): The process of maintaining and managing change to a heritage asset in a way that sustains and, where appropriate, enhances its significance.

Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL): A levy allowing local authorities to raise funds from owners or developers of land undertaking new building projects in their area.

Core Strategy: The Huntingdonshire Core Strategy which forms part of the Development Plan setting out the spatial vision and strategic objectives of the planning framework for an area.

Development plan: This includes adopted Local Plans and Neighbourhood Plans and is defined in section 38 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.

Economic development: Development, including those within the B Use Classes, public and community uses and main town centre uses (but excluding housing development).

Ecological networks: These link sites of biodiversity importance.

Green infrastructure: A network of multi-functional green space, urban and rural, which is capable of delivering a wide range of environmental and quality of life benefits for local communities.



Green community infrastructure: A network of multi-functional green space, urban and rural, which is aimed at meeting community needs for play, healthy living and recreation. This includes children's play areas; sports playing pitches; open space; natural greenspace; and allotments.

Heritage asset: A building, monument, site, place, area or landscape identified as having a degree of significance meriting consideration in planning decisions, because of its heritage interest. Heritage asset includes designated heritage assets and assets identified by the local planning authority (including local listing).

Historic environment: All aspects of the environment resulting from the interaction between people and places through time, including all surviving physical remains of past human activity, whether visible, buried or submerged, and landscaped and planted or managed flora.

International, national and locally designated sites of importance for biodiversity: All international sites (Special Areas of Conservation, Special Protection Areas, and Ramsar sites), national sites (Sites of Special Scientific Interest) and locally designated sites including Local Wildlife Sites.

Living Conditions: The circumstances affecting the way in which people live, especially with regard to their well-being. Relevant factors include: internal space; access to external space; outlook; privacy; daylight; sunlight; overbearing impact; impact from pollution including noise.

Local planning authority: The public authority whose duty it is to carry out specific planning functions for a particular area. The local planning authority for Bury is Huntingdonshire District Council.

Local Plan: The plan for the future development of the local area, drawn up by the local planning authority in consultation with the community. In law this is described as the development plan documents adopted under the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.

Neighbourhood plans: A plan prepared by a Town or Parish Council or Neighbourhood Forum for a particular neighbourhood area (made under the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004).

NPPF: National Planning Policy Framework, this forms the overall planning policy produced by the Government to inform the making of Development Plans including Neighbourhood Plans and decision making on planning applications.

NPPG or PPG: Planning Practice Guidance, this forms the overall national planning practice guidance and advice produced by the Government to inform the making of Development Plans including Neighbourhood Plans and decision making on planning applications.

Older people: People over retirement age, including the active, newly-retired through to the very frail elderly, whose housing needs can encompass accessible, adaptable general needs housing for



those looking to downsize from family housing and the full range of retirement and specialised housing for those with support or care needs.

Open space: All open space of public value, including not just land, but also areas of water (such as rivers, canals, lakes and reservoirs) which offer important opportunities for sport and recreation and can act as a visual amenity.

Personal Safety: an individual's ability to go about their everyday life, moving around the Parish to access services and facilities by any mode of transport, free from the threat or fear of psychological, emotional or physical harm from other users of the transport and highway network.

Policies Map: A document which illustrates on a base map all the policies and proposals contained in this Neighbourhood Plan or another document which forms part of the Development Plan.

Planning condition: A condition imposed on a grant of planning permission (in accordance with the Town and Country Planning Act 1990) or a condition included in a Local Development Order or Neighbourhood Development Order.

Planning obligation: A legally enforceable obligation entered into under section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to mitigate the impacts of a development proposal.

Previously developed land: Land which is or was occupied by a permanent structure, including the curtilage of the developed land (although it should not be assumed that the whole of the curtilage should be developed) and any associated fixed surface infrastructure. This excludes: land that is or has been occupied by agricultural or forestry buildings; land that has been developed for minerals extraction or waste disposal by landfill purposes where provision for restoration has been made through development control procedures; land in built-up areas such as private residential gardens, parks, recreation grounds and allotments; and land that was previously-developed but where the remains of the permanent structure or fixed surface structure have blended into the landscape in the process of time.

Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM) or Scheduled Monument: Those monuments that are given legal protection by being scheduled by Historic England.

Settlement Boundary: The boundary drawn around various towns and villages to limit new development and define the 'built-up area' of Bury. Outside of the settlement boundary is considered to be the countryside.



Significance (for heritage policy): The value of a heritage asset to this and future generations because of its heritage interest. That interest may be archaeological, architectural, artistic or historic. Significance derives not only from a heritage asset's physical presence, but also from its setting.

Site of Special Scientific Interest: Sites designated by Natural England under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981.

Special Area of Conservation (SAC): Areas which have been given special protection under the European Union's Habitat Directive, as identified by Natural England.

Special Protection Area (SPA): Strictly protected sites classified for wild and vulnerable birds.

Strategic Environmental Assessment: A procedure (set out in the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004) which requires the formal environmental assessment of certain plans and programmes which are likely to have significant effects on the environment.

Supplementary planning documents: Documents which add further detail to the policies in the Local Plan. They can be used to provide further guidance for development on specific sites, or on particular issues, such as design. Supplementary planning documents are capable of being a material consideration in planning decisions but are not part of the development plan.

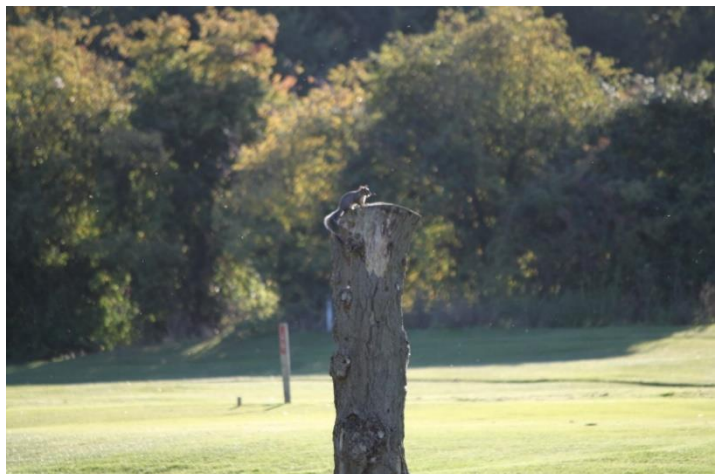
Sustainable development: Resolution 42/187 of the United Nations General Assembly defined sustainable development as meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. The UK Sustainable Development Strategy Securing the Future set out five 'guiding principles' of sustainable development: living within the planet's environmental limits; ensuring a strong, healthy and just society; achieving a sustainable economy; promoting good governance; and using sound science responsibly.

Sustainable growth: The growth of Bury as a community through the provision of additional housing to meet the needs identified; whilst safeguarding the provision of services and facilities; protecting and allowing further local employment; and protecting the character and appearance of the village including their green areas.

Sustainable transport modes: Any efficient, safe and accessible means of transport with overall low impact on the environment, including walking and cycling, low and ultra-low emission vehicles, car sharing and public transport.

Transport assessment: A comprehensive and systematic process that sets out transport issues relating to a proposed development. It identifies what measures will be required to improve accessibility and safety for all modes of travel, particularly for alternatives to the car such as walking, cycling and public transport and what measures will need to be taken to deal with the anticipated transport impacts of the development.

Wildlife corridor: Areas of habitat connecting wildlife populations.



Appendix 1 - History of Bury

- 40.1 Bury and Hepmangrove were traditionally two settlements but now form one single village known as Bury. The village still retains several 17th-century half-timbered thatched or tiled cottages, some of which have been refaced with brick, but most of the houses are of brick with slate or tile roofs. The former ancient stone bridge of one arch which crossed the Brook was replaced in 1925 by a wider bridge. The north-west side of the bridge was traditionally Hepmangrove, in which the greater part of the current village of Bury lies.
- 40.2 Bury has grown in population from 179 in 1911, peaking at 2,064 in 1951 before dropping back to 975 in 1981 at the end of the RAF use of Upwood Airfield. The population has risen again to 1,938 in 2011.

Parish	1911	1921	1931	1951	1961	1971	1981	1991	2001	2011
Bury	179	300	303	2064	1165	1069	975	1710	1713	1938

- 40.3 The parish of Bury lies to the south of Ramsey. It is of very irregular shape, projecting a considerable distance into the fen on the east side of the road from Ramsey to St. Ives. From east to west at its widest part, it is about 2.5 miles and from north to south about 1.75 miles. It covers approximately 585 hectares of which around a third is fenland. The land rises on both sides of the brook which runs through the parish from north-east to south-west to a height of up to 17m AOD at Mill Mound. Much of the fenland and the higher land is ploughed. The soil is a strong black loam and the subsoil clay. The main crops are wheat, oats, beans and peas on the higher land, and potatoes, celery, sugar-beet and the ordinary cereals on the fenland

- 40.4 Hepmangrove originally was to have been connected with Ramsey parish, and the brook running through the village of Bury formed the boundary between it and Bury. From the deeds relating to tenements and lands situated within its boundaries, it appears to have been, before the Dissolution of the Monasteries, a populous suburb of Ramsey. Both Bury and Hepmangrove lay within the Banlieu.

- 40.5 At the southern end of the village is Bury Hall, a brick house with a slate roof, built by Mr. Abraham Staffurth about 1860. A short distance northward, after passing some cottages and some houses, is the church, occupying a commanding position on a slight eminence. To the east of the church is the rectory built by Lady Olivia Bernard Sparrow in 1845 and conveyed to the living in 1850. Opposite the church is the old Manor House of Bury, a late 16th-century half-timber building with tiled roof, which is now divided into two tenements. The land falls somewhat steeply here to the brook, known as High Lode; the former ancient stone bridge of one arch which crossed it was replaced in 1925 by the present somewhat wider bridge. The north-west side of the bridge was traditionally in Hepmangrove in which the greater part of the current village of Bury lies. On the north side of the road is the old parish school built by Lady Olivia Bernard



Sparrow in or about 1845 and handed over to the rector and churchwardens in 1878 by the Duke of Manchester. Further along the road towards Ramsey is a 17th-century timber-framed house with diagonal chimney shafts.

- 40.6 A little way down the road to Upwood is the Green Dragon, formerly a public house (now a private residence), behind which in a little field the church of Hepmangrove is said to have stood, but no remains of it exist above ground. Further north along the road are the Britannia Iron Works, formerly the type foundry of Messrs. Hughes and Kimber but now disused.
- 40.7 The Royal Flying Corps requisitioned 160 acres of farmland near the village of Upwood in 1917. In September of that year the station opened as Bury (Ramsey), subsequently it became RAF Upwood and then Upwood Airfield. At the end of RAF use of the station in 1981, the United States Air Force was given control of Upwood by the Ministry of Defence. USAF airmen from RAF Alconbury had been living in the Upwood housing area since the mid-1970s. In 1986, a multimillion-dollar medical facility was opened to provide out-patient services to American military members and dependents in the area.

- 40.8 RAF Upwood was returned to the British government control in September 1995 and with the number of airmen assigned to the area reduced, the need for housing became less and less. By 2005 the last USAF family moved out of the Upwood housing area and it was returned to the MOD. The medical facilities, however, remained open albeit in a reduced capacity until it finally closed on 26 October 2012. Most, but not all of Upwood Airfield lies in Bury Parish with parts also lying within the Parishes of Ramsey and Upwood and the Raveleys.

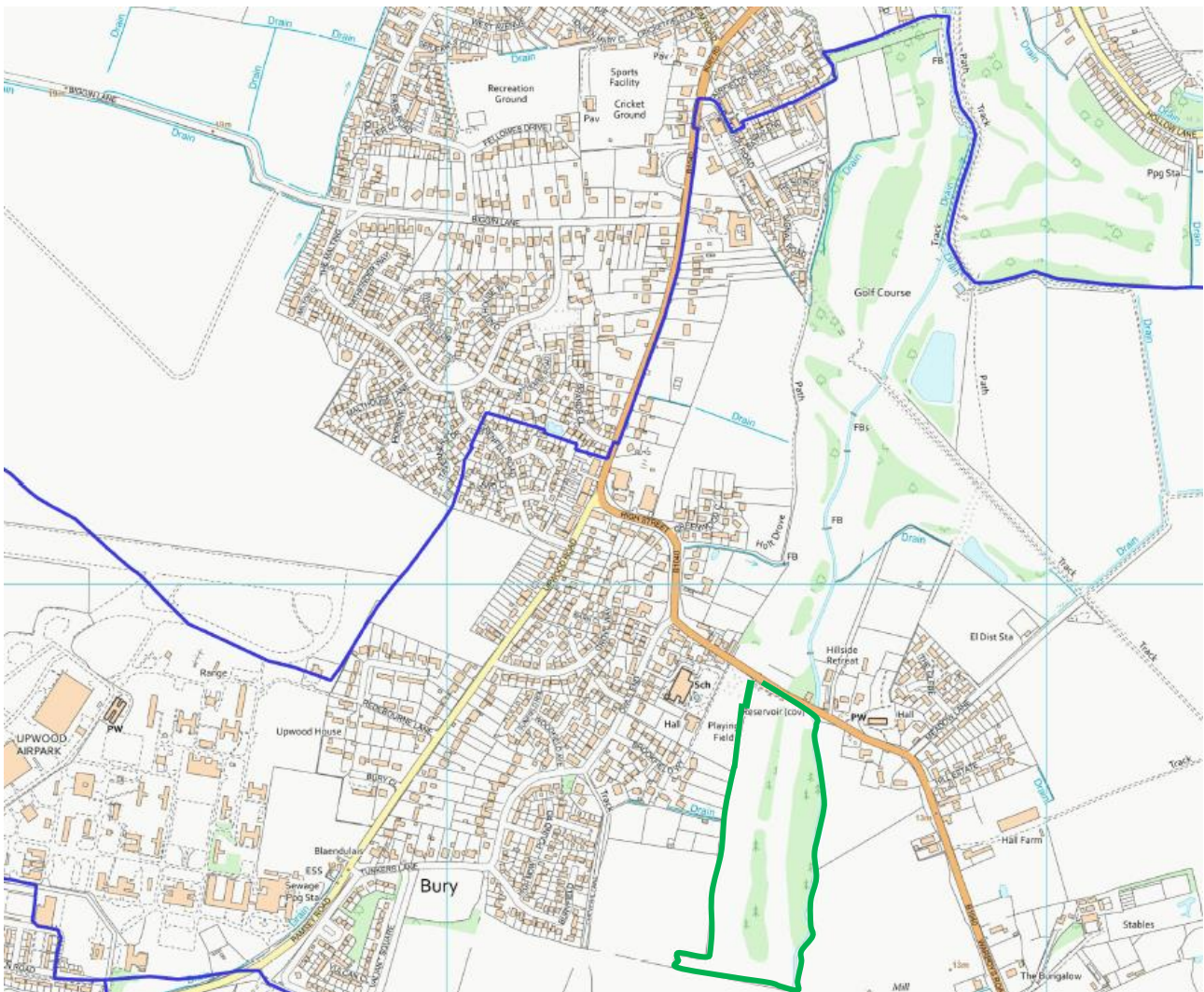


- 40.9 Parts of Bury immediately about the town of Ramsey, that town has a population of 8,479. It provides a number of higher order local services and facilities that are used by the residents of Bury Village. Bury Village has a number of important local services and facilities including a Parish Church; Village Hall; Primary School; Village Store; Play Area; Recreation Ground; Garage/Filling Station; and Public House.
- 40.10 The church of Holy Cross in Bury is built of rubble with Barnack stone dressings and the roofs are covered with slates and tiles. It consists of a chancel (27 ft. by 14½ ft.), nave (48 ft. by 19½ ft.), a north aisle (7½ ft. wide), west tower (11 ft. by 10 ft.), and formerly a western chapel (about 35 ft. by 21½ ft.). Holy Cross church, Bury, has just three bells but one of them is very special. It is one of the oldest bells in the country still ringing. She was cast nearly 640 years ago round about 1380. But she is special for another reason: The bell is one of just 142 surviving Royal Head (RH) bells, out of 66,000 bells in the country. An RH bell has an image of a king or queen cast into it: It is probably Anne of Bohemia, queen of Richard II. Also, it has the words AVE MARIA either side of the head.
- 40.11 Ramsey is one of the five principal towns in the District of Huntingdonshire, the others being St Ives, St Neots, Huntingdon and Godmanchester. In planning terms Huntingdonshire District Council aligns the village of Bury with the town of Ramsey in a defined Spatial Planning Area. Huntingdonshire is still predominantly rural in character with an area of approximately 350 square miles. The population is currently 169,508, with approximately half living in the four market towns of Huntingdon, St Neots, St Ives and Ramsey and most of the remainder in almost 100 villages. As part of the Ramsey Spatial Planning Area, Bury is identified for growth largely centered on the Upwood Airfield site.

Appendix 2 - Descriptions of Designated Local Green Spaces

41.1 Draft Local Green Spaces were identified in the Draft Neighbourhood Plan and these were consulted upon. Details on how Local Green Spaces were identified and details of the consultation is contained in the supporting document ‘Local Green Spaces Evidence’. The following final Local Green Spaces have been designated:

Local Green Space Name: Ramsey Golf Course (South of High Street)



Ramsey Golf Course - Local Green Space © Crown Copyright OS Licence Number 0100055891

Owner: Ramsey Club Company Ltd

Close Proximity	Demonstrably Special Significance					Local in Character
	Beauty	Historic Significance	Recreational Value	Tranquillity	Wildlife Richness	
✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓

The area forms part of the southern green fringe of the village adjacent to but outside of the Conservation Area boundary, and the golf course dominates the landscape in this area. Bury brook and the golf course form an important green corridor connecting historic Bury to the newer areas

Bury Village Neighbourhood Plan

of Bury. The valley landscape of Bury brook is of high quality and provides an open, attractive landscape setting to Bury. Any development would be visually intrusive and adversely impact the character and attractive setting of the settlement. It would also diminish the green wedge which provides a separation between historic Bury and the more modern parts of Bury.

The Golf Course to the south of the B1040 although not crossed by any public rights of way provides important vistas from the well-used public right of way which runs through the Playing Field. The openness of the Golf Course contributes to the beauty and tranquillity of these public right of way which provide a valuable recreational resource to the local community. The Golf Course although being a private club is a valuable recreational resource for the local community of Bury and wider afield.

Local Green Space Name: Bury Holy Cross Churchyard and Cemetery



Bury Holy Cross Churchyard and Cemetery - Local Green Space © Crown Copyright OS Licence Number 0100055891

Owner: Diocese of Ely and Bury Parish Council

Close Proximity	Demonstrably Special Significance					Local in Character
	Beauty	Historic Significance	Recreational Value	Tranquillity	Wildlife Richness	
✓	✓	✓		✓		✓

Bury Holy Cross church dates from the 12th century and was originally the mother church of Ramsey Abbey. Set on a hill the church commands impressive views across the settlement and surrounding fenlands. The churchyard was closed by order of the Privy Council in 1907 and the adjoining cemetery was started. It is maintained by the Parish Council in an eco-friendly way and includes an area maintained by the War Graves Commission and a garden of remembrance. The adjoining field owned by Bury Parish council and currently laid to pasture, is included as the cemetery has been extended and recently consecrated, having received planning permission in January 2006 (0503612FUL). This beautiful setting has its own tranquillity and peacefulness enjoying inspiring and uninterrupted views over the countryside.

Local Green Space Name: Bury Playing Fields (x2)



Bury Playing Fields (x2) - Local Green Space © Crown Copyright OS Licence Number 0100055891

Owner: Bury Parish Council

Close Proximity	Demonstrably Special Significance					Local in Character
	Beauty	Historic Significance	Recreational Value	Tranquillity	Wildlife Richness	
✓			✓	✓		✓

The area comprises a small and large playing field either side of the village hall. The space is reasonably level and predominantly grass. Both fields were assigned in March 2013 to Fields in Trust (registered charity number 306070) and designated Queen Elizabeth II fields in honour of the Queen’s diamond jubilee. The smaller field contains a younger children’s play area, maintained by the Parish Council, with an adjacent seating area and small garden. Running along one side is a zip-wire.

The larger field contains a youth shelter, outdoor gym equipment designed for older children and adults and is currently marked out with a football pitch and short running track for use by the Bury Primary school. The southern boundary of the field adjoins the golf course. The Rothschild Way long-distance public right of way runs through the larger playing field.

Local Green Space Name: BMX Track



BMX Track - Local Green Space © Crown Copyright OS Licence Number 0100055891

Owner: Caton Will Trust

Close Proximity	Demonstrably Special Significance					Local in Character
	Beauty	Historic Significance	Recreational Value	Tranquillity	Wildlife Richness	
✓			✓			✓

The area shares boundaries with the large playing field, the B1040 which runs through Bury, the golf course and Bury Primary school. Currently laid as a BMX track it is the only other play facility in the village and provides a valuable facility for the local community. The Rothschild Way long-distance public right of way runs alongside the BMX track.

Local Green Space Name: Land at Signal Road

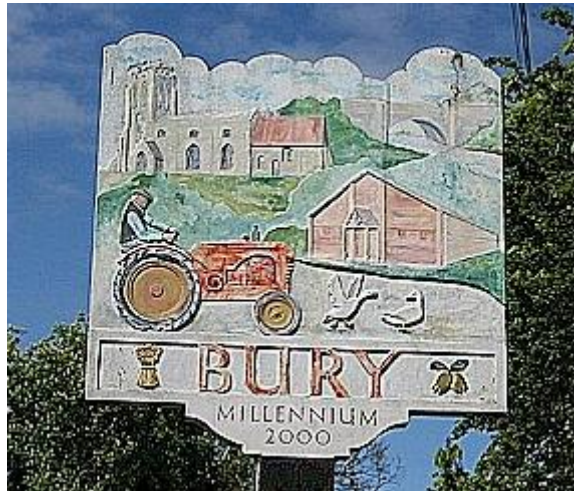


Land at Signal Road - Local Green Space © Crown Copyright OS Licence Number 0100055891

Owner: Management Company

Close Proximity	Demonstrably Special Significance					Local in Character
	Beauty	Historic Significance	Recreational Value	Tranquillity	Wildlife Richness	
✓			✓	✓		✓

The area comprises a small well-equipped play area and a larger area which provides the opportunity for informal recreation. It has the visual appearance of a modern style village green and makes an important contribution to the character and appearance of the local area and local play provision.



Bury Village Neighbourhood Plan 2019-2036

January 2020
(Referendum Version)

The Neighbourhood Plan for the Parish of Bury produced in accordance with the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations 2012

Bury Village Neighbourhood Plan



<https://buryparishcouncil.co.uk/index.php/neighbourhood-plan/>

Bury Parish Council

NEIGHBOURHOOD-PLAN.CO.UK



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Public

HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Title/Subject Matter: Buckden Neighbourhood Development Plan.

Meeting/Date: Council – 19 May 2021

Executive Portfolio: Executive Councillor for Strategic Planning.

Report by: Strategic Growth Manager.

Ward(s) affected: **Buckden**

Executive Summary:

The Referendum on the Buckden Neighbourhood Development Plan was held on 6 May 2021 and resulted in an 91.8% 'Yes' vote in support of making the Neighbourhood Plan as part of the statutory development plan. As this exceeds the required threshold of 50% of the votes cast the Council is required to formally 'make' the Buckden Neighbourhood Development Plan unless the Council considers that it would be incompatible with any EU or human rights obligations. As part of the statutory development plan the Buckden Neighbourhood Development Plan would be used to help decide planning applications within the neighbourhood area.

It is not considered that making the plan would be incompatible with an EU or human rights obligation and the Buckden Neighbourhood Development Plan must therefore be 'made'.

Recommendation:

The Council is

RECOMMENDED

To 'make' the Buckden Neighbourhood Development Plan in the form attached as Appendix 1 such that it becomes part of the Statutory Development Plan for Huntingdonshire with immediate effect.

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to consider whether the Buckden Neighbourhood Development Plan should be officially 'made' such that it becomes part of the statutory development plan for Huntingdonshire.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Buckden Neighbourhood Area was formally designated on 5 September 2018. The submission neighbourhood plan, its supporting evidence base and all responses to the statutory consultation were subject to an independent examination commencing on 2 September 2020 with the final report issued on 23 October 2020.
- 2.2 The examination confirmed that the Buckden Neighbourhood Development Plan should move forward to referendum subject to modifications and confirmed that it complied with the specified basic conditions, was properly prepared by the qualifying body, covered the designated plan area, did not contain any excluded development and contained policies that related to the development and use of land. The examiner's report also confirmed that there was nothing in the Buckden Neighbourhood Development Plan that led them to conclude there would be any breach of the European Convention on Human Rights. They also confirmed that the Buckden Neighbourhood Development Plan is compatible with EU obligations arising from the Habitats Regulations Assessments and other directives.
- 2.3 The outcome of the examination and proposed changes were reported to Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Performance and Growth) on 9 December 2020 and Cabinet on 10 December 2020. Arising from these it was agreed that the Buckden Neighbourhood Development Plan as proposed to be modified should progress to referendum.

3. ANALYSIS

- 3.1 The Coronavirus pandemic resulted in several amendments to the normal process of neighbourhood planning to reflect social distancing rules and to reduce the risk of virus transmission. The Local Government and Police and Crime Commissioner (Coronavirus) (Postponement of Elections and Referendums) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020 came into force on 7 April 2020 and postponed all elections and referendums until 6 May 2021.
- 3.2 The referendum was held at the soonest possible opportunity on the 6 May 2021 where the statutorily set question was posed asking residents of the designated neighbourhood area: 'Do you want Huntingdonshire District Council to use the Neighbourhood Plan for Buckden to help it decide planning applications in the neighbourhood area?'
- 3.3 A total of 2,295 people were eligible to vote in the referendum; 948 ballot papers were issued representing a turnout of 41.3%. The number of votes cast in favour of 'Yes' was 869, the number of votes in favour of 'No' was

64 with 14 ballot papers rejected where the intended vote could not be clearly determined. This indicated a majority of 91.8% voting in favour of using the Buckden Neighbourhood Development Plan to help decide planning applications within the designated neighbourhood area.

- 3.4 As the Buckden Neighbourhood Development Plan was endorsed by more than the required threshold of 50% of those voting the Council must now 'make' the Neighbourhood Plan such that it becomes part of the statutory development plan for Huntingdonshire unless the Council considers that it would be incompatible with any EU or human rights obligations. It is not considered that making the plan would be incompatible with an EU or human rights obligation and the Buckden Neighbourhood Plan must therefore be 'made'.

4. KEY IMPACTS / RISKS

- 4.1 The key impacts of this are the reiteration of the importance of the planned system with town and parish councils and residents of the neighbourhood plan area having the opportunity to positively influence how their community grows in the future.
- 4.2 Successful 'making' of a Neighbourhood Plan entitles Buckden Parish Council to an increased proportion of CIL receipts from development within the neighbourhood area, up from 15% to 25%.

5. TIMETABLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION

- 5.1 Buckden Neighbourhood Development Plan will become part of the statutory development plan with immediate effect.

6. LINK TO THE CORPORATE PLAN, STRATEGIC PRIORITIES AND/OR CORPORATE OBJECTIVES

- 6.1 Making the neighbourhood plan will help achieve the Corporate Plan aspiration to 'Develop stronger and more resilient communities to enable people to help themselves'.

7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 Section 38A(4)(a) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 requires the Council to 'make' the Neighbourhood Plan if more than half of those voting in the referendum have voted in favour. The Council is content that the Buckden Neighbourhood Development Plan meets the specified basic conditions, does not breach the European Convention on Human Rights and is not incompatible with EU obligations arising from the Habitats Regulations Assessments and other directives.

8. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 An additional 10% of CIL receipts within the neighbourhood area will be passed over to Buckden Parish Council. This may have implications on resource availability for infrastructure projects provided by this Council.

Additional support, both financial and partnership working, may be sought to help deliver some of the projects identified in the Buckden Neighbourhood Development Plan.

9. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDED DECISIONS

9.1 The Council has a statutory obligation to 'make' the Buckden Neighbourhood Development Plan now that it has successfully passed the referendum stage.

10. LIST OF APPENDICES INCLUDED

Appendix 1 – Buckden Neighbourhood Development Plan

11. BACKGROUND PAPERS

HDC Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Performance and Growth) held on 9 December 2020 (see item 4 on agenda)

<http://applications.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/moderngov/ieListDocuments.aspx?Clid=10235&MId=7760>

HDC Cabinet meeting held on 10 December 2020 (see item 4 on agenda)

<http://applications.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/moderngov/ieListDocuments.aspx?Clid=256&MId=7794>

The Neighbourhood Planning (Referendums) Regulations 2012 (as amended)

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukdsi/2012/9780111525050/contents>

National Planning Practice Guidance (Neighbourhood Planning)

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/neighbourhood-planning--2>

Neighbourhood Planning in Huntingdonshire webpage

<https://www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/planning/neighbourhood-planning/>

Buckden Neighbourhood Development Plan webpage

<https://www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/planning/neighbourhood-planning/buckden-neighbourhood-development-plan/>

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Appendix 1: Buckden Neighbourhood Plan



Buckden Neighbourhood Development Plan 2020 – 2036

November 2020

BUCKDEN PARISH COUNCIL

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1.1 CONTENTS

2	INTRODUCTION	7
3	LOCAL AREA CONTEXT	11
4	VISION, AIMS AND OBJECTIVES	17
5	HOUSING	19
6	CONSERVATION AREA AND HISTORIC ASSETS	31
7	TRANSPORT	36
8	ACCESSIBILITY, FOOTPATHS AND CYCLE WAYS	45
9	COMMUNITY SERVICES AND FACILITIES	51
10	BUSINESS	58
11	BIODIVERSITY AND ECOLOGY	60
12	PROTECTING GREEN SPACE	66
13	THE GREAT OUSE VALLEY	70
14	PRESERVING THE RURAL SETTING OF THE VILLAGE, PROTECTING AND ENHANCING VALUED LANDSCAPES	74
15	MONITORING	85
16	APPENDIX 1 - LIST OF EVIDENCE	87
17	APPENDIX 2 - DESIGNATED LOCAL GREEN SPACES	89

18	APPENDIX 3 - OTHER GREEN SPACES	92
19	APPENDIX 4: LISTED BUILDINGS IN BUCKDEN	94
20	APPENDIX 5: LANDSCAPE – PROTECTED VIEWS, GATEWAYS, TRANSITION ZONES, SCENIC QUALITY AND SENSE OF ARRIVAL	96
21	APPENDIX 6: POTENTIAL PROJECTS FOR CIL FUNDING	106

1.2 ACRONYMS

AECOM - a global provider of professional technical and management support services to a broad range of markets, including transportation, facilities, environmental, energy, water and government.

AONB - Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

BPC - Buckden Parish Council

Cambridgeshire ACRE (Action with Communities in Rural England) - the rural community council for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough

CAP - Community Action Plan

CCC - Cambridgeshire County Council

DP – The Development Plan which includes the Neighbourhood Plan, HDC Local Plan and Planning legislation

HDC- Huntingdonshire District Council

HNA - the Buckden Housing Needs Assessment

LP- Huntingdonshire District Council Local Plan 2036

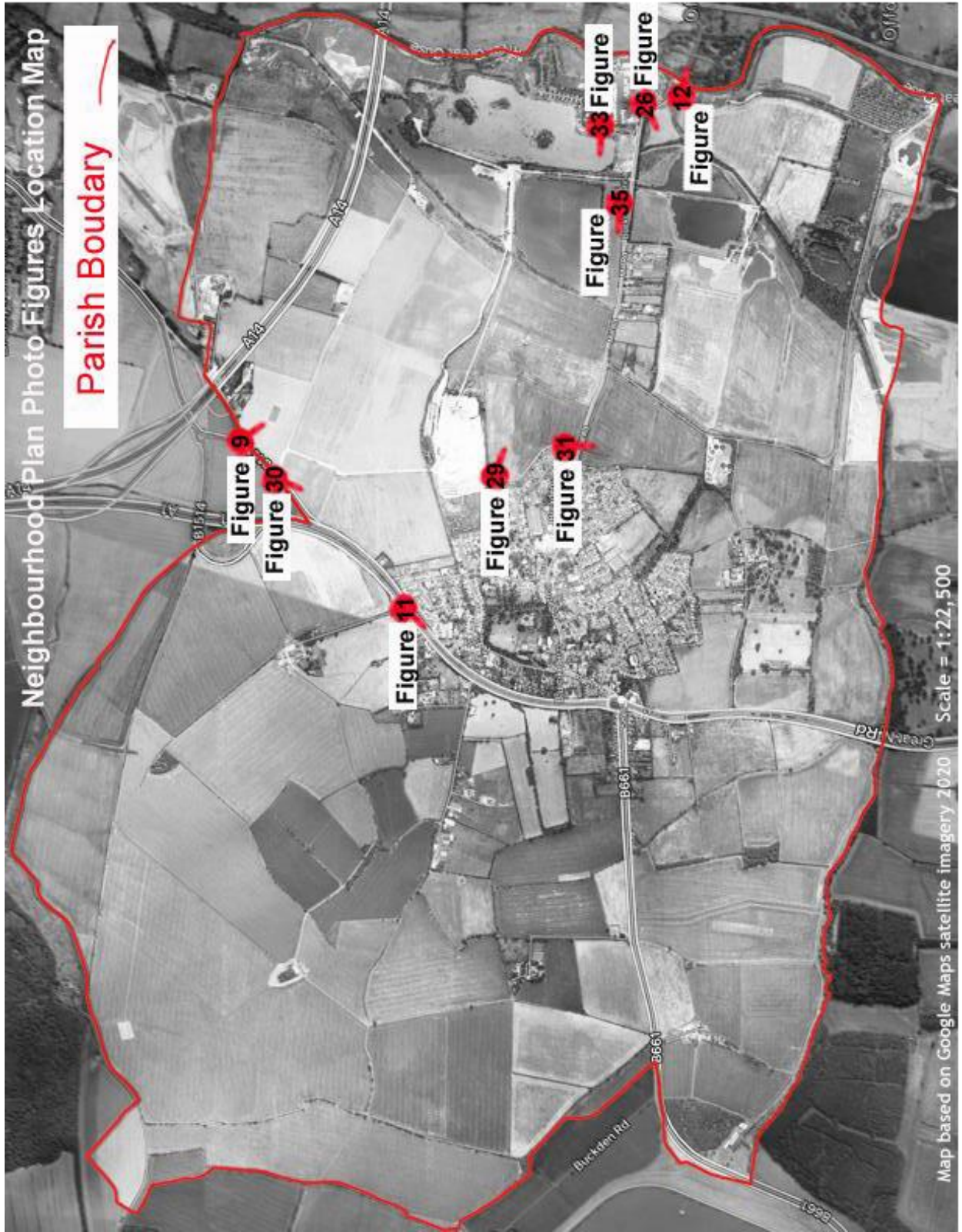
LCWIP – Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan

NPPF - National Planning Policy Framework June 2019

1.3 TABLE OF FIGURES

Figure 1 BUCKDEN PARISH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN APPROVED DESIGNATED AREA	9
Figure 2 DEMOGRAPHIC DATA	12
Figure 3 BUCKDEN'S NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN QUESTIONNAIRE SHOWING CONCERNS ABOUT FURTHER DEVELOPMENT IN THE PARISH	13
Figure 4 BUCKDEN'S NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSE TO INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT	14
Figure 5 BUCKDEN'S NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSE TO RESIDENTS' OVERALL PRIORITIES	16
Figure 6 BUCKDEN'S NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN QUESTIONNAIRE	20
Figure 7 BUCKDEN CONSERVATION AREA AND LISTED BUILDINGS	31
Figure 8 BUCKDEN TOWERS AND CHURCH	32
Figure 9 AN ORLIT 'B' ROYAL OBSERVER CORPS POST, AN AIRCRAFT REPORTING POST, IS LOCATED IN BUCKDEN.....	34
Figure 10 ENTRY AND EXIT POINTS BUCKDEN	36
Figure 11 CONGESTION ON THE A1 SOUTHBOUND AT THE ROUNDABOUT	37
Figure 12 CONGESTION AT THE OFFORDS RAILWAY CROSSING.....	38
Figure 13 BUCKDEN'S BUSY HIGH STREET – JUNE 2018	39
Figure 14 CYCLING IS A FEASIBLE ALTERNATIVE TO CARS IF CYCLE PATHS ARE IMPROVED.....	45
Figure 15 BUCKDEN'S NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSE ILLUSTRATING THE STRONG DESIRE FROM RESIDENTS FOR IMPROVED WALKING, CYCLING AND PUBLIC TRANSPORT LINKS TO THE VILLAGE	46
Figure 16 BUCKDEN'S NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSE ILLUSTRATING THE STRONG DESIRE FROM RESIDENTS FOR IMPROVED FOOTPATHS	47
Figure 17 BUCKDEN'S NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSE ILLUSTRATING THE STRONG DESIRE FROM RESIDENTS FOR IMPROVED CYCLE-WAYS	47
Figure 18 PROPOSED STRATEGIC CYCLING NETWORK.....	48
Figure 19 THE GEORGE HOTEL, HIGH STREET, BUCKDEN	51
Figure 20 THE LION HOTEL, HIGH STREET, BUCKDEN	51
Figure 21 BUCKDEN'S CHRISTMAS LIGHTS SWITCH-ON FESTIVAL	58
Figure 22 CCC STRATEGIC AREA 3: GREAT OUSE	61
Figure 23 SITES OF HIGH BIODIVERSITY VALUE IN BUCKDEN PARISH	62
Figure 24 LOCAL GREEN SPACES	67
Figure 25 A TYPICAL SCENE OF BUCKDEN AND GREAT OUSE VALLEY.....	70
Figure 26 BUCKDEN IS AN IMPORTANT GATEWAY TO THE GREAT OUSE VALLEY	71
Figure 27 GREAT OUSE VALLEY LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREA BOUNDARY.....	72
Figure 28 MAP SHOWING BUCKDEN'S LANDSCAPE CHARACTER ZONES.....	75
Figure 29 LOOKING EAST INTO THE GREAT OUSE VALLEY FROM THE VILLAGE EDGE FROM THE EASTERN VILLAGE EDGE ZONE	75
Figure 30 VIEW FROM THE ANGLIAN WATER ROAD TO THE VILLAGE EDGE, FROM THE EAST, WITH ST MARY'S CHURCH IN THE BACKGROUND.....	76

Figure 31 IMPORTANT TRANSITION ZONE FROM THE VILLAGE EDGE TO THE GREAT OUSE VALLEY FROM THE EAST OF THE VILLAGE	77
Figure 32 MINERAL RESOURCE MAP FOR BUCKDEN TAKEN FROM BRITISH GEOLOGICAL SURVEY 2003.....	78
Figure 33 A VIEW OF ONE OF THE BUCKDEN PITS LAKES	78
Figure 34 TYPICAL RIVERSIDE ZONE ALONG BUCKDEN'S GREAT OUSE VALLEY.....	80
FIGURE 35 MILL ROAD HEDGEROW	81
Figure 36 MAP OF SPECIFIC FEATURES RECOMMENDED FOR PRESERVATION/CONSERVATION Ref: Buckden Landscape Appraisal, Taylor, 1995.....	82
Figure 37 MAP SHOWING LOCATIONS OF PICTURES OF VALUED VIEWS PRIMARILY REFERENCING BUCKDEN'S 1995 LANDSCAPE APPRAISAL	83
Figure 38 ALLOTMENT GARDENS AREA	89
Figure 39 PRIMARY SCHOOL AREA.....	90
Figure 40 CEMETERY AREA	90
Figure 41 RECREATION GROUND AREA	91
Figure 42 OTHER GREEN SPACES.....	92
Figure 43 MAP SHOWING LOCATIONS OF PICTURES OF VALUED VIEWS PRIMARILY REFERENCING BUCKDEN'S 1995 LANDSCAPE APPRAISAL	96
Figure 44 PICTURE 1 - THE REAR OF THE PROPERTIES ON VINEYARD WAY AND VIEW OF THE VILLAGE HALL PLAYING FIELD.....	97
Figure 45 PICTURE 2 - A1 LOOKING SOUTH TOWARDS HARDWICK LANE AND PARK FARM	97
Figure 46 PICTURE 3 - ROADSIDE HEDGE AT MILL ROAD LOOKING WEST TOWARDS BUCKDEN VILLAGE	98
Figure 47 PICTURE 4 - VIEW FROM THE FIELDS SOUTH OF TAYLORS LANE.....	99
Figure 48 PICTURE 5 JUNCTION OF LEADENS LANE WITH STIRTLOE LANE.....	99
Figure 49 PICTURE 6 - BUCKDEN ROUNDABOUT.....	100
Figure 50 PICTURE 7 - ARRIVAL TO BUCKDEN FROM THE A1 SOUTH SHOWING THE VIEW OF BUCKDEN TOWERS AND ST MARY'S CHURCH	101
Figure 51 PICTURE 8 - VIEW OF ST MARY'S CHURCH SPIRE FROM PERRY ROAD	102
Figure 52 PICTURE 9 - BUCKDEN TOWERS AND ST MARY'S CHURCH	103
Figure 53 PICTURE 10 - STIRTLOE LANE PUBLIC FOOTPATH LEADING TO CRANFIELD CLOSE	104
Figure 54 PICTURE 11 BUCKDEN FROM THE STIRTLOE END OF LUCKS LANE.....	105



2 Introduction

2.1 What is a Neighbourhood Plan?

- 2.1.1 Neighbourhood Plans were introduced in the Localism Act 2011 to give communities power to develop a shared vision for their neighbourhood and shape the development of their local area.
- 2.1.2 The principal purpose of the Neighbourhood Plan is to guide development within the village and provide direction to anyone wishing to submit a planning application for development within this area.
- 2.1.3 Neighbourhood planning provides a set of tools for local people to ensure that they get the right types of development for their community so that the ambition of the neighbourhood is aligned with the strategic needs and priorities of the wider local area.
- 2.1.4 Neighbourhood Plans must comply with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) which sets out the Government's planning policies for England and how these are expected to be applied.
- 2.1.5 All new developments in Buckden must be in accordance with the NPPF, the planning policies adopted by the local planning authority, Huntingdonshire District Council, the HDC Local Plan, CCC's planning policies and this Neighbourhood Plan.
- 2.1.6 Paragraph 7 of the NPPF stated aim is to promote sustainable development "for present and future generations". Paragraph 8 identifies three overarching objectives to achieve this aim: Economic, Social and Environmental. For the Neighbourhood Plan this is primarily delivered through land use.

2.2 The Buckden Neighbourhood Plan

- 2.2.1 Buckden Parish Council set up a Neighbourhood Plan Working Group in September 2018. It consisted of four Parish Councillors, and several local volunteers. The Plan has been written using feedback from public consultation and the Neighbourhood Plan questionnaire to ensure that it accurately reflects the aspirations of the community. The Plan covers the period 2020 – 2036.
- 2.2.2 The Parish Council has taken advice from AECOM¹ in relation to the required housing type and mix in the village, and in relation to optimum housing development design, and from ACRE² who have provided input in relation to the demographic and socio-economic profile of Buckden and the planning regulations we must comply with. Government funding was obtained for these pieces of work.
- 2.2.3 The Council has also commissioned an analysis of wildlife and biodiversity in the Neighbourhood Development Area, from Mark Ward BSc Hons, an acknowledged wildlife expert and a Senior Manager at the RSPB.³
- 2.2.4 The Neighbourhood Plan is intended to set out a local blueprint for how Buckden should develop sustainably in the best interests of the village, within the context of the wider Huntingdonshire Local Plan.
- 2.2.5 National policy stipulates that neighbourhood plans should not promote less housing development than is set out in the HDC Local Plan or undermine its strategic priorities. As such, the HDC Local Plan has set a level of growth that will occur in Buckden and which the Neighbourhood Plan must support.
- 2.2.6 The Buckden Neighbourhood Plan creates a suite of policies that complement existing local, national and strategic planning policies. It provides additional detail, and reflects the special characteristics of Buckden, which cannot reasonably be addressed by higher-level policy. It should also help to secure the infrastructure that is needed to support growth and protect areas, landmarks and services that are most important to the community.
- 2.2.7 It is clear, given the planning allocations in the HDC Local Plan, that significant growth is likely to occur in Buckden. This Neighbourhood Plan is intended to ensure that:
- all development is sustainable for present and future generations, preserving and enhancing quality of life
 - new development fits the village context and delivers an appropriate mix and style of houses
 - development is supported by the necessary and adequate infrastructure, facilities and services
 - the important attributes of Buckden that the community holds dear are not lost
 - Buckden's individuality and distinctiveness is retained and strengthened.

¹AECOM (NYSE: ACM) is a global provider of professional technical and management support services to a broad range of markets, including transportation, facilities, environmental, energy, water and government.

²Cambridgeshire ACRE (Action with Communities in Rural England) is the rural community council for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough

³Mark Ward see Doc 22 Buckden Biodiversity and Ecology Appraisal for further details

2.2.8 Neighbourhood Plans are restricted to matters relating to land use and development planning.

However, the consultation process identified several issues and potential projects that could not be addressed through the policies in this document. These are captured in a Community Action Plan (CAP). This is available for review on the BPC website www.buckdenpc.org.uk. The Parish Council will try to ensure these issues and ideas are taken forward over time, where necessary in partnership with other organisations.

2.2.9 The Buckden Neighbourhood Plan has been produced by Buckden Parish Council, which is the approved Neighbourhood Planning body, on behalf of the community of Buckden.

2.3 Planning Context

The boundary of the Neighbourhood Area, which was formally designated on 5th September 2018, can be seen on the map below:

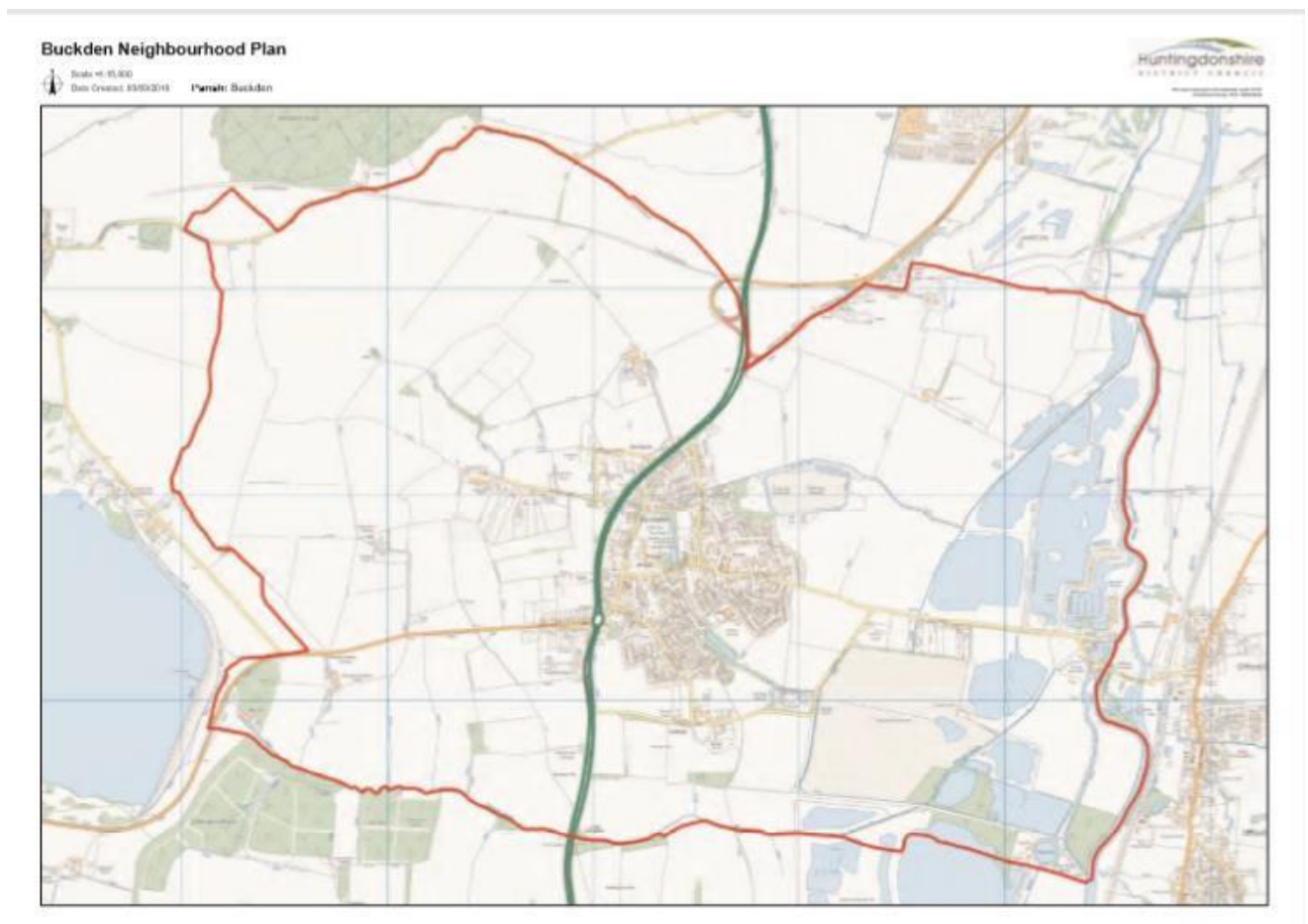


FIGURE 1 BUCKDEN PARISH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN APPROVED DESIGNATED AREA

- 2.3.1 This plan has been produced to align with the Huntingdonshire Local Plan which was adopted in May 2019. The Neighbourhood Plan does not seek to replicate policies in the Local Plan, but to build on them from a local perspective.
- 2.3.2 When adopted, the Neighbourhood Plan will have the same status as the Local Plan, becoming part of the Development Plan (DP). Decisions on planning applications must be determined in accordance with the DP unless material considerations indicate otherwise. As such this Neighbourhood Plan will provide an important framework for how Buckden should grow in the coming years.
- A Planning Policy Context⁴ document has been produced by ACRE on behalf of the Parish Council. The full document is available on request. However, in summary the Neighbourhood Plan must meet a set of basic planning conditions before it can be put to a referendum and be formally adopted.
- 2.3.3 Any Neighbourhood Plan meets the basic conditions if:
- having regard to national policies and advice contained in guidance issued by the Secretary of State, it is appropriate to make the plan
 - the making of the Neighbourhood Plan contributes to the achievement of sustainable development
 - the making of the Neighbourhood Plan is in general conformity with the strategic policies contained in the development plan for the area of the authority
 - the making of the Neighbourhood Plan does not breach, and is otherwise compatible with, European Union obligations where appropriate; and
 - the making of the Neighbourhood Plan does not breach the requirement of Chapter 8 of Part 6 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017.
- 2.3.4 In creating this Plan every effort has been made to comply with planning policy and guidance.

2.4 Evidence to Support the Plan

- 2.4.1 Many documents are referred to in this plan. These form the evidence upon which the plan is based. These are listed in Appendix 1.

⁴Buckden Neighbourhood Plan - Planning Policy Context. Produced by ACRE August 2019

3 Local Area Context

3.1 Location

- 3.1.1 Buckden parish falls within the local area authority of Huntingdonshire District Council. The parish boundary extends well beyond the village and almost reaches Grafham Water to the west. To the east the boundary extends to the River Great Ouse which forms a natural boundary between Buckden village and The Offords. The parish also includes the hamlet of Stirtloe, to the south.
- 3.1.2 The village is largely bounded by the A1 to the west although there are a small number of properties, which lie to the west of the A1 in Perry Road, Taylors Lane and Hardwick. Buckden sits just south of the A1/A14 interchange, is about five miles north of St Neots and five miles south west of Huntingdon. Its nearest neighbours are villages of various sizes including Offord D’Arcy, Offord Cluny, Diddington, Hardwicke, Perry, Southoe and Grafham.
- 3.1.3 Much of the village centre falls within a Conservation Area and there are many listed buildings. The village enjoys a unique sense of place derived from the combination of landscape and built environment. Its position, between Grafham Water to the west and the Ouse Valley Landscape Character Area (currently under consideration as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty) to the east, combined with Buckden village’s, pre-Domesday Book history and nationally important late Saxon archaeology creates an unusual and highly attractive setting.
- 3.1.4 New man-made lakes, resulting from sand and gravel extraction, have created and will continue to create further diverse habitat to the north, east and south of the village.
- 3.1.5 Buckden is surrounded by a landscape of nature reserves and countryside, which have a rich, diverse and varied wildlife habitat full of endangered and rare species.

3.2 A brief history of Buckden

- 3.2.1 There has been a settlement in Buckden since pre-Roman times. In late Saxon times, it was the site of some of the largest buildings in England, but it is first formally referred to in writing in the Domesday Book. During Medieval times the village developed very much as would be recognisable today, The Great North Road formed the High Street with the Bishop of Lincoln’s palace and park on its east side flanked by the Parish Church. Roads leading down to the River Great Ouse, now Church Street and Mill Road, provided access to the other main thoroughfare, the River Great Ouse and to the mill built on its banks.
- 3.2.2 With the introduction of regular coach travel, the village’s position on the Great North Road became important as a rest and refreshment stop for both passengers and horses. During the Georgian period, the village expanded rapidly and many of the buildings which are now listed were erected during this time, including the George Hotel. The Great North Road was not the only source of wealth because there was also considerable barge traffic on the River Great Ouse. During this period the population of the village was just over 1,000 and there were thirteen inns and public houses.

- 3.2.3 In the 19th century the introduction of the railway replaced travel by horse and coach on the Great North Road and this contributed to Buckden's decline. Although the village became a much quieter place to live in, its prosperity did not diminish overnight, and many fine buildings were added. The village was served by two railway halts; Buckden Station to the north on the Kesteven Line and the other to the east at Offord, on the main east coastline. The population remained around 1,000
- 3.2.4 The new enthusiasm for the motor car in the early 20th century meant that the village became a regular stopping point for those on journeys via the main north-south road.
- 3.2.5 In the second half of the twentieth century considerable development took place. The population grew significantly to the present level of approximately 3,000. This was initiated by the building of the new A1 bypass through the west of the village and the rapid economic growth of Cambridgeshire. The new developments were characterised by houses that were well spaced with large areas of open space for grass and trees, giving much of Buckden its distinctive and pleasant feeling of spaciousness.
- 3.2.6 The lowlands of the Great Ouse Valley have changed over time. Large areas of traditional farmland have been replaced by wetland and reed-bed habitats, which have increased the biodiversity of the area. Despite the changes Buckden still stands in a largely unspoilt, mainly arable countryside.

3.3 Profile of the Community Today⁵

- 3.3.1 Buckden is a large village, home to approximately 3,000 residents and approximately 1,230 homes. On completion of the new development at Lucks Lane, that will rise to about 1,410. Almost one in three residents are aged 65+. Fortunately, Buckden's population, despite its age, is relatively healthy.
- 3.3.2 Only 15 per cent of Buckden's population are aged 20-39 compared with 26 per cent across Cambridgeshire (See Figure 2 below):

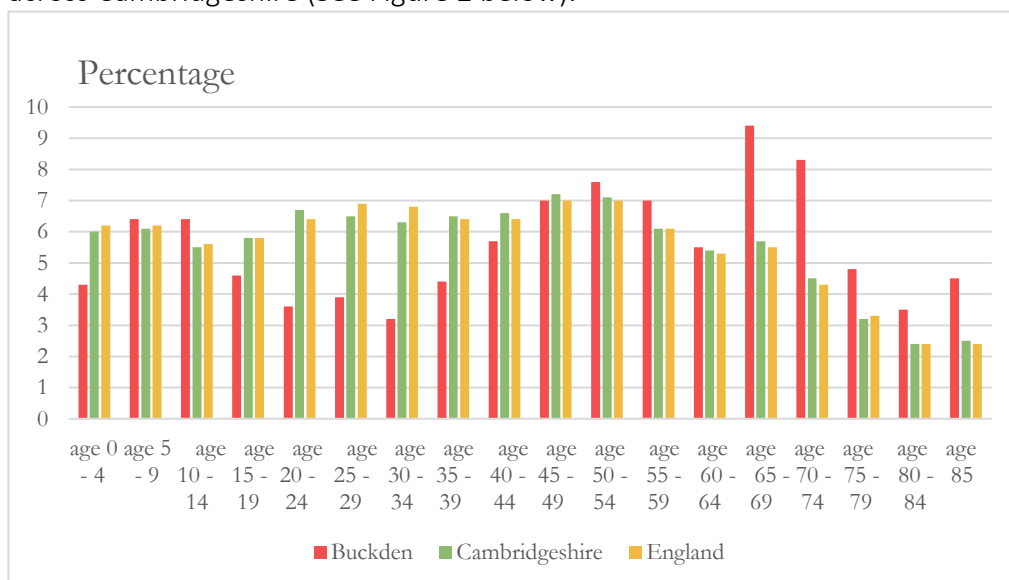


FIGURE 2 DEMOGRAPHIC DATA

⁵ A Demographic & Socio-Economic Review of Buckden

- 3.3.3 Buckden’s housing market is dominated by large (4+ bedrooms) detached properties. Most residents are owner occupiers (76 per cent). The shortage of private or social rented accommodation, and smaller market housing, makes it difficult for lower income groups to set up home in Buckden, as shown in more detail in Section 5.
- 3.3.4 Buckden’s very low employment rate reflects an ageing and retired population rather than a weak labour market. There are, however, few employment opportunities in the village. Many of Buckden’s employed residents work in managerial and professional roles.
- 3.3.5 Most working-age residents can secure employment close to home. About two-thirds are based in Huntingdonshire. However, London is a minor, but significant, destination for commuters, accounting for almost one in twenty work trips. South Cambridgeshire, Cambridge and Bedford also attract Buckden commuters and most people drive to work.
- 3.3.6 There is also a large and highly active retired community.
- 3.3.7 The numbers of working age people in Buckden claiming benefits is low and falling. Most benefits are related to health and disability issues (including caring for people with such issues). Most claimants are women and almost half are aged over 50.

3.4 Summary of Feedback from Residents⁶

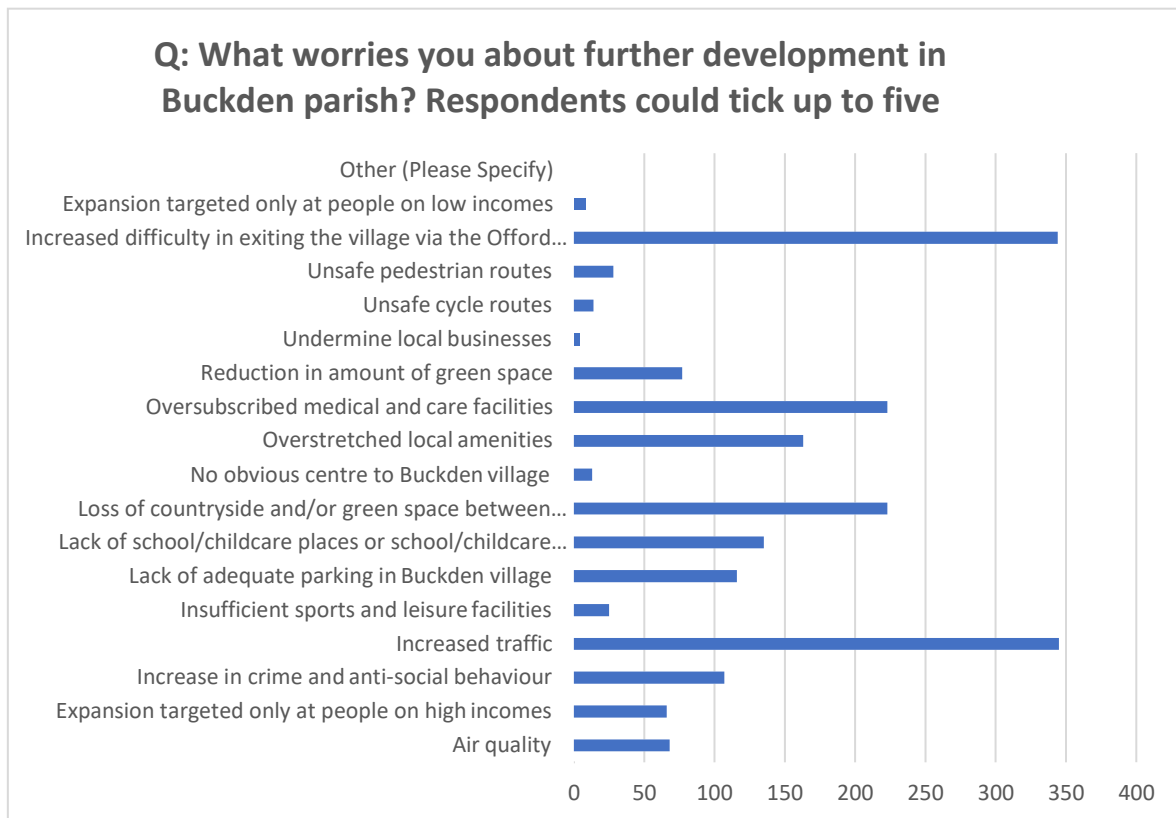


FIGURE 3 BUCKDEN’S NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN QUESTIONNAIRE SHOWING CONCERNS ABOUT FURTHER DEVELOPMENT IN THE PARISH

⁶ Output from Scoping the Plan Workshop.

3.4.1 The key strengths of Buckden which residents judge must be protected and sustained are:

- the relatively small scale of the village
- the friendliness and sense of community
- the good range of local services (Doctors, Dentists, Pharmacy, School, Pubs, Restaurants, Hotels, Hairdressers, Post Office and Shops)
- good village facilities (Village Hall, playing field and sports facilities, Churches, Buckden Towers etc.)
- natural environment and wildlife
- historic centre
- an extremely active voluntary sector providing a wide range of support.

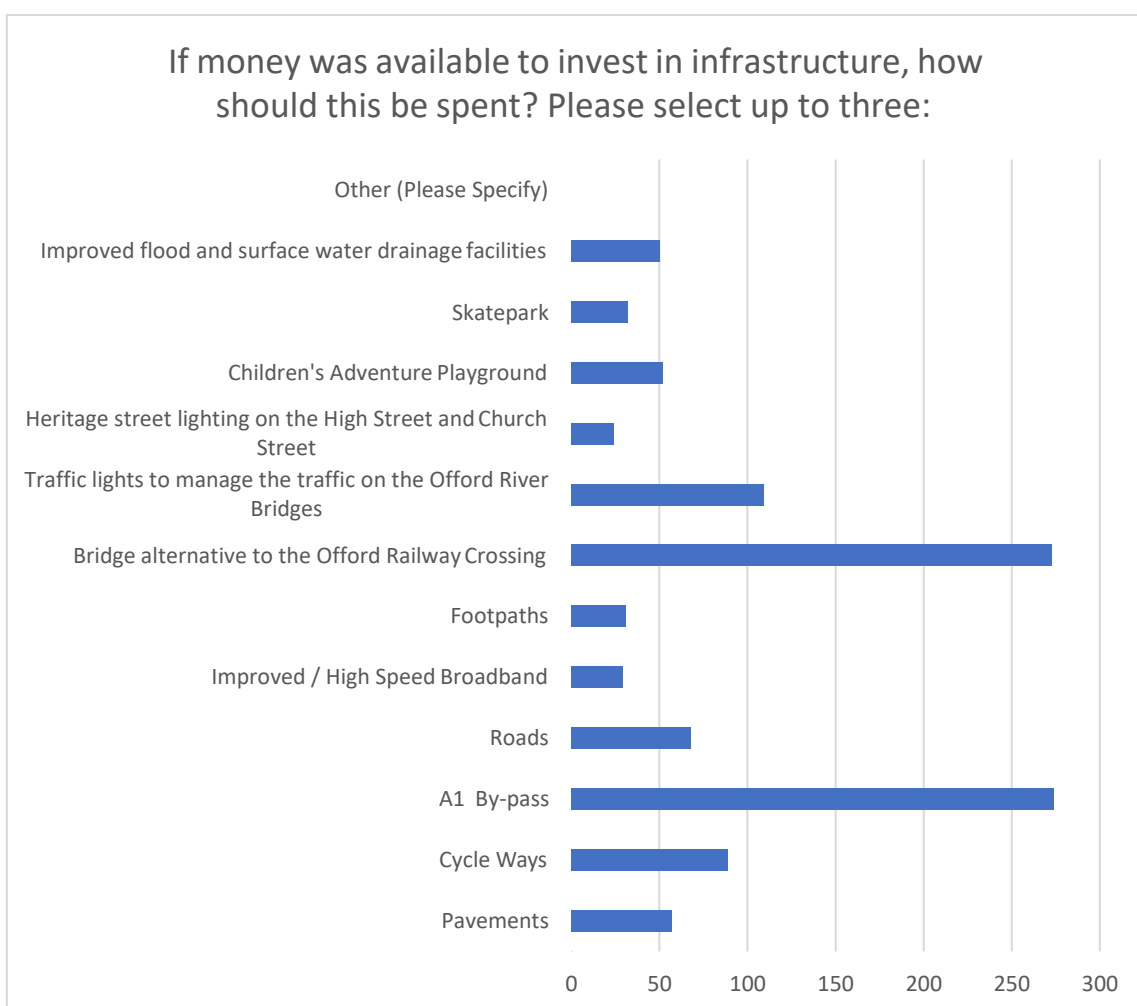


FIGURE 4 BUCKDEN'S NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSE TO INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT

3.4.2 Despite these strengths, Buckden currently faces several challenges which threaten sustainability and the future quality of life in the village.

In summary, these are:

- a housing profile that does not match need, specifically lack of affordable housing for the young and age-appropriate housing for the elderly
- an increasingly congested traffic and road network resulting in serious traffic congestion at the A1 roundabout and the Offord Level Crossing. Many consequently avoid exiting the village by car.
- the potential impact of housing developments, including to that allocated in the Local Plan, on:
 - local services (school, GP services)
 - the historic character of the village
 - green spaces, the natural environment, wildlife and ecology
- a growing ageing population
- poor public transport
- lack of facilities for younger people
- increased air pollution
- a population that will change significantly as the local housing market changes, e.g. a growth in the number of pre-school children
- maintaining the nature of the village and its sense of place

This Neighbourhood Plan, together with the Buckden Community Action Plan, focuses on guiding development in a way that preserves and enhances the features which are most valued by residents and effectively managing and minimising the impact of the challenges faced by the village.

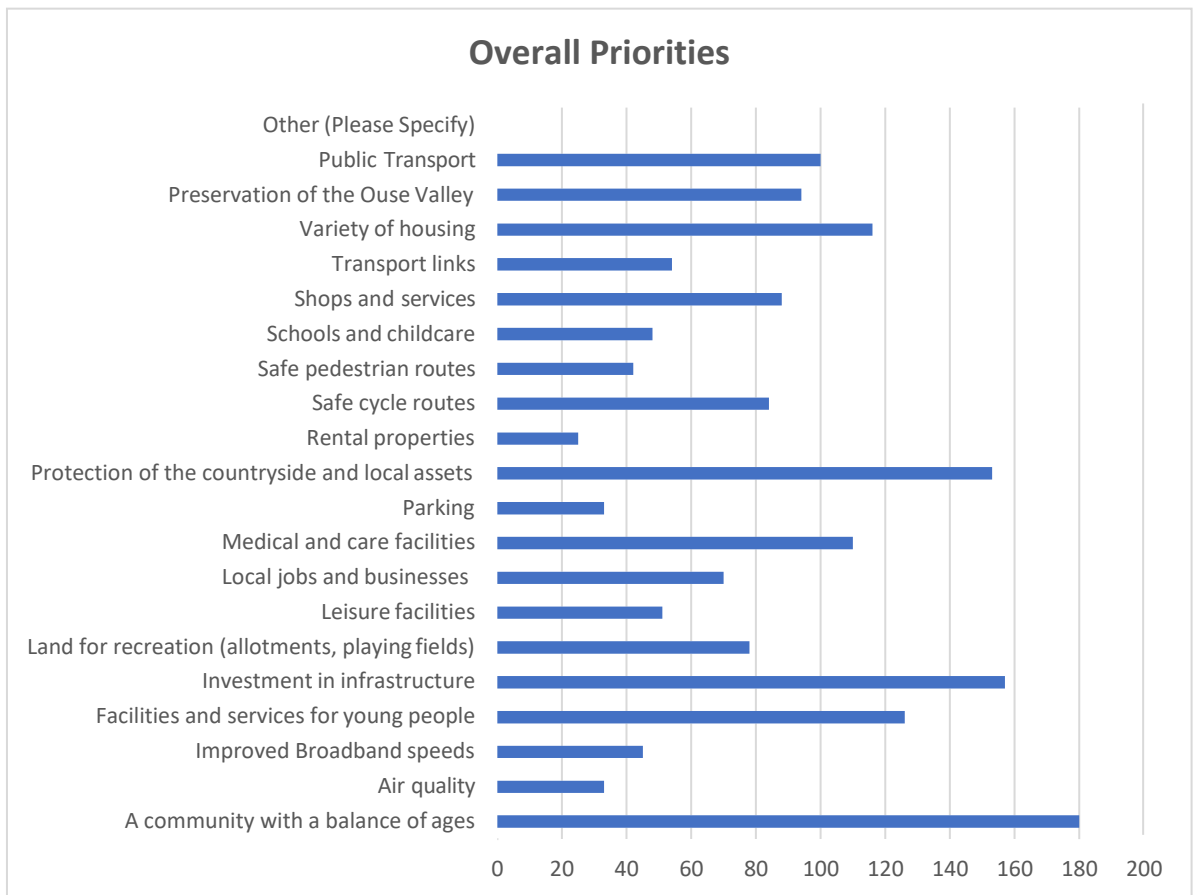


FIGURE 5 BUCKDEN'S NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSE TO RESIDENTS' OVERALL PRIORITIES

3.4.3 "80% of residents who responded to the questionnaire want Buckden to remain as a village and feel threatened by the impact of the proposed rapid expansion of housing on the community" - Questionnaire feedback 2019.

4 Vision, Aims and Objectives

4.1 Vision

- 4.1.1 Buckden will remain a village where preservation of its rich environmental and historic heritage and rural character will be at the heart of providing a sustainable and high quality of life for present and future generations.

4.2 Aims and Objectives

- 4.2.1 The overarching purpose of the Buckden Neighbourhood Plan is to contribute towards the achievement of sustainable development and to enhance the quality of life for existing and future residents.

- 4.2.2 The specific objectives of the plan are derived from consultation feedback from both residents and local organisations. The objectives are:

Housing – To ensure new high-quality homes, which meet the needs of current and future residents, in terms of type, design, sustainability and tenure. This should be delivered without compromising the distinctive and attractive character of the village or the natural environment.

Transport - To deliver more efficient, safer, cleaner, and environmentally sustainable movement to, from and within Buckden with an infrastructure that promotes cycling and walking. This should help residents to access all areas of the village easily and safely without use of cars

Services – To maintain, and wherever possible enhance, key community infrastructure and services. These include, but are not limited to, the village pubs, restaurants, hotels, post office, businesses, the village hall, play equipment, sports and leisure facilities, public transport, schools, healthcare, nurseries and churches.

Business - To protect and support local businesses, to enable economic growth and to maintain a sustainable rural community.

Landscape and Environment –To protect areas and habitats of high biodiversity, scenic quality and sense of arrival to the village. This will include:

- Maintenance and improvement of the network of green corridors used by wildlife;
- The protection and enhancement of important sites for priority and protected species;
- To continue to protect the landscape features recommended for preservation in the 1995 Buckden Landscape Appraisal.

To preserve the “sense of place” and character of Buckden by ensuring that as many of its existing green spaces as possible are protected and that new developments also increase the number of green spaces.

To recognise, preserve and enhance Buckden's rare natural environment, linked to the Great Ouse Valley, for future generations.

To preserve the rural setting of the village and to ensure that access to the Great Ouse Valley, surrounding countryside and important rural views, landscape areas and open areas are both maintained and enhanced.

5 Housing

5.1.1 Aim: To ensure new housing development is of an appropriate scale and design. To provide the required mix of housing types, sizes and tenures to meet the needs of Buckden.

5.2 Context⁷

5.2.1 Much of the village centre falls within a Conservation Area and there are many listed buildings (See Section 6). Although new development is likely to be outside of the Conservation Area it should nevertheless respect the key features, characteristics, landscape, built character, local distinctiveness, scale, density and special qualities of Buckden.

5.2.2 There is currently considerably less demand to develop the village to the West of the A1. Access to the village from the west is problematic and is likely to remain so. It is only possible, on foot, via an unattractive underpass. By car it is necessary to navigate the highly congested roundabout or travel North up the A1 to the first intersection and come back South.

5.2.3 Once in the village there is very limited parking. Most leisure cyclists would not choose to navigate the roundabout.

5.2.4 Buckden's housing market is dominated by large (4+ bedroom) detached properties. The shortage of private or social rented accommodation, and smaller-sized market housing, makes it difficult for those, in lower income groups seeking to set up home in Buckden.

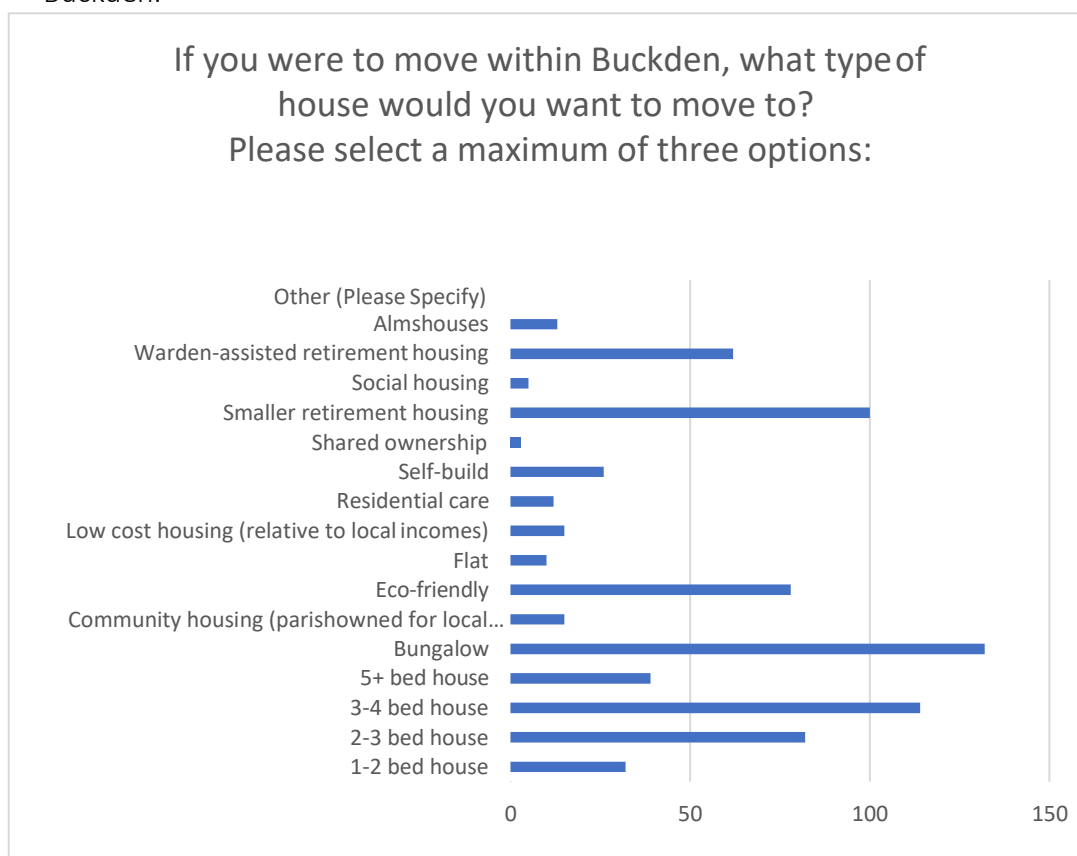


FIGURE 6 BUCKDEN'S NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN QUESTIONNAIRE
RESPONSE TO HOUSING NEED

- 5.2.5 Buckden's housing tenure is dominated by owner occupation (76%). A relatively high proportion of owner occupiers own their property outright without a mortgage. This can be attributed to the age profile of Buckden – older people are more likely to have paid off their mortgage. According to consultation feedback there are a significant number of older residents wanting to downsize from larger properties but wishing to remain in the village. There is statistical support for this in the Housing Needs Assessment (HNA - see below).
- 5.2.6 Both the private- and social-rented sectors are under-represented in Buckden. At the time of the 2011 Census together they accounted for 11 per cent. There is also limited shared ownership property. There were seven shared ownership properties (one per cent of all housing) noted in that Census.
- 5.2.7 The rental market is slow. There is limited private rented sector accommodation available and the social rented properties that become available are heavily bid for. Between March 2008 and December 2013, only 31 affordable homes became available. These attracted an average of 42 bids per property, slightly higher than the Huntingdonshire average (41).
- 5.2.8 The lower quartile price for a 2-bed house in Buckden is £210,000 (2019 data). Households are likely to need an income of over £50,000 to be able to afford such a property. The average Buckden house price in February 2020 was about £318,000.
- 5.2.9 Housing affordability is therefore an issue in Buckden. This affects mobility and the variety of people who live in the parish. Young people and low-income households find it difficult to secure their own accommodation and older people may find their downsizing plans frustrated by the lack of suitable housing options. It is important that new housing developments cater for the specific needs of the local community.

5.3 Housing Need

- 5.3.1 The Local Plan to 2036 (HDC) identifies Buckden as a “Key Service Centre” and consequently determines that the village is capable and suitable as a location for some housing growth. That HDC Local Plan allocates a total of 450 houses across two residential sites in Buckden:
- 14.8 ha site at land east of Silver Street and South of A1 for approximately 270 homes (BU1.) A planning application has been made in respect of this site for 290 homes. An HDC criterion-based policy seeks the resolution of traffic impact, access, noise, sustainable transport and environmental considerations.
 - 10.3 ha site at Luck's Lane for approximately 165 homes. (BU2) Planning permission for 180 houses has been granted on appeal for this site and house building started in 2019. The HDC Local Plan policies again include criteria which seek resolution of noise, air quality, traffic impacts and safe access, sustainable transport and environmental considerations to inform their decision on the application.
 - The HDC Local Plan has a tolerance of 10% either side of the allocated numbers.

- Together these developments would deliver a 42 % increase in the number of properties in the village. They are expected to be essential to deliver the total number of homes within Huntingdonshire required during the plan period.
- 5.3.2 At the time of preparing this Neighbourhood Plan, a separate planning application is outstanding for land north of Mill Road (18/01395/OUT). The most recent Framework Plan (November 2018) details 195 dwellings with 4.59 ha of green infrastructure including parks / gardens, natural / semi natural green space and amenity space including an equipped play area (A Local Equipped Area for Play (LEAP) 400sq m).
- 5.3.3 An almshouse is a unit of residential accommodation (usually a house or flat) which belongs to a charity and is provided exclusively to meet the charity's purpose such as but not limited to the relief of financial need or infirmity and is occupied or is available for occupation under a licence by a qualified beneficiary who may be required to contribute a weekly sum towards its maintenance. An almshouse charity is a charity which is established to provide one or more almshouses
- 5.3.4 Whilst this application conflicts with a number of the policies in the Local Plan and therefore may not be granted, further sites for large scale housing development may come forward during this Neighbourhood Plan period. The purpose of this Housing Section is to guide and help developers to deliver housing that meets the Vision and Aims of this Plan to ensure that development enhances the village.
- 5.3.5 The Local Plan sets out the criteria for successful development of the two allocations which should be satisfied in full.
- 5.3.6 The public consultation conducted by the Parish Council, showed that any large-scale development in Buckden, (including the allocated sites in Lucks Lane and Silver Street) is a matter of major concern for a significant majority of the residents.
- 5.3.7 This concern is driven by:
- The inevitable increase in traffic created by any significant increase in housing, (See Section 7),
 - The fear of an unacceptable increase in pressure on local services, most notably GP services and primary education services (see Section 9).
- 5.3.8 However, given the combination of the relatively high cost of housing and the ageing demographic profile of the village the Parish Council supports the allocations in the Local Plan, provided that the conditions in BU 1 and BU 2 are met. In particular, there is a need for:
- Smaller properties, including social and affordable housing, and,
 - Large, one and two-bedroom, higher quality properties suitable for existing older residents to downsize into.
- 5.3.9 The Parish Council therefore supports development on the allocated site BU1, provided that there is a plan developed in collaboration with the local community. The plan will be expected to illustrate the following aspects:
- Provision for the satisfactory resolution of its additional traffic impacts on local roads.
 - How it will meet the Policies set out in this Neighbourhood Plan.

- Its relationship to and integration with existing housing in the village, to ensure that it does not become an isolated pocket development.
- How it satisfies the applicable Local Plan policies.

5.3.10 Recent investigation by the Parish Council has shown that there are no remaining parcels of land within the built area which would accommodate small housing developments. There have been several smaller developments in recent years and most infill plots have already been developed.

5.3.11 The Parish Council commissioned a Housing Needs Assessment (HNA)⁸ to determine the numbers and types of dwellings required over the plan period:

- First, it should be noted that the HNA is a technical study and there may be reasons why the housing mix it recommends is not ideal in terms of the NPPF's social objective (para 8.b) and the desirability of developing mixed, socially inclusive communities.
- Second, the HNA does not clearly recognise that people's aspirations and desire for choice in housing, particularly to occupy large homes, may currently be, and may continue for the future to be, inhibited by affordability constraints.
- In summary, the HNA has determined that Buckden is likely to have a misalignment in housing stock by 2036.
- There is a need for significantly more one, two- and three-bedroom housing appropriate for the elderly and for the lowest quartile income households and that there should be no more dwellings with more than three bedrooms.
- There is also a strong local demand evidenced by questionnaire and consultation feedback for more Almshouses.
- The Parish Council will therefore seek to identify possible Rural Exception Sites and work with local landowners to support the provision of affordable housing including Almshouses.

1.1.1 The aim is to ensure that new developments provide the types of housing that the village needs as determined by the HNA specifications and to ensure the sustainable future of the village community for all its residents.

However, it is accepted that developments must be financially viable and the Parish Council would always wish to engage with developers to try to agree a viable housing mix, which clearly serves the housing needs of the village and the development's financial viability.

⁸ Buckden Housing Needs Assessment. Produced by AECOM June 2019. It should be noted that there are some incorrect reference numbers concerning the Policies of the Local Plan in the HNA, but the Policies themselves are correctly quoted.

5.4 Housing Need Policies

<p>Housing Need 1 - Development outside the existing built up area</p>	<p>Housing development outside the LP allocations and the existing built area of Buckden shall only be supported in the case of Rural Exception Sites as currently outlined in the National Planning Policy Framework, LP 28 of the LP or within the limited and specific opportunities referenced in LP 10 of the Local Plan.</p>
<p>Housing Need 2 - Rural Exception Sites</p>	<p>Residential development that is proposed in accordance with Policy LP28 of the LP 2036 is supported in the following circumstances:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • where it clearly meets the evidenced market and affordable housing needs of Buckden, at the time of the relevant need; and • where a significant proportion (to be determined by reference to the current Housing Needs Assessment or any subsequent Housing Needs Survey within the Neighbourhood Plan area) of the market and affordable housing is appropriate for meeting the needs of the elderly, disabled and infirm; or • where it is exclusively for Almshouses; <p>Planning applications for residential development led by the community through a community development organisation or in partnership with the applicant will be supported provided that they meet the Policies set out in the LP and Neighbourhood Plan.</p>
<p>Housing Need 3 - Housing Mix</p>	<p>Proposals for residential development will be supported where a mix of size, type and tenure of housing to meet local needs identified in the Housing Needs Assessment and any subsequent Housing Needs Survey is provided.</p> <p>Proposals for residential development of more than 10 dwelling shall not include dwellings with four or more bedrooms unless there is demonstrable evidence that the inclusion of such dwellings is necessary to achieve viability of the development.</p>
<p>Housing Need 4 - Affordable Homes</p>	<p>A proposal in accordance with Policy LP24 of the LP 2019 will be supported in the following circumstances:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • it provides a range of affordable housing types, sizes and tenures appropriate to meet the requirements of the local community considering the Buckden Housing Needs Assessment 2019 and any subsequent Housing Needs Survey. • it provides 70% of the new affordable housing units as social or affordable rented properties and 30% as Low-Cost Ownership or other affordable tenure options.

Affordable Homes Continued	Planning applications for affordable housing led by the community through a community development organisation or in partnership with the applicant will be supported
Housing Need 5 – Lifetime Homes	Buckden Parish Council will support proposals where properties are fully adaptable to meet the needs of older, infirm or disabled residents in accordance with the Lifetime Homes Standards Design Criteria ⁹ and to the design standards developed by the Housing our Ageing Populations Panel for Innovation (HAPPI) ¹⁰ to the extent that those are compatible with the M4(2) standard as required in Local Plan Policy LP25.

5.5 Building Design

- 5.5.1 Huntingdonshire District Council’s Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessment (October 2017) contains the following overview of the setting of Buckden in its landscape:

“Buckden is situated on the eastern edge of the Southern Wolds Landscape Character Area, and the landscape around the village contains features associated with this character area, including gently undulating topography, large arable fields, and significant modern influences such as the A1 and associated development. Land to the east of the village lies on the edge of the Ouse Valley Landscape Character Area and there are views out across the valley, including views of gravel workings, wetland vegetation and a marina from the eastern edge of the village. The agricultural landscape to the south provides a rural fringe to the village which can be seen from Stirtloe Lane. The narrow strip of land to the east and west of Lucks Lane provides a landscape gap between the village and the small hamlet of Stirtloe to the south. The majority of land surrounding Buckden comprises relatively ordinary agricultural land which is typical of many areas of Huntingdonshire. To the east the landscape is mainly comprised of large arable fields containing little vegetation in the form of trees or hedgerows. To the west of the A1 the fields are generally smaller and enclosed by trees and hedgerows. The smaller scale and presence of vegetation gives the area a more intimate and varied character and the landscape is of inherently higher quality.”

⁹ Lifetime Homes Standards Design Criteria

¹⁰ Housing our Ageing Populations Panel for Innovation (HAPPI)

- 5.5.2 This supports and underlines the importance of the Vision of Buckden as having a rural character which should be preserved.
- 5.5.3 The Vision of this Plan is to preserve and enhance the existing character of the village and to ensure sustainability as a village. To achieve this, and the aim of ensuring an adequate supply of Affordable Housing and housing suitable for the elderly, innovative and energy efficient house designs will be encouraged so long as they are sympathetic to, and enhance, the sense of place of the existing village. They must also fulfil the Policies set out in this Plan.
- 5.5.4 As stated in NPPF, February 2019 (Revised) Para 125:
“Design policies should be developed with local communities, so they reflect local aspirations, and are grounded in an understanding and evaluation of each area’s defining characteristics.”
- 5.5.5 Similarly, no apology is made for repeating the written ministerial statement (Housing Policy:Written statement - HCWS925):
“Critically, progress must not be at the expense of quality or design. Houses must be right for communities. So, the planning reforms in the new Framework should result in homes that are locally led, well-designed, and of a consistent and high-quality standard.”
- 5.5.6 Housing development must also comply with the design principles set out in the Huntingdonshire Design Guide (2017). For Buckden, the following principles are core requirements:
- Reinforce or enhance the established village character of streets, greens and other spaces;
 - Harmonise with, and enhance existing settlement in terms of physical form, architecture and land use;
 - Reflect, respect and reinforce local architecture and historic distinctiveness;
 - Adopt contextually appropriate materials and details;
 - Provide adequate open space for the development in terms of both quantity and quality;
 - Integrate housing tenures;
 - Promote sustainable drainage systems; and
 - Positively integrate energy efficient technologies

- 5.5.7 Our consultants, AECOM have written a report¹¹ Buckden Design Guidelines (May 2019), which has shaped and guided the Policies set out below.
- 5.5.8 It is expected that all new developments (including non-housing developments) will follow the guidelines set out in this section and applicants will be expected to demonstrate how they have taken account of them, in line with the Local Plan Strategic Policies.
- 5.5.9 In addition, all new development should demonstrate it meets the Industry-endorsed Building for Life (Doc 12) initiative.
- 5.5.10 Based on the reasons set out in the AECOM Buckden Design Guidelines the following principles should guide and be observed by all developers:
- Feeling of openness
 - Connection to greenery
 - Sensitively accommodating the car
 - Appropriate materials and building details
 - Sustainability and eco design
 - Diversity in design
 - Housing for an ageing population and for lower income groups.

5.6 Building Design Policies

Building Design 1 - Context	<p>A proposal for development will be expected to demonstrate that it responds positively to the following core principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reinforce and enhance the established village character of streets, greens and other spaces; • Harmonise with, and enhance existing settlement in terms of physical form, architecture and land use; • Reflect, respect and reinforce local architecture, the conservation area, listed buildings and historic distinctiveness; • Adopt contextually appropriate materials and details; • Provide adequate open space for the development in terms of both quantity and quality; • Integrate housing tenures; • Promote sustainable drainage systems; and • Positively integrate energy efficient technologies.
Building Design 2 – Implementation	<p>The character of proposed development will be expected to be of a high quality, reinforce local distinctiveness and demonstrate how an understanding of the surrounding built and natural environment has affected the design of the scheme to reflect Buckden’s special character.</p>

¹¹ Buckden Design Guidelines Produced by AECOM May 2019

<p>Building Design 2 – Implementation</p> <p>continued</p>	<p>New development will be expected to be well designed based upon the principles set out in the Buckden Design Guidelines (May 2019) or any successor document.</p> <p>A proposal will be supported, where it can be demonstrated that it responds positively to the following principles identified in the Buckden Design Guidelines:</p> <p><u>Streets and spaces shaped by buildings:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be appropriate in layout and density and sympathetic to a rural village, not one suited to an urban environment; • Minimum dimensions for homes and residential streets; • Minimise street signage; • No dwellings of more than 2.5 storeys; • All street lighting must be designed and engineered to reduce light pollution to the minimum possible and be as energy efficient as possible at the time of installation; <p><u>Ease of getting around:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shared usage roads are expected to be built to adoptable standards, be used only for the lowest order of roads, serve no more than four dwellings and avoid acting as a through link to other streets. • Streets are designed to meet the needs of pedestrians over and above the car; • Adopt “people friendly” principles for streets; • All dwellings to have off street parking for 2 family size cars; • Garages conform to the minimum widths laid down in Huntingdonshire Design Guide or successor documents; • The cycling and walking infrastructure conforms to Buckden’s Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan and shows adequate connectivity with the rest of the village by road, cycle and foot paths; • Adequate cycle parking is provided in accordance with the requirements of the Local Plan; • Paths are safe for use at night; • Safe pedestrian access is provided to link up with existing or proposed footpaths, ensuring that residents can walk safely to bus stops, schools and other village facilities; • Resident and visitor parking schemes on development sites are well designed to ensure that parking raises no safety and movement issues, is not visually intrusive and avoids unplanned, anti-social use of verges and amenity areas. • In largescale developments (more than 50 dwellings) sufficient and well-designed visitor parking spaces are
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provided to ensure streets and pavements are not obstructed by parked vehicles.

Well-designed public spaces:

- incorporate the good balance of public, semi-public and private open green space;
- Green space is integrated;
- planting consists predominantly (meaning not less than 75%) of native British species and varieties endemic to the area of Buckden;
- incorporate extensive tree planting on streets and within public open spaces and in private gardens;
- have wildlife corridors to enable wildlife to move easily between breeding habitats migration routes and feeding areas;
- recognise and comply with the 5 ecological objectives set out on p112 of the Huntingdonshire Design Guide, 2017.

Sustainable design and construction methods:

- at the appropriate stage of the planning process (more probably at the stage of the initial detailed planning application) provide gaps in the external skin of the walls, with bird boxes for Swifts, House Sparrows and Starlings built into the wall cavity;
- all development requiring parking provision is designed, unless there are exceptional design reasons for not being able to do so (e.g. listed building constraints or site-specific factors), to incorporate facilities for electric plug-in and other ultra-low emission vehicles, or as a minimum the ability to easily introduce such facilities in the future;
- maximise the potential for use of renewable energy, for individual dwellings and communal schemes such as ground source heating and demonstrate an ability to comply with the government's requirement to stop using gas for domestic purposes and be carbon neutral by 2050 by incorporating energy efficient and ecological design.

5.7 Flood Risk and Drainage Policies

- 5.7.1 Buckden lies on and is surrounded by important mineral resources comprising of river sand and gravel deposits (terrace and sub-alluvial deposits). These mineral deposits are highly permeable and act as an aquifer in the area. Wells dug into this aquifer have been used by villagers for centuries to provide their water supply.
- 5.7.2 The names of roads such as Weir Close, The Osiers and Spring Close indicate the closeness of the water-table to the surface and highlight the propensity for flooding and upwelling. In addition, any development holds the possibility of worsening flood risk in the surrounding areas as more water could run over hard surfaces.
- 5.7.3 This Neighbourhood Plan seeks to ensure that flood and excess surface water mitigation measures including for example, Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS), are incorporated into developments where there is need to mitigate the risk of aquifer upwelling and lower the risk of foul sewers or other drains becoming overwhelmed due to flooding.
- 5.7.4 New developments should consider including a green area that can be used for recreation and increasing biodiversity when not holding water.
- 5.7.5 Detailed guidance on flood assessment and provision of SuDS within developments is provided in the Cambridgeshire Flood and Water Supplementary Planning Document. The Cambridgeshire Surface Water Management Plan (2014) identifies Buckden as a surface water flooding wetspot and should be referred to for specific information.
- 5.7.6 As part of the Neighbourhood Plan consultation process Anglian Water supported the requirement for applicants to include the provision of Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) so as not to increase flood risk and to reduce flood risk where possible.
- 5.7.7 The use of SuDS would help to reduce the risk of surface water and sewer flooding. However, they asked for the plan to note that use of SuDS is also applicable to non-housing development proposals within the Parish. The Neighbourhood Plan has been amended to make this clear.

Details of Anglian Water’s Surface Water Policy is available to view at the following address: <https://www.anglianwater.co.uk/developers/development-services/surface-water-policy/>

5.8 Flood Risk and Drainage Policies

Flood Risk and Drainage Policies 1 – Surface Water	The design of any new development shall respect the fragile nature of Buckden’s drainage network and minimise surface water flood risk by demonstrating that the run-off rate is consistent with the guidance outlined in the Cambridgeshire Flood and Water SPD and Anglian Water’s Surface Water Policy. SuDS shall be designed to meet the standards identified by the adopting body.”
Flood Risk and Drainage Policies 2 – Local Aquifers	Any development in an area at risk of flooding, due to Buckden’s high water-table or due to excess surface water, should be safe for its lifetime, taking account of climate change and its impact on local aquifers.

<p>Flood Risk and Drainage Policies 3</p>	<p>In addition, to Policy LP 5 in the Local Plan, and due to the high water table and associated aquifers that underlie Buckden, BRE (Building Research Establishment) Digest 365, or any superseding standards that occur during the lifetime of this Neighbourhood Plan, are expected to be used for the pre-testing, design and construction of soakaways and calculation of rainfall design values and soil infiltration rates. This provision does not apply to smaller soakaways as outlined in Part H of the Building Regulations.</p> <p>Developers should provide information about, and provision for, maintenance, inspection and monitoring of drainage post development. This requirement applies to all SuDS features including soakaways.</p>
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6 Conservation Area and Historic Assets

6.1.1 Aim: To protect the conservation area, heritage assets and the historic character of the village

6.2 Context

The Centre of the village is a designated Conservation Area. There is a total of 63 listed buildings in the village, (see Figure 7 and Appendix 4).

6.2.1

The most notable are Buckden Palace also known as the Towers, (Scheduled Monument under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 as amended) which is of national importance. Also the Parish Church, The Great Tower and its inner gate house, all listed Grade 1 and in addition Grade 2 listed Manor House and Field House

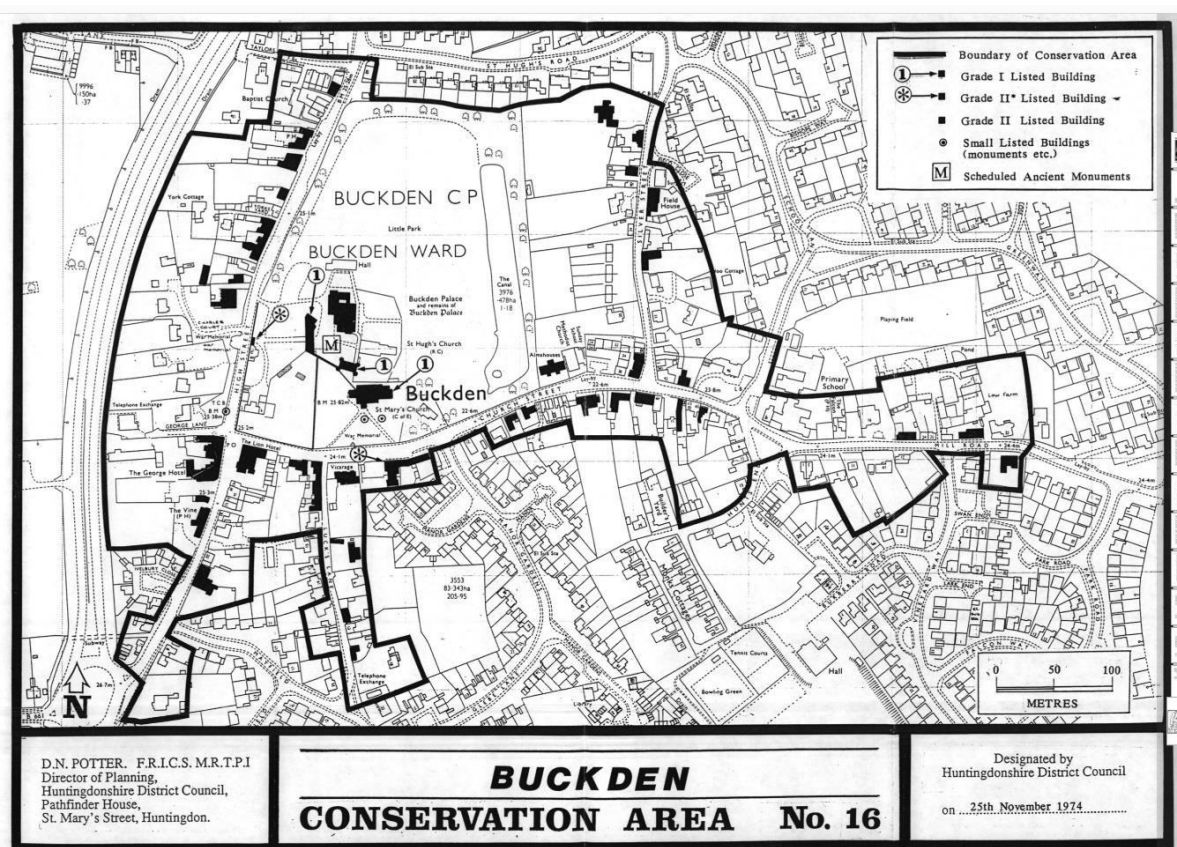


FIGURE 7 BUCKDEN CONSERVATION AREA AND LISTED BUILDINGS

6.2.2 The conservation area encompasses the High Street, Church Street Lucks Lane, the eastern part of Mill Road and the southern part of Silver Street.

6.2.3 The Church and the Palace (Great Tower), inns and pubs, gentry houses, yeomen's farmhouses, cottages and cottage rows all demonstrate a wide variety of styles and age and are mixed together along the older village streets.



FIGURE 8 BUCKDEN TOWERS AND CHURCH

- 6.2.4 Most buildings date back to pre-1900 and include elegant Georgian and medieval architecture with a few Victorian buildings. Roads are relatively wide, usually with footpaths on either side but sometimes with none. This is the case on High Street and around Buckden Towers and the Church of St. Mary.
- 6.2.5 Around these monuments, hedgerows are used to create soft boundaries. The medieval structures are rather asymmetrical, probably due to ageing, with steep roofs, smaller windows and doorways. Georgian buildings, on the other hand, are grander with more symmetrical building proportions. Further detail is available in the Buckden Conservation Area Character Statement¹²
- 6.2.6 The centre of the village is dominated by the twin towers of the parish church and the adjacent Tudor tower with its surrounding walls and gatehouse. The Towers sits in parkland which is the second largest green area in the village. It accommodates a modern Roman Catholic Church and a listed Victorian house. The large open green area is surrounded by mature woodland which includes the oldest Plane tree in England. A relatively recent addition is the replica Tudor knot garden built on the site of the original garden. The Towers is owned by the Order of St Clare, an international order which includes not only the United Kingdom and Ireland but also Portugal, Spain and the Canary Islands. It offers facilities for religious retreats, family and group events, training for novitiate priests and is visited by nearly six hundred groups during the year as well as offering facilities for clubs and outside organisations. The Parkland is open to visitors, by permission of the owners
- 6.2.7 The historic and heritage assets bring many visitors to the village and are integral to the prosperity of many businesses. However narrow streets and on-street parking make navigating the village problematic. Large lorries, in particular, struggle to turn at the Church Street, High Street junction. The main through route in the village, via Church Street and the High Street, is lined with listed buildings which are vulnerable to damage from collision and vibration.
- 6.2.8 Many of the employment opportunities within the village are located in the Conservation Area and several businesses operate from listed buildings. These are primarily roles within retail and hospitality.
- 6.2.9 The Huntingdonshire Design Guide notes that views to landmarks should be respected and reinforced. The key landmarks in Buckden are The Towers and the Church which are visible from many locations in the village and add considerably to the overall character of the village.
- 6.2.10 Archaeological excavations have been carried out in and around Buckden for over 100 years¹³ and have revealed a surprising record of humans living here for over 300,000 years. The earliest finds have been two Stone Age flint hand axes, one found near the Village Hall and another near the junction of Church and Silver Streets. A Bronze Age (c.2,500-1,000 BC.) settlement was uncovered by the A14 dig north of Mill Road in 2015 and another north-east of Bishops Way in 2016.

¹² Buckden Conservation Area Character Statement, Document 17 In Appendix 1.

6.2.11 The major excavation of 2019 off Lucks Lane revealed Buckden to be an important village in times past, including the Stone Age period (many flints were found) and the fifty Bronze Age cremations dating to around 1,500 BC recovered near the Shell Garage indicating another Bronze Age settlement, possibly between there and the parish church. A large, Iron Age (c.800 BC–42 AD) double-ditched enclosure was found extending under Springfield Close and The Osiers. The excavation also revealed evidence of a major late Saxon settlement including one of the largest wooden buildings ever found in England.

6.2.12 An Orlit 'B' Royal Observer Corps Post, an aircraft reporting Post, is located in Buckden. This represents a unique part of the UK's Cold War history. These concrete structures are now very rare when in good condition.

There are very few in the East of England and this is an excellent example. The Neighbourhood Plan supports the listing of this site which is located on the left-hand side of the road going between Brampton and Buckden, close to the Southbound A1 junction. This land is part of Lodge Farm. For more information see the ROCA Heritage website:

www.roc-heritage.co.uk

6.2.13 Next to the above ground

Post there is also an underground nuclear Post (bunker) that closed in 1968. The underground Posts are more common as 1,500 were built. If the above ground Post is listed, then this should protect the underground one.

6.2.14 Many of Buckden's historic and heritage assets are covered by national protection under legislation (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas Act 1990) and Local Plan Policy 34. We have not sought in this plan to duplicate provision under planning law that already provides protection.



FIGURE 9 AN ORLIT 'B' ROYAL OBSERVER CORPS POST, AN AIRCRAFT REPORTING POST, IS LOCATED IN BUCKDEN

¹³ Archaeological Notes for Buckden Parish Council Neighbourhood Plan (Barry Jobling 2020) Document 19 in Appendix 1

6.3 Conservation Area Policies

<p>Conservation Area 1 – Local Character</p>	<p>Development proposals within the Conservation Area are expected to be based upon the principles in the Buckden Design Guidelines (May 2019) and in particular to demonstrate that they are sympathetic to the surrounding buildings including listed buildings in terms of scale, design and amenity.</p> <p>Development proposals should reinforce the local character including the grain, scale, density and architectural distinctiveness.</p>
<p>Conservation Area 2 – Key Landmarks</p>	<p>Developments are expected to ensure that views to landmarks are respected and reinforced.</p> <p>The key landmarks are St Mary’s Church and the Towers, glimpses of which can be enjoyed throughout the village and the vistas of the High Street and Church Street.</p>
<p>Conservation Area 3 – Heritage Statements</p>	<p>The location and relationship of heritage assets to the existing road network is of key importance to the village. Where required, a Heritage Statement shall assess and report on the potential impact of any proposal on affected heritage assets and their settings.”</p>

7 Transport

- 7.1.1 Aim: To ensure that the impact of housing development does not create increased traffic congestion and pollution in the village. The philosophy is to deliver more efficient, safer, cleaner and environmentally sustainable movement to, from and within Buckden.
- 7.1.2 90% of Buckden residents, who responded to the questionnaire, ‘Strongly Agreed’ that ‘No new housing planning applications should be considered until the impact of the planned houses in the new Lucks Lane development on the exits, to and from, the village and other facilities are analysed.’
- 7.1.3 ‘If money was available for investment in infrastructure, Buckden would primarily wish it to be invested in an A1 bypass of the village and/or a bridge over the level-crossing at the Offords’

Ref: Buckden Neighbourhood Plan Questionnaire, November 2018

7.2 Context

- 7.2.1 Buckden is a village that has a nationally important history and environment with a very challenging and unusual traffic problem. The village effectively only has two viable ways to enter and exit the village.
- 7.2.2 From a traffic perspective, Buckden can be considered an island. It is bounded on the west by the A1, on the north by the new re-routed A14, on the east by the River Great Ouse and the main line railway, and on the south by open countryside and the flooded land of Paxton Pits.
- 7.2.3 There is no direct access to the south except via the A1 or through the level crossing on the East Coast rail mainline.

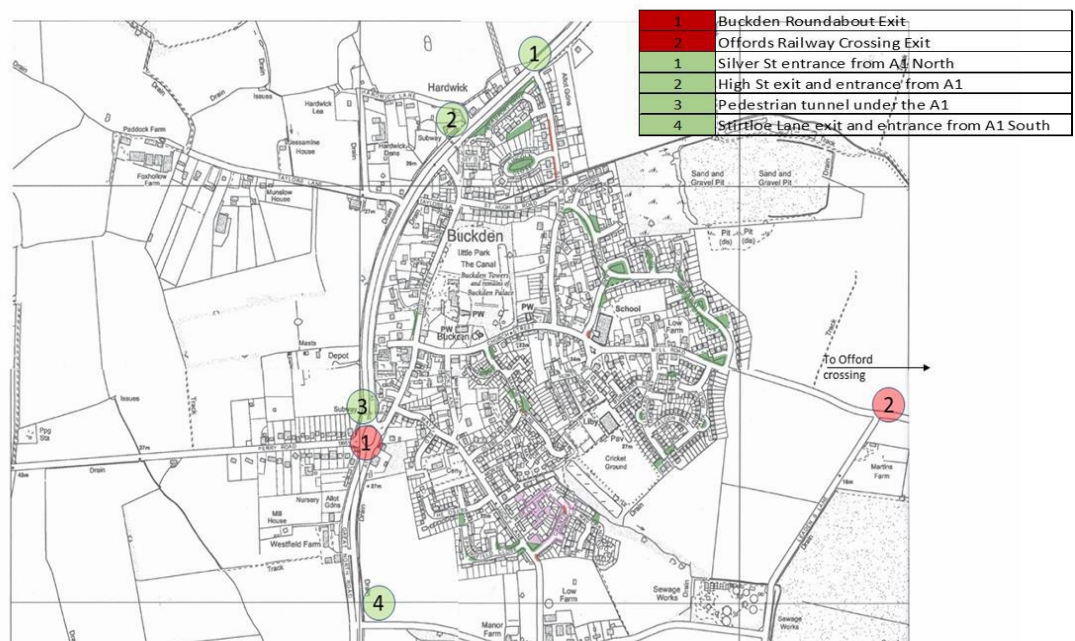


FIGURE 10 ENTRY AND EXIT POINTS BUCKDEN

- 7.2.4 The primary entry and exit route is via the A1 Roundabout. The roundabout is the first on the A1 south of Berwick on Tweed. It is now too small for the size and numbers of modern transport vehicles having been built in the 1960s.
- 7.2.5 Several transport surveys and Highways England have identified that the roundabout is operating at 'over capacity'. This already leads to long queues at peak times on the High Street, Perry Road and the A1. This severe traffic situation is currently preventing Local Plan (BU2) development in the village.

7.3 Buckden Roundabout Exit

- 7.3.1 The model presented in the Pell Frischmann Traffic Assessment ¹⁴, in May 2019, indicated that junctions of the Buckden Roundabout were performing beyond capacity at the AM and PM peaks in 2018. In the AM peak the High Street and both A1 approach arms were operating significantly over capacity, whilst in the PM peak both the A1 approach arms are operating over capacity. At the time of writing the over-capacity Buckden Roundabout has been acknowledged by Highways England (Ratio to Demand Flow to Capacity (RFC) over 1.0). Two proposed development applications have been put on hold since November 2018 by Highways England due to the likelihood of developments contributing to A1 capacity issues. Appendix H of the above mentioned, developer-commissioned, Pell Frischmann Traffic Assessment¹⁵, modelled peak hour queues in the village of over 300 cars seeking to exit via the High Street by 2026 if the proposed development (18/02753/OUT) goes ahead.
- 7.3.2 The Cambridgeshire County Council Transport Assessment Team have also acknowledged the traffic concerns associated with the A1 roundabout, the local roads and the secondary exit from the village via the Offord Railway Crossing.
- 7.3.3 They too have also put the current proposed development applications on hold.



FIGURE 11 CONGESTION ON THE A1 SOUTHBOUND AT THE ROUNDABOUT

Thus, this is preventing development as per the Huntingdonshire Local Plan.

¹⁴ Pell Frischmann - Land at Buckden - Transport Assessment - Final Report 101321, November 2018.

¹⁵ Pell Frischmann - Land at Buckden - Transport Assessment - Final Report 101321, November 2018.

7.4 Offords Railway Crossing Exit

7.4.1 The secondary route is to the east via a narrow chicane introduced for traffic calming purposes. Traffic must cross three channels of the River Ouse over narrow single lane bridges with blind bends, to a level crossing. This crossing is often closed for up to 40 minutes in an hour.

There are no other river or railway crossings between Huntingdon and St Neots.

7.4.2 The Offord's route is closed to Heavy Goods Vehicles (HGV), but it is a principal route for many vehicles trying to reach the areas to the east of the River Great Ouse.



FIGURE 12 CONGESTION AT THE OFFORDS RAILWAY CROSSING

7.4.3 This Neighbourhood Plan considers a 15-vehicle queue, on the East side of the railway crossing, when the crossing is closed to vehicles, to be a "severe impact".

7.4.4 The effect of 15 vehicles is that it takes the queue to the west side of the single-track white Offord bridge. This increases the risk of vehicles meeting on the bridge and being unable to pass. In turn this increases the risk of west bound vehicles stopping on the railway line. A similar queue on the High Street to the Roundabout will also be considered a "severe impact".

7.5 Other Transport Challenges

7.5.1 There are four access roads from the A1 into the village. From the southbound A1, the first slip road is sign posted as the route to The Offords, the second enters the village at the north end of the High Street, the third is via the roundabout and the fourth via the narrow Stirtloe Lane.

- 7.5.2 Access to the north, south and west of the village is only possible from the north end of the High Street, the A1 roundabout and Stirtloe Lane.



FIGURE 13 BUCKDEN'S BUSY HIGH STREET – JUNE 2018

- 7.5.3 The two main routes through the village are the High Street and Church Street, which becomes Mill Road. These roads are part of the village's history, designed for horse-drawn traffic of past times.
- 7.5.4 Neither is suitable for the high volume and size of vehicles that now use them. At most times, and particularly in peak hours, large sections of these key thoroughfares are effectively single lane, due to on road parking, and therefore slow moving due to the need to give way to oncoming traffic.
- 7.5.5 The Neighbourhood Plan does not recommend having double yellow lines all along the southern section of High Street as this will adversely affect the trade of local businesses and merely move the problem elsewhere.
- 7.5.6 Silver Street, Church Street and the High Street are lined with listed buildings (See Figure 3). Most notable is the Scheduled Monument, Buckden Palace, on the corner of Church Street and High Street.
- It is critical that these heritage assets are protected from the impact of increased traffic. The high wall surrounding this monument is particularly vulnerable to impact from turning traffic. Whilst Church Street is already signed as not suitable for HGVs compliance is poor.
- 7.5.7 At peak times there are lengthy traffic queues and the situation is made considerably worse when there is an accident or other delay on either the A1 or A14 which results in vehicles using the village as an alternative route.
- 7.5.8 This current situation is predicted to worsen significantly, with the impact of significant development in the village.
- 7.5.9 The frequent long queues of slow moving and stationary traffic will inevitably cause more air pollution which is not only dangerous for people, especially children, but also affects the fabric of the many historic listed buildings in the village. It also makes walking and cycling less attractive on congested roads which are difficult to cross.

- 7.5.10 The transport infrastructure clearly has a major impact on the quality of life of Buckden residents. Exiting the village by car is very difficult, particularly at peak times. Some older drivers consider the A1 roundabout to be a 'no-go area'. Given the increasing age profile of the village this is likely to have serious negative impacts on mobility, leading to increases in social deprivation and loneliness among the elderly. An increase in housing numbers will result in more residents including the elderly and vulnerable having to travel, by car, to the second surgery for the Mayfield GP practice in Little Paxton, four miles away.
- 7.5.11 The people of Buckden have consistently responded to consultation to the effect that proposals for development must not increase the volume of traffic, congestion and disruption that the entering and exiting the village causes to daily life, particularly at peak times.

7.6 Potential Solutions

- 7.6.1 The strategic solutions to these problems are outside the scope of this plan but are very heavily supported by residents and the Parish Council. These are:
- A bypass of the A1, probably to the west
 - A bridge over the Offord level crossing
- 7.6.2 Until these solutions are achieved the village faces very significant transport issues. The success of this Neighbourhood Plan will therefore be measured by the implementation of carefully designed traffic mitigation measures and controls that have a beneficial impact on the entrance and exit problem and the flow of traffic through the village. Transport policies are focused on the following:
- Management of peak-time congestion
 - Reduction in HGV traffic
 - Placing pedestrians and cyclists at the core of the plan by promoting cycle and foot paths and adopting a "Healthy Streets Approach"¹⁶ putting human health and experience at the heart of planning new streets and improvements to existing ones.
 - Improved internal movement of all types of transport
 - The need to manage, measure and improve air-quality and noise pollution - focused on the High Street, Church Street, Mill Road and the houses near the A1 and A14
 - Reduction in the emission of Greenhouse Gases (GHG)

¹⁶<https://healthystreets.com/home/about/>

7.7 Measurement

- 7.7.1 This Neighbourhood Plan notes that, as detailed at paragraph 109 of the NPPF (February 2019, Revised -Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government): *‘Development should only be refused on highway grounds if there would be, “an unacceptable impact on highway safety”, or the, “residual cumulative impacts on the road would be severe”. However, the NPPF does not define what a “severe” traffic impact is. It is assumed that this is because it is difficult to be specific considering the complexity of the UK’s road network’.*
- 7.7.2 For Buckden specifically, this Neighbourhood Plan defines a ‘Severe’, residual cumulative impact on Buckden’s roads or road to be as follows:
- 7.7.2.1 Any increase in traffic at a junction that increases the Ratio to Demand Flow to Capacity (RFC) to be over 1.0 or, where a junction already has an RFC of over 1.0 should not increase the ratio further;
- 7.7.2.2 Proposed solutions for signal-controlled junctions should not exceed a ‘Degree of Saturation’ of 100%. For signal-controlled junctions, in terms of ‘Degrees of Saturation’, expressed as a percentage (%) a ‘Degree of Saturation’ of equal or greater than 100% will be taken to indicate that it has either reached or exceeded its theoretical capacity;
- 7.7.2.3 Any increase in traffic that degrades or further degrades a road’s Level of Service (LOS) to a Category E or Category F of the Highway Capacity Manual (HCM) at peak or non-peak times.
- 7.7.3 The HCM is a worldwide reference for transportation and traffic engineering scholars and practitioners. Definitions of Category E and Category F are as follows:
- 7.7.3.1 *Category E: “unstable flow, operating at capacity. Flow becomes irregular and speed varies rapidly because there are virtually no usable gaps to manoeuvre in the traffic stream and speeds rarely reach the posted limit. Vehicle spacing is about 6 car lengths, but speeds are still at or above 50 mi/h(80 km/h). Any disruption to traffic flow, such as merging ramp traffic or lane changes, will create a shock wave affecting traffic upstream. Any incident will create serious delays. Drivers' level of comfort becomes poor”;*
- 7.7.3.2 *Category F: “forced or breakdown flow. Every vehicle moves in lockstep with the vehicle in front of it, with frequent slowing required. Travel time cannot be predicted, with generally more demand than capacity”y.*

Ref: Highway Capacity Manual, Sixth Edition: A Guide for Multimodal Mobility Analysis, or HCM 2016, or HCM6, October 2016

7.7.4 *By email dated 29th October 2019 the Principal Transport Officer – Major Development stated:

7.7.4.1 “Cambridgeshire County Council does not define a severe impact in its transport assessment guidelines.”

7.7.5 Therefore, this Neighbourhood Plan has adopted a common-sense approach to the question, taking into consideration relevant local factors such as:

7.7.5.1 the difficulty of entering the roundabout;

7.7.5.2 the length of time drivers will have to wait to do so;

7.7.5.3 the length of time drivers will have to queue to reach the Offord level crossing; and

7.7.5.4 The expected increase in closure times of Offord crossing due to the introduction of digital signalling on the East Coast Main Line.

7.7.6 Degree of Saturation and ‘Ratio of Demand Flow to Capacity’ (‘RFC’) are already being used as an appropriate measures of traffic impact.

This is evidenced by the Pell Frischmann Traffic Modelling response to Highways England and Cambridgeshire County Council on junction capacity assessment in Buckden. Their results were presented, for non-signalised junctions, in terms of ‘Ratio of Demand Flow to Capacity’ (‘RFC’), expressed as a factor of 1.00 and for signal-controlled junctions, in terms of ‘Degrees of Saturation’ (‘DoS’), expressed as a percentage (%).

Ref: Pell Frischmann, Project No: 101321, Response to Cambridgeshire County Council, 08 May 2019 – Client: Church Commissioners for England.

7.8 Public Transport

7.8.1 There is very limited public transport provision in the village and most people need to drive to work. The very successful local school attracts pupils from outside the village adding to the significant ‘school run’ congestion.

7.8.2 Improvements to the public transport network that links Buckden to its surrounding area, towns, hospitals, railway stations, etc., particularly in the evenings and weekends will be supported.

7.9 Transport Policies

Transport 1 Traffic Impact Assessment	Proposals that will have a significant impact on the highways network shall be accompanied by a Transport Assessment or Transport Statement as appropriate to the scale of the development proposed. This shall include consideration of direct impacts including cumulative impacts upon free flow of traffic, potential to exacerbate conditions of queueing, conflict with larger vehicles, parking stress, and access for emergency services at peak traffic times. Where development is likely to have a significant impact upon the transport network, the following access routes have been identified in
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	<p>previous Transport Assessments to be significant and are expected to be specifically assessed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The junction between the High Street and the Buckden Roundabout; • The junction between the High Street and the A1; • The junction between the Stirtloe Lane and the A1; • The Offords' Railway Crossing and Mill Road; • The junction at Church Road and the High Street; • The junction at Mayfield and the High Street; • The junction at Silver Street and Church Road/Mill Road; • The junction of A1 and Silver Street; • The junction of Perry Road and the A1; • The Offords' Railway Crossing and associated narrow bridges. • The junction of Leadens Lane with Mill Road <p>The location and relationship of the heritage assets to the existing road structure is of key importance to the village. Traffic Impact Assessments are expected to specifically assess and report on the potential impact of any proposal on the heritage assets affected and their settings.</p>
<p>Transport 2 Traffic Impact Mitigation</p>	<p>Development proposals shall provide for the satisfactory resolution of their additional traffic impacts on local roads. Any development which, taken with all existing, allocated and permitted but unbuilt development will have the effect of increasing the queue of traffic along the High Street in Buckden to the roundabout with the A1 and/or increasing the queue of traffic at the railway crossing at Station Lane from the present average peak of seven vehicles to an average of more than 15 vehicles at peak times shall be considered to represent a severe impact to the road network.</p> <p>Where a transport assessment demonstrates that the proposal will have a negative or cumulatively adverse impact on the local transport network, particularly through the Buckden Conservation Area, it is expected that mitigation measures including traffic calming, improvements to junctions (particularly at the north and south ends of the High Street and the A1) and improvements to public transport, will be delivered which demonstrate that the impact of development will be negated.</p> <p>It is expected that in respect of any junction detailed in Transport Policy 1 that has a current Ratio of Demand Flow to Capacity in a peak hour of over 1.0 at the time of the full or outline planning application, proposals for development will demonstrate how the current Demand Flow to Capacity value will not be increased.</p> <p>Any increase in traffic that degrades or further degrades a road's Level of Service (LOS) to a Category E or Category F of the Highway Capacity</p>

	<p>Manual (HCM) at peak or non-peak times shall be considered to represent a severe impact to the road network.</p> <p>If traffic lights are considered to be a potential traffic mitigation measure in the village, proposed solutions for signal-controlled junctions should not exceed a 'Degree of Saturation' of 100%. For signal-controlled junctions, in terms of 'Degrees of Saturation', expressed as a percentage (%) a 'Degree of Saturation' of equal or greater than 100% will be taken to indicate that it has either reached or exceeded its theoretical capacity.</p>
<p>Transport 3 Construction Management Plans</p>	<p>It is expected that Developers will ensure that Construction Management Plans associated with any planning application, or development, minimises any harmful effects of traffic entering the village's Conservation Area.</p>

8 Accessibility, Footpaths and Cycle Ways

- 8.1.1 Aim To ensure that Buckden has an infrastructure that promotes cycling and walking to enable residents to easily and safely access all areas of the village without use of cars and to access walks and cycle routes to promote health, fitness and mental well-being.
- 8.1.2 *'Buckden residents are 'Strongly in Favour' of the provision of cycle-ways in the village and the wider parish'*

8.2 Context

- 8.2.1 Huntingdonshire's rural nature means that a significant proportion of journeys are by car. However, more than a quarter of all journeys to work In Huntingdonshire are less than 5km (3 miles) in length. Given the level of traffic congestion in the village the Parish Council strategy is to encourage cycling and walking as alternatives to journeys by car.
- 8.2.2 For many people, walking or cycling could be a feasible alternative to using cars for journeys such as these. Even for longer trips there is the opportunity to make part of the journey by walking or cycling.
- 8.2.3 Despite the demand from residents, evidenced by questionnaire and workshop feedback, Buckden is not currently well served for cycle ways.
Existing paths are poorly constructed and not 'fit for purpose'. In some cases, they are dangerous. They compare very unfavourably with the new style of path seen within the A14 development areas.
- 8.2.4 Cycle paths are a critical part of Buckden's strategy to reduce vehicle traffic and manage congestion and pollution within the village.



FIGURE 14 CYCLING IS A FEASIBLE ALTERNATIVE TO CARS IF CYCLE PATHS ARE IMPROVED

8.2.5 A Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan¹⁷ (LCWIP) was completed in August 2019. The plan was developed in consultation with local residents and the relevant local parish councils and follows the Department of Transport guidelines. The plan identifies the strategic linkages to neighbouring areas and includes proposals to develop strategic plans for walking and cycling in and around the Parish.

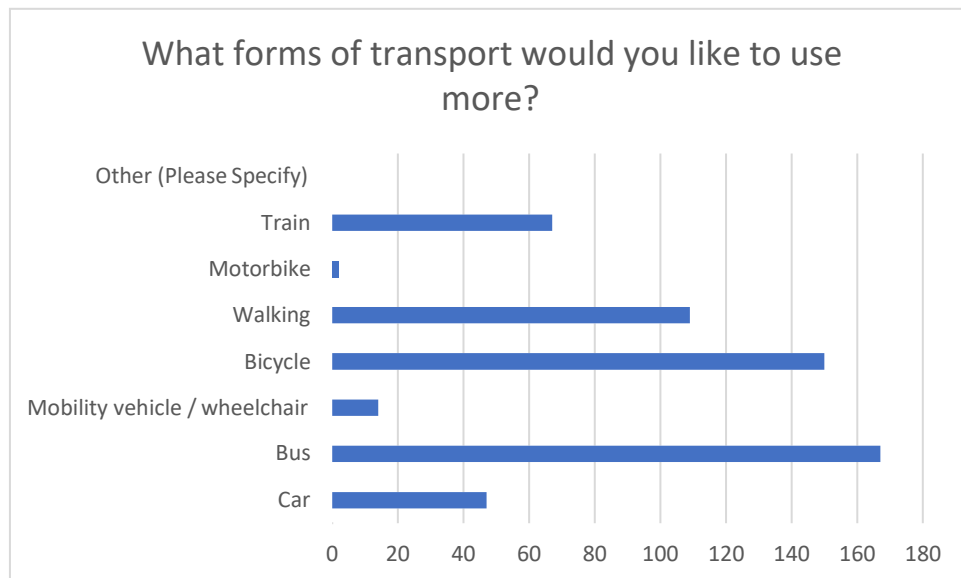


FIGURE 15 BUCKDEN'S NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSE ILLUSTRATING THE STRONG DESIRE FROM RESIDENTS FOR IMPROVED WALKING, CYCLING AND PUBLIC TRANSPORT LINKS TO THE VILLAGE

8.2.6 At very modest cost compared with road building an outstanding network can be provided across the Parish and beyond for people on foot and cycle. The cost of building active travel networks is minimal when the huge benefits they bring are considered, which include savings to health and social services and the opportunity to avoid building intrusive roads across our countryside.

¹⁷ Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan Document ???

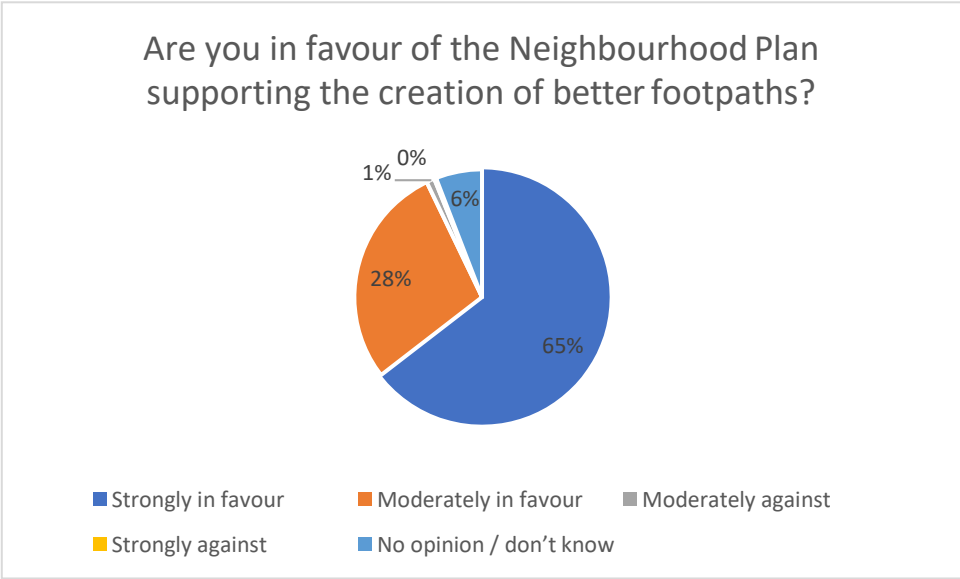


FIGURE 16 BUCKDEN'S NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSE ILLUSTRATING THE STRONG DESIRE FROM RESIDENTS FOR IMPROVED FOOTPATHS

8.2.7 The key high priority proposals in the plan are:

- An improved walking and cycling route between Buckden and Huntingdon.
- Access to Hinchingsbrooke and Station. (SN1 on map)
- A new walking and cycling route through Paxton Pits, towards Little Paxton and St Neots. This includes a link via Diddington and the planned Paxton Pits circular cycle route. (SN2a)
- An improved walking and cycling path from Buckden to the Offord's. (SN3)
- A new leisure route linking Buckden and Brampton with Grafham Village and the reservoir via Brampton Road or Church Commission land. (SN4a and SN4b)
- Accessibility and road danger reduction measures throughout Buckden. These are aimed principally at making the village more accessible for pedestrians and those with restricted mobility.

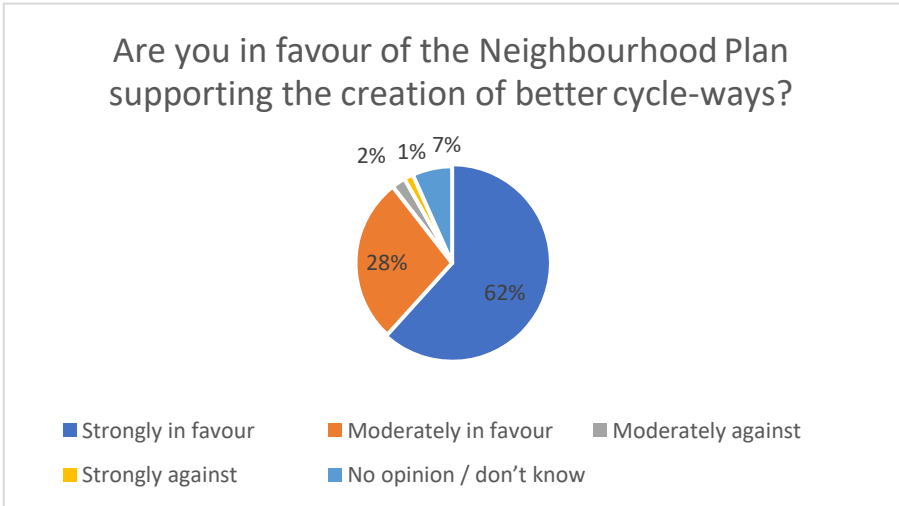


FIGURE 17 BUCKDEN'S NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSE ILLUSTRATING THE STRONG DESIRE FROM RESIDENTS FOR IMPROVED CYCLE-WAYS

8.2.8 Sections of each proposed route fall outside of the neighbourhood plan area, however the full proposal is included to provide context.

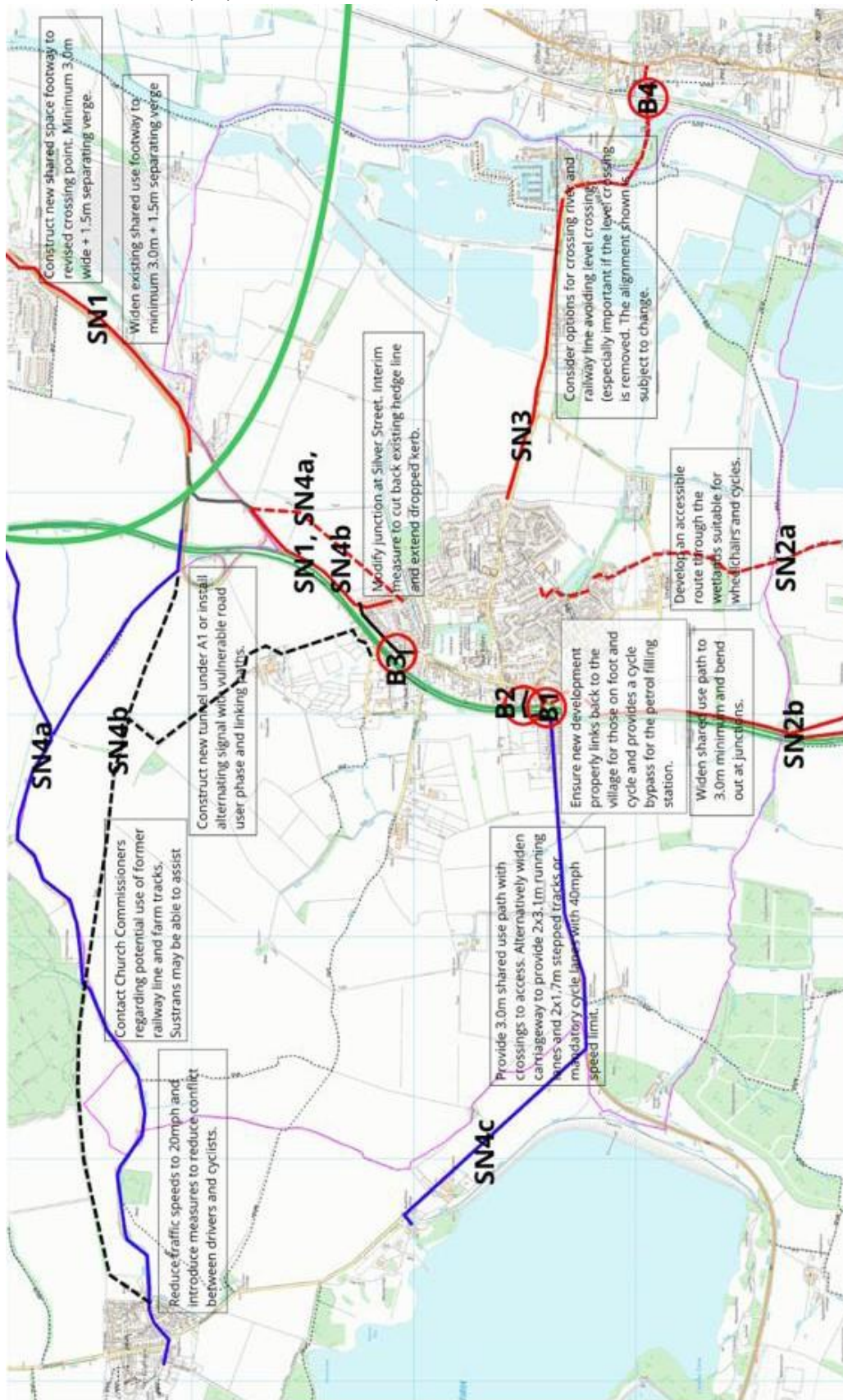


FIGURE 18 PROPOSED STRATEGIC CYCLING NETWORK

- 8.2.9 Walking has been actively promoted in the village for many years and is a key part of village life. However, the underlying foot path infrastructure is of insufficient quality and requires significant upgrade.
- 8.2.10 The Parish Council has for several years promoted the village footpaths through a footpath leaflet outlining the Rights of Way Paths in the parish. This is available on the Parish Council website. There is a Footpath Warden who together with the members of the Rights of Way and Tree Group checks the accessibility of the paths and reports the need for remedial action, where required. The Parish Council have sought to work with the Cambridgeshire County Council Rights of Way Officer to develop the walks in the village and to work with landowners to ensure paths are accessible. Part of the Ouse Valley Way is within the Buckden parish boundary and the Council is a member the Great Ouse Valley Trust. A significant objective of this membership is to ensure that the path is well maintained.
- 8.2.11 The Council was successful in bidding for funds from the A14 Community Fund to put in place an 8km circular walk using existing Rights of Way. The Parish Council has representatives on the Paxton Pits Quarry Liaison group and will be working with the developers and Paxton Pits to promote the new footpaths that the developers will be putting in place, working to develop a network of paths for residents to access. The GP surgery promotes walks for health in the village and there are Health Walk leaders who organise and lead those walks.
- 8.2.12 The following paragraphs of the NPPF are referenced:
- 8.2.12.1 Paragraph 35 of the NPPF says that “developments should be located and designed where practical to ... create safe and secure layouts which minimise conflicts between traffic and cyclists or pedestrians, avoiding street clutter and where appropriate creating home zones”.
- 8.2.12.2 Paragraph 69 of the NPPF says that “Planning policies and decisions ... should aim to achieve places which promote ... safe and accessible developments, containing clear and legible pedestrian routes, and high-quality public space, which encourage the active and continual use of public areas.”
- 8.2.13 The Highways Act 1980 places a responsibility on all Councils to protect Public Rights of Way. Public Rights of Way are also a material consideration in the determination of any planning application.
- 8.2.14 Policy Paper: Rights of way circular (1/09) - Version 2 October 2009 advises that paths should be retained on their existing routes wherever possible. Equally, the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 section 257 states that diversions should only be made if it is considered that it is `necessary to do so to enable development to be carried out`. There is every expectation therefore that the existing Public Right of Way should stay where they are, particularly in large development sites, where the layout of the new build should be designed to accommodate the path alignment.

1.1.2 Planning policies for supporting the introduction, enhancement and maintenance of foot and cycle paths are included in this Neighbourhood Plan. The detail of specific projects is included in the Community Action Plan. A priority is the cycle path from Buckden to Hinchingsbrooke School which enables children to cycle to school. (SN1 above).

8.3 Footpath and Cycling Policies

Footpath and Cycling 1	<p>In so far as they fall within this Neighbourhood Plan area, proposals that enhance the footpath, cycleway and bridleway network will be supported where they:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • extend public rights of way, enable opportunities to connect public rights of way into the wider public rights of way network or deliver new public rights of way in suitable locations • develop links to other forms of sustainable transport such as bus or rail • improve existing pavements to make them more accessible for all users including children and the disabled. • provide cycle routes which enable direct, convenient and safe connection to other routes including Paxton Pits Circular Route; and the routes to Brampton, Grafham and Hinchingsbrooke; • allow for pedestrian and cycle connectivity between new developments and the Conservation Area; • ensure mixed use cycle and pedestrian paths are at least 3m wide; • provide segregated cycle paths as joint pavements/ cycle ways in new developments; • ensure that roads proposed within new developments do not mix cyclists and traffic where traffic speeds or volumes are high; • ensure new streets, and improvements to existing streets meet the 10 Healthy Streets Indicators. <p>In some circumstances, where necessary to achieve a good quality and accessible walking and cycling environment to meet the needs of the users of the development, it may be appropriate to secure external contributions towards these initiatives.</p>
Footpath and Cycling 2	<p>Developments affecting existing public rights of way shall seek to retain the existing route unless an alternative would significantly enhance the public enjoyment of using the route.</p>

9 Community Services and Facilities

9.1.1 Aim: To maintain, and wherever possible enhance, key community infrastructure and services, including but not limited to the village pubs, restaurants, hotels, post office and businesses, the village hall, play equipment, sports facilities, public transport, schools, doctors, nurseries and churches.

9.2 Context

9.2.1 Buckden is identified as a Key Service Centre in the Local Plan. The High Street has a good range of services and shops. Several of these businesses are located within historic and listed buildings. The loss of services in these buildings could have a negative impact on the sustainability and upkeep of heritage assets. The historic assets (see section 6) make a significant contribution to Buckden's environment, quality of life and attract both residents and visitors to use these services. These facilities are currently well used. Nevertheless, Buckden High Street is under pressure from wider retail sector changes, online services and larger 'out of town' facilities.



FIGURE 19 THE GEORGE HOTEL, HIGH STREET, BUCKDEN

9.2.2 There are additional shops at Hunts End by the village green, including a pharmacist. There are also other important services elsewhere in the village such as the village hall, primary school, GP practice and dentist.

9.2.3 Services are generally very well used. Consultation with residents clearly demonstrated that they value, and in many cases are highly dependent, upon the range of services and community facilities provided locally. These enable people to be self-sufficient within the village. In turn this reduces the need for car travel, encourages walking and creates an overall sense of independence. Whilst true for all residents it is particularly relevant for older residents many of whom are reluctant to drive beyond the village given the challenging traffic situation at both exits to the village. It is considered important to retain local services and maintain the vitality and vibrancy of the High Street and Hunts End and to protect and enhance other key services.



FIGURE 20 THE LION HOTEL, HIGH STREET, BUCKDEN

9.3 Health Services ¹⁸

- 9.3.1 Buckden's population has grown in recent years and the demand for health services has increased. The village's age profile shows that it has a higher percentage of residents over 65 years old than the average for the rest of Cambridgeshire and this increases demand.
- 9.3.2 The GP Practice operates across two sites, Buckden and Little Paxton, four miles apart, and provides a broad range of services. Buckden patients are increasingly required to travel to Little Paxton for appointments.
- 9.3.3 The proposed local developments in Buckden would lead to an increase in the patient list of approximately 1,248. These additional patients could not be accommodated within the existing facilities.
- 9.3.4 The practice also accepts patients from outside the Buckden area. Further development is anticipated in and around Little Paxton and considerable further housing development in Alconbury and Brampton is likely to lead to additional registrations as patients look to maintain access and avoid overwhelming other local GP services.
- 9.3.5 The local new housing developments will deliver a change in the demography of patients with an increase in younger families and working age patients. To support this, there is a need to establish acute Same Day Services to provide these patients with fast and effective access to services supported by a Duty Doctor and additional Advanced Nurse Practitioner capacity.

The practice does not consider the current surgery building on Mayfield to be sustainable to provide safe, effective and reliable patient services to an increasing list size beyond the next 2-3 years. This main reasons for this are:

- The need to accommodate the equivalent of an additional full-time GP with associated nursing and supporting administrative services to serve an anticipated increase of at least 1,248 patients.
- The current consulting and clinical room capacity means that the surgery is already working at full capacity and is unable to provide a full range of patient services from both locations. Clinics and clinicians are currently moved between sites to optimise space utilisation which can impact the volume of patient-facing services provided.
- The internal plan and construction of the current premises means that internal reconfiguration is not possible. An external expansion would therefore be required to provide additional space.
- Additional waiting and patient reception space would be required to accommodate an increased patient list and activity levels.
- Vehicular access to the current site is limited but could be improved through better planning and the widening and resurfacing of the car park. Current capacity is not sufficient for patient activity levels with limited disabled access. Many staff

¹⁸ Document 18 Letter from Managing Partner of Buckden GP Service

are currently asked to park off-site and parking concerns limit the availability of additional clinics and services.

- 9.3.6 Funding will be required to enable this expansion. Further supporting information is included in Document 18.
- 9.3.7 There is also concern that the extra traffic created by these developments will make it more difficult for patients to reach the surgery. Parking is already a problem at peak use times leading to patients parking on the road in Mayfield. That creates a risk that emergency vehicles may not be able to access the surgery quickly and adversely affects residents in Mayfield whose driveways are blocked by parked vehicles. Transport between the two surgeries is a key priority which is included in the CAP and may be a candidate for CIL funding.
- 9.3.8 Buckden benefits from having Hinchingsbrooke Hospital within a short car journey. Specialist services are provided at Addenbrookes Hospital in Cambridge and Peterborough City Hospital. Neither of these have a direct or easy bus routes.

9.4 Education

- 9.4.1 Buckden has one school providing Primary education. The Buckden Church of England School (Primary Academy Trust) is rated as Outstanding by Ofsted and attracts pupils from outside of the Parish. It is situated in a central position and has a large green play area and recreational area. The recent provision of a zebra crossing has improved road safety but the school's position adjacent to the busy Mill Road and opposite the village green and village shops makes it potentially dangerous for both parents and pupils. The situation is made worse by the number of parents who park badly when delivering or collecting their children.
- 9.4.2 Many pupils come from other villages and this increases the number of cars. The inherent problem is not just road safety, but the pollution caused by slow moving vehicles and stationary vehicles with their engines running. Proposals for addressing this are included in the CAP and the LCWIP.
- 9.4.3 The School has a capacity of 350 pupils (2020/2021).¹⁹ Due to an influx of children from outside of the catchment area the school will be full from the beginning of school year 2020/2021. Once a child has been accepted to the school, they have the right to remain for the duration of their primary education, up to 7 years.
- 9.4.4 The village also has a nursery school, situated in Mill Road and a pre-school in the village hall.
Analysis by Cambridgeshire County Council shows that there will be a significant undersupply of places for both 0-3-year olds and 3-4-year olds.
- 9.4.5 Transporting children into the school from outside of the catchment area and conversely transporting children from Buckden to other schools e.g. Spaldwick, Offord and Brampton, will exacerbate both the existing parking and pollution problems at the school and traffic congestion in the village.

¹⁹ Cambridgeshire County Council Emerging Education Requirements 27/02/20

- 9.4.6 The Cambridgeshire County Council Emerging Education Requirements Document predicts that the Lucks Lane development will create demand for 53 new primary spaces and the Silver Street development a further 116 spaces. Should the Mill Road development proceed this will generate a demand for another 78 spaces. This means that although the school is likely to be able to accommodate children moving into the new developments in reception groups, as catchment area children have priority under the schools admissions policy, there are unlikely to be places for other age groups as the existing year groups are full.
- 9.4.7 Cambridgeshire County Council have undertaken a feasibility study to expand the school to 420 or 630 places. The expansion to 630 places has been deemed not financially viable for the CC and potentially unviable from a Highways perspective. Expansion to 420 spaces with additional early years provision may be viable. The cost of expansion is approximately £3,000,000 to provide 60 primary places and 52 early years places. The CC will seek contributions from developers for this.
- 9.4.8 The school and Buckden Parish Council will continue to seek provision of primary and early years education facilities, within the village, to meet the recognised needs of development, in agreement with Cambridgeshire County Council.
- 9.4.9 There is no secondary school in Buckden. Year 7-11 pupils travel to Huntingdon. Most secondary school age children attend Hinchingsbrooke School. Some primary and secondary age pupils travel to Peterborough, Kimbolton, Bedford and Cambridge to attend religious or independent schools. There are regular school buses for the pupils at Hinchingsbrooke and Kimbolton Schools. There appears to be sufficient capacity for secondary age children.

9.5 Shops, Hotels and Public Houses

- 9.5.1 Buckden is well served by local shops in two localities. Facing the village green there is a small super-market, a ladies and gentlemen's hairdresser, a Chinese take-away and a chemist/pharmacy. At the other end of the village along the High Street there is a small super-market incorporating a post office, a lady's dress shop, a lady's lingerie shop, a lady's shoe shop, a butchers/green grocers and nail salon. In addition to the shops there are two hotels and a public house. There is also a hairdresser and a beauty therapy salon in Church Street.
- 9.5.2 The public house (The Vine) has an order on it to prevent it being changed into a private dwelling.
- 9.5.3 At Buckden Marina, on a 93-acre site, to the east of the village and adjacent to the River Great Ouse, there is a leisure club with a range of facilities including swimming pool, gyms, etc. The site provides access to the Ouse Valley Way public footpath.
- 9.5.4 The clubhouse contains a café - bar which is open to non-members. This is used as a meeting place for all age groups, with informal seating areas overlooking the boats in the marina. The club, café - bar, and other businesses within the club's buildings, provide a variety of options for health and well-being, readily available for residents without having to tackle the village exits onto the A1 or via the level crossing.
- 9.5.5 All these businesses are appreciated and well used by residents and are within easy walking distance for most residents. The loss of any of them would have a detrimental effect on the amenities available for residents.

9.6 Village Hall and Recreation Ground

- 9.6.1 The Hall complex and the surrounding car park, sports and leisure facilities, a total area of 4.25 hectares, are owned and managed by the Village Hall Trust through a small group of volunteer trustees.
- 9.6.2 The Hall offers its facilities 7 days a week, and is heavily used by both residents as a focal point for social activities as well as numerous health based activities, weddings and Village events (music festivals, pantomimes, annual fete, fitness classes, Womens' Institute (WI), Parish Council, dog-training, blood donations, balance and blood pressure monitor clinics). A wide age range is catered for, from pre-school to senior citizens. The Hall has also developed its commercial conference business as a means of raising funds. The Hall is dependent on this income and donations to maintain its facilities and services.
- 9.6.3 It is expected that the demographic profile of the village will change as a result of new development as younger people with young families are attracted to the village. The Hall has limited facilities for young children and adolescents
- 9.6.4 Village Halls are now seen as a vital conduit in delivering County and regional care and social delivery mechanism as part of the Regional Transformation Policy spearheaded by Cambridgeshire County Council. This, together with the planned new housing developments, will create significantly more demand on the Hall.
- 9.6.5 The HDC Sports Facility Strategy (2016-2021) states that 'the priorities of the strategy reflect the need for a safe and sustainable environment and the need to support people throughout their lives, from a positive start for children to keeping older people independent, safe and well. Priority 5, highlights the importance of the built environment, ensuring that new developments consider health and wellbeing and encouraging the use of green, open spaces.'
- 9.6.6 A recent review undertaken by the Trust and supported by consultation in the village, identified several issues which will need be addressed to accommodate increased demand. The enclosed central site of the recreation ground makes it difficult to expand. The focus is therefore to make the best possible use of existing space. In particular the trustees want to address the following:
- The playground is small and caters only for younger children. This needs to be expanded. A facility for older children is required. A recent Village survey identified wide-spread dissatisfaction with both the children's play provision and the lack of any activity area for children 12 years and older.
 - The lake is 'silted up' and the surrounding area is under-utilised. This could provide a nature trail, fishing, fitness trail etc. to tie into national school curriculum priorities. However, this is a multi-year project requiring significant project management skills, funding and development.
 - The football and cricket playing fields are overcrowded and poor drainage limits availability. The HDC Sports Facility Strategy (2016-2021) highlights Buckden as deficient in provision of grass pitches. It also identifies Cricket and Football as Priority 1 areas for funding provision.
 - The sports pavilion needs considerable refurbishment and facilities for storage of sports and ground maintenance equipment is not fit for purpose.

- The tarmac footpaths around the grounds are an integral part of the Round-about-Buckden footpath and should offer the mobility-impaired and elderly an opportunity to enjoy an open-air nature reserve. The state of the paths is in such a very poor state of repair that access for all but the able-bodied is severely restricted, in breach of diversity and access policies.
- The main hall floor, flat roof, gas boilers, sanitary facilities and fixtures and fittings (curtains, tables, chairs) are all at the end of their life and must be replaced at substantial cost. This is now rendered urgent by increasing health & safety legislation; for example, testing all 100 water taps for Legionnaires Disease.

9.6.7 The Trustees are in the process of raising significant donations from various sports bodies but managing those donations and raising additional funds for other projects remain a challenge.

9.6.8 Actions to address the above issues are covered in the CAP. This is also a key area for potential allocation of CIL funding. (See Appendix 6).

9.6.9 It is important that the land owned by the VHT is retained as a village asset for the future and it is proposed that the playing field be designated as Green Space in Section 11.

9.7 Bus Services

9.7.1 The level of early morning and evening bus services in the village are perceived as poor. They do not connect with commuter train services which results in high numbers of car journeys. See Buckden’s Community Action Plan (CAP).

9.8 Facilities for Children

9.8.1 There is significant demand for additional play facilities for children. Much of this is covered in the Community Action Plan but it is important that new developments, which will bring additional children into the village cater for this demand.

9.9 Community Service Policies

<p>Community Services 1 – Provision of Infrastructure Capacity</p>	<p>Planning proposals will be supported where they demonstrate that infrastructure capacity meets the needs generated by the proposed development. Development proposals are expected to consider all the infrastructure implications of a scheme; not just those on the site or its immediate vicinity.</p> <p>Development proposals will be expected to provide or contribute towards the cost of service infrastructure and community facilities made necessary by the development including but not limited to primary and early years educational facilities and GP services within the village. Where this is not provided through the Community Infrastructure Levy it will be through on or off-site provision or through financial payments</p>
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	<p>and secured via planning conditions or planning obligations in accordance with HDC’s Developer Contributions Supplementary Planning Document (2011) or any successor documents .</p> <p>Proposals to expand the school and GP surgery will be supported.</p>
<p>Community Services 2 – Enhancement and Retention of Village Services</p>	<p>Proposals that support, enhance and enable the retention and development of the range of shops, and community facilities, such as, village hall, open space, cultural buildings, public houses and places of worship will be supported if proposals;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • are of an appropriate size, in keeping with the existing character of the area • will not lead to increased traffic congestion; • include adequate parking and servicing arrangements; • do not generate unacceptable noises, fumes, smells or other disturbance to neighbouring properties.

10 Business

10.1.1 Aim: To recognise the importance of and support local businesses to enable economic growth and maintain a sustainable rural community.

10.2 Context

10.2.1 Buckden has several retail outlets, Public Houses / Hotels and other service providers. These are primarily based on the High Street, Church Road and Hunts End. Several of these businesses are located within historic and listed buildings. The historic assets (See Section 6) and the high-quality retailers are a major influence in bringing visitors, both shoppers and tourists, to the village.

10.2.2 In addition, Buckden also has a significant number of small business that operate from home offices throughout the village. These include most of the building related trades and many services including legal, IT and financial.



FIGURE 21 BUCKDEN'S CHRISTMAS LIGHTS SWITCH-ON FESTIVAL

10.2.3 National and local planning policy recognise the need to support appropriate economic growth in rural areas and this is also a key aspiration of the community in Buckden. Appropriate economic growth through rural diversification is an important part of the Neighbourhood Plan, and may include:

- Retention and development of existing local businesses;
- Diversification of agricultural, farming and other land based rural businesses;
- Sustainable rural tourism or leisure uses and visitor facilities appropriate to the character of a countryside location;

10.3 Business Policies

Business 1 – Local Employment Opportunities	<p>Proposals for business development within the built-up area of Buckden or on land well-related to the built-up area and the surrounding countryside which provide local employment opportunities, and which make a positive contribution to supporting the rural economy shall demonstrate that they meet the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• be of a scale appropriate to Buckden as a key service centre and be for a use(s) which is(are) appropriate or necessary, in a rural location;• support the character and built environment and green spaces policies of the Neighbourhood Plan:• that the business use / development should respect the character and appearance of the local landscape• will not negatively impact on existing neighbouring uses through noise, traffic, light and pollution impacts; and• avoid harm to areas, features or species which are protected because they are important for wildlife, biodiversity, natural, cultural or historic assets, including their wider settings. <p>Proposals which enhance the viability of existing businesses and generate visitors to the village will generally be supported.</p>
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11 Biodiversity and Ecology

11.1.1 Aim: To protect sites and habitats of high biodiversity value in Buckden, maintain the network of wildlife corridors and ecological networks and protect and enhance Priority Species known to be present in the Parish and the sites where they occur.

11.2 Context

- 11.2.1 Buckden is exceptionally rich in biodiversity due to its rural setting, plentiful green space, diverse wildlife habitats and connectivity to the wider ecological network, most notably, on the east side of the Parish, the Great Ouse Valley and its surrounds.
- 11.2.2 Buckden is a gateway to the Great Ouse Valley, which forms a key landscape corridor across Cambridgeshire and contains a wide variety of woodland, meadowland and wetlands and a number of sites of high biodiversity importance.
- 11.2.3 The above is illustrated in the Cambridgeshire Green Infrastructure Strategy. It contains 'Green Infrastructure Themes' and highlights that investment in this strategic area offers significant opportunities for biodiversity, through enhancing, linking and protecting the nationally and internationally important nature conservation areas along the Ouse Valley, Ouse Washes, the Old West River and Grafham Water.
- 11.2.4 Figure 22 shows the Cambridgeshire Green Infrastructure Strategy Biodiversity Target Area 3.3 (Ouse and Paxton Pits) surrounding the village with a clear boundary at the eastern edge of Buckden with the theme's biodiversity targeted area extended up to Target Area 3.1 (Grafham Water). In addition, the Great Ouse Valley is also designated as a Green Infrastructure Priority Area in the Huntingdonshire District Council Local Plan to 2036.
- 11.2.5 The Buckden Neighbourhood Plan actively encourages the provision of additional benefits for biodiversity which contribute to future-proofing the natural environment at a landscape scale and contributing to mitigating climate change, while ensuring existing important sites, habitats and Priority Species are protected, maintained and enhanced.
- 11.2.6 This Plan actively *promotes the "conservation, restoration and enhancement of Priority Habitats, ecological networks and the protection and recovery of Priority Species"* as per 174 b) of the NPPF.

11.2.7 It also, as per Section 174 a), seeks to: “Identify, map and safeguard components of local wildlife-rich habitats and wider ecological networks, including the hierarchy of international, national and locally designated sites of importance for biodiversity, wildlife corridors and stepping stones that connect them; and areas identified by national and local partnerships for habitat management, enhancement, restoration or creation”.

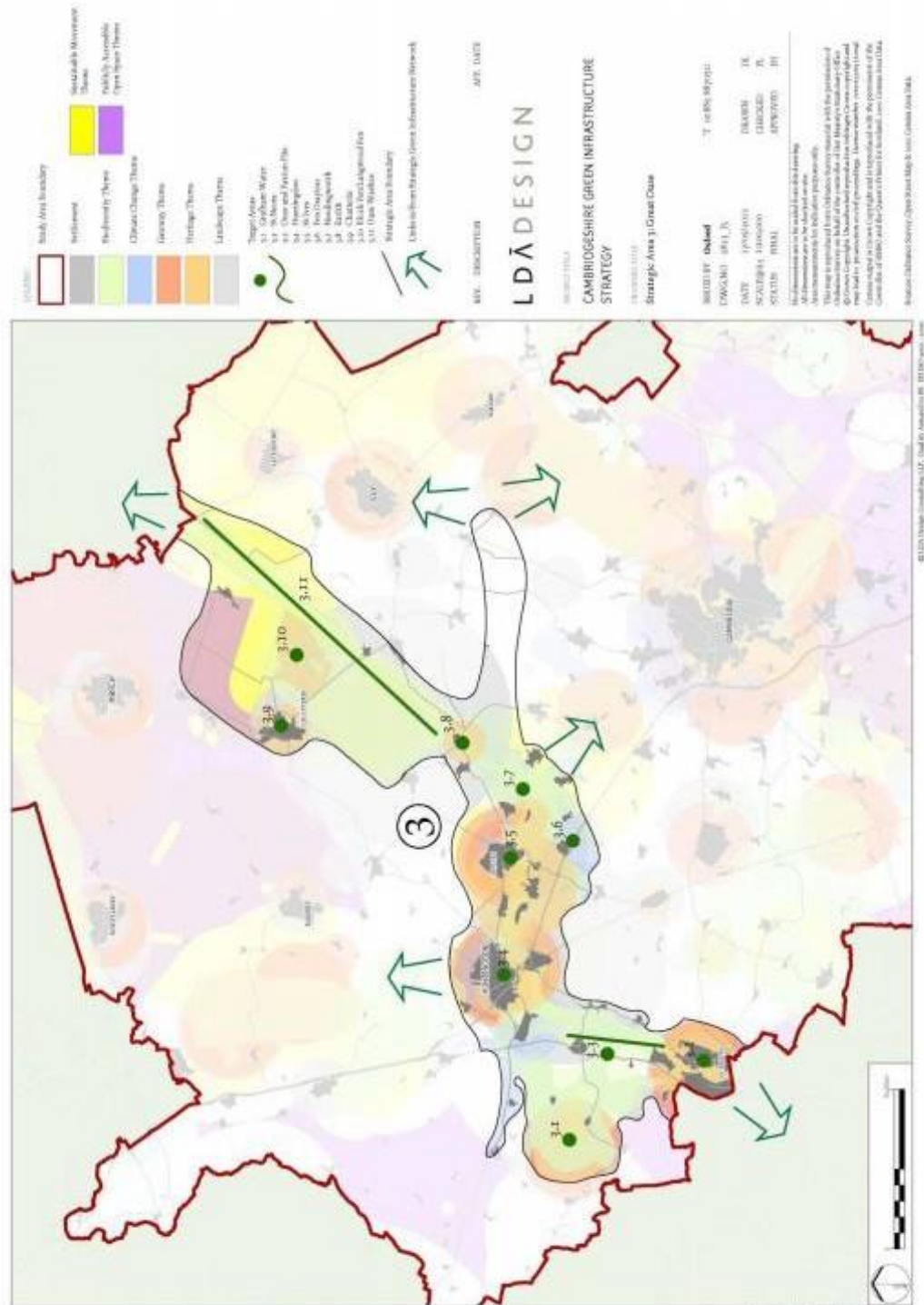


FIGURE 22 CCC STRATEGIC AREA 3: GREAT OUSE

11.2.8 This Neighbourhood Plan also supports the identification and pursuit of opportunities for securing significant measurable net gains for biodiversity, which do not come from the loss of, or damage to, existing sites of high biodiversity value in the Parish and the habitats and Priority Species already found there.

11.2.9 This severe loss of nature continues in the UK; evidenced by scientific research such as that detailed in the *State of Nature Report* and the Climate Emergency declared by UK Parliament and many local authorities, including Cambridgeshire County Council, in 2019. This was subsequently followed by Buckden Parish Council in January 2020. Buckden, through this Neighbourhood Plan, will play its part in addressing this through biodiversity enhancement and protection measures.

11.3 Biodiversity and Ecology Appraisal



FIGURE 23 SITES OF HIGH BIODIVERSITY VALUE IN BUCKDEN PARISH

- 11.3.1 In 2018, the BPC commissioned a Biodiversity and Ecology Appraisal²⁰ to review wildlife species and habitats from conservation professional and local naturalist Mark Ward who is a senior manager at Europe's largest conservation organisation, the RSPB. This was completed at the end of 2019 and has mapped local sites of high biodiversity value.
- 11.3.2 It is a key outcome of this Plan, that these sites remain undeveloped and maintained, but also continue to link with the wider environment and do not become encroached on, isolated or lost to development. The sites are mapped in the Wildlife Review evidence document with supporting information. Records from these sites can be found at CPERC and the sites continue to be monitored.
- 11.3.3 The Review has also identified the Priority Species (as referenced in in the NPPF 174 b) present within the Parish and these are all listed.

²⁰ Biodiversity and Ecology Appraisal attached as Evidence Document 22.

11.4 New developments in the Parish

11.4.1 Where development permitted within the HDC Local Plan is to come forward in the Parish, this plan seeks to protect, avoid negative impacts on and provide “buffers” and green corridors to the sites of high biodiversity value in the Parish and the Priority Species (as listed in Evidence Document 22, Wildlife Review) found there. Biodiversity Implementation and Management Plans accompanying development proposals should evidence how plans will:

- Protect and enhance existing networks and green corridors and connect habitats and corridors to ensure the free movement of invertebrates, birds, reptiles, amphibians, hedgehogs and other mammals;
- Preserve and enhance existing mature trees, hedgerows, scrub, native flora, wetland and other habitats on the site and adjacent to it;
- Provide log piles and deadwood, due to their extremely high value to invertebrates;
- Plant native trees and hedgerows of high biodiversity value, plus wetland habitats, grassland, verges, bee hotels and other wildlife habitats in such numbers and arrangement as to form a viable green corridor throughout the built environment;
- Street trees to be predominantly of high biodiversity value/native species and of a volume and density that enables them to act as a wildlife corridor, as per the NPPF, and mitigate climate change;
- Planting will incorporate native species of plants and shrubs of high biodiversity value, as well as trees, e.g. within formal frontages, beds and shared areas;
- Sow and allow wildflowers to grow on verges along roads and in formal open spaces, with suitable mowing regimes at a time that will avoid destroying them and the diversity of autumn toadstools;
- Ensure gardens contribute to biodiversity enhancement and link together using natural boundaries of hedgerows where possible instead of fences and where fences are to be used, gaps are provided in all fences and walls for Hedgehog movement;
- Positively helping Priority Bird Species that nest in buildings – Swift, House Sparrow and Starling - through inclusion and provision of artificial nests and nest space in all new house roofs and walls, plus bat boxes.

11.4.2 This Plan will enable and facilitate the above by requesting that Developers consult with Buckden Parish Council to ensure opportunities and threats to biodiversity and local sites and habitats are identified when working on sites approved within the HDC Local Plan and during the aftercare on these sites.

The aim is that new developments contribute genuine net gain and at no expense to existing sites of high biodiversity value, Priority Species and habitats.

All developments should also demonstrate a clear management plan to maintain and manage sites for biodiversity ongoing and seek to continue to enhance biodiversity opportunities and encourage residents to play their part.

11.4.3 The abundant wildlife and healthy natural environment in which it thrives, with ample opportunities for all to access it, including benefiting from nature’s significant and proven mental and physical health benefits, are a key part of Buckden’s landscape character, quality of life and sustainability.

11.4.4 There is a sense of pride in, and desire to safeguard, the exceptionally rich wildlife of the village which was clearly demonstrated by an overwhelming positive resident’s responses in the village questionnaire.

11.4.5 Encouraging residents to conserve, help and increase habitats for, and populations of, local wildlife, providing education and making it accessible to all are key outcomes of this Plan.

11.5 Biodiversity Policies

<p>Biodiversity 1 Protecting</p>	<p>Sites of biodiversity value and importance for Priority Species in Buckden Parish, as identified and mapped in the Neighbourhood Plan, will be safeguarded from development, with protection prioritised (as informed by the Wildlife Review evidence document).</p> <p>Development proposals that have a significant adverse impact on biodiversity will not be supported unless they retain and enhance the existing network of wildlife-rich habitats, ecological networks, wildlife corridors and stepping stones that connect them, especially where Priority species and the habitats they depend on are known to be present.</p>
<p>Biodiversity 2 Net Gains</p>	<p>All developments will be expected to provide net gains at both habitat and species level, (i.e. increasing species diversity), that does not come from the detriment of Priority Species and the important wildlife sites in the Parish identified in this Plan.</p> <p>Developments will be expected to design in green infrastructure measures that are sensitive to the Parish’s particularly rich biodiversity with generous biodiversity Implementation and Management Plans part of design and layout.</p>

12 Protecting Green Space

12.1.1 Aim: To preserve the “sense of place” and character of Buckden by ensuring that as many of its existing green spaces as possible are protected from development.

12.2 Context

12.2.1 Buckden’s open and green spaces are highly valued. The village has a sports field adjacent to the village hall whilst other green spaces have a less formal amenity value. Community consultation has identified a potential shortage of recreational facilities for young people. Green spaces within the village and around the perimeter also provide important views into and out of the village.

12.2.2 Buckden has significant green spaces around some of its streets, such as Greenway and School Lane. It has some large green spaces which are of great importance to the sense of place and the amenities of the village. It has a limited number of small green spaces, such as Copes Close, which enhance the ambience of their immediate locality. It is essential to the character of the village that these green spaces are protected from development.

12.3 Designating Local Green Spaces

12.3.1 Under the NPPF, Neighbourhood Plans can designate Local Green Spaces which are of particular importance to them. This will afford protection from development other than in very special circumstances. Paragraph 100 of the NPPF states that Local Green Spaces should only be designated:

- *“where the green space is in reasonably proximity to the community it serves;*
- *where the green area is demonstrably special to a local community and holds a particular local significance, for example because of its beauty, historic significance, recreational value (including as a playing field), tranquility or richness of its wildlife;*
- *where the green area concerned is local in character and is not an extensive tract of land.”*

The Parish Council will, in any formal review of the Plan, identify and designate as Local Green Space such other unbuilt on areas within the built boundaries of the village as it considers appropriate. The Parish Council will actively support the provision of new public open space.

12.3.2 The Consultation Statement shows the consultation process adopted for Green Space. The Designated Green Spaces are shown on the map overleaf. They are listed, with reasons for their designation, in Green Spaces Policy 1 and shown on the plans in Appendix 2.

Buckden Neighbourhood Plan - Local Green Spaces



Date Created: 18/03/2020

Scale =1:6,000



FIGURE 24 LOCAL GREEN SPACES

12.4 Other Green Spaces

12.4.1 These are not defined within the NPPF but those listed in Appendix 3 are mostly small-scale public amenity, recreation and informal play spaces, many of them Public Open Spaces by virtue of conditions of Planning Permissions imposed when permission for housing developments were granted, that are within the built area of the village and are important to its character. They give the village a rural feel and an open and friendly ambience. They are spaces open to the public which are looked after by the Parish Council and private owners. Many of them also form wildlife habitats (being planted with trees) and corridors and are essential to the maintenance of the ecology of the village.

Green Space Policies

<p>Green Space 1 – Local Green Space</p>	<p>Proposals for development on Designated Local Green Spaces will not be supported save where such development is in accordance with Green Belt policy and will support and enhance the existing use of the land. The Designated Local Green Spaces are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (A) The allotments. Special because they are the only area of public allotments in the village. They are fully utilized and a valuable source of food and healthy recreation for the residents of the village. They are close to existing dwellings and local in character. (B) The school playing field. Special because it is a large green space in a central part of the village. It is essential to the children in the school as they have no other accessible sports facility. It is a remnant of old farmland and contributes to the rural feel and sense of place of the village. (C) The cemetery. Special because it is an open space in a densely developed, central part of the village, and it is greatly valued by the relatives of those interred there. Those interred all have local connections. (D) The Playing Field. Special because this land was bought by means of public subscription as a memorial to those who fought in the Second World War for public recreation purposes. It should therefore be preserved from development. It is the only large sports facility in the village. It is surrounded on three sides by housing and is a local playing field in character.
<p>Green Space 2 – Other Important Green Spaces</p>	<p>Other Green Spaces listed in Appendix 3 are small scale public amenity, recreational and informal play spaces within the Parish that are important to the character of the village and development will not be supported in these areas unless the proposal preserves the openness of the open green space.</p>

13 The Great Ouse Valley

13.1.1 Aim: Buckden's rare natural environment of the Great Ouse Valley and its surroundings, be recognised and preserved for future generations.

13.1.2 In the Questionnaire when asked, "Are you in favour of the village supporting the designation of the Great Ouse Valley as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty?" - 95% of respondents were in favour of the designation.

Ref: Buckden Neighbourhood Plan Questionnaire, November 2018

13.2 Context²¹

13.2.1 The rural setting of the village and its position as a 'gateway' to the Great Ouse Valley are greatly valued by all who live in Buckden.



FIGURE 25 A TYPICAL SCENE OF BUCKDEN AND GREAT OUSE VALLEY

²¹The Great Ouse Valley - A proposed 'Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty' Ref: <http://www.cprecams.org.uk/im>

13.2.2 The vision for Buckden is to augment its position as an access hub to a unique area of Huntingdonshire for the benefit of tourists and residents alike. The Great Ouse Valley is a valuable community resource for Buckden. People need green spaces and fresh air to thrive. The wonderful countryside of the Great Ouse Valley has protected landscapes and nature reserves, a recognised rich biodiversity, stunning historic buildings and an immense social history dating back at least to the Stone Age. The Great Ouse Valley, and the adjoining landscape and habitats, at Buckden is an extremely important site for biodiversity. It is a key section of an international migration flyway (see Evidence document 22, Wildlife Review), and a source of rich habitat and food for those migrant birds using it. It is home to several Priority Species among an especially rich aquatic species assemblage. The pits, river and meadows that are all accessible via the Ouse Valley Way provide



FIGURE 26 BUCKDEN IS AN IMPORTANT GATEWAY TO THE GREAT OUSE VALLEY

opportunities for walks and enjoyment of wildlife for residents and visitors. The pits and waterways, including Buckden Pits County Wildlife Site are important for breeding, passage and wintering water birds and the HDC Local Plan to 2036 lists the Great Ouse Valley as a Priority Green Infrastructure Area.

- 13.2.3 This area links directly with Paxton Pits to the south and Brampton and Godmanchester to the north in a green corridor for all to enjoy and where a rich assemblage of wildlife thrives.
- 13.2.4 It's a landscape for life, and as such, it is vital that it is protected now, and for future generations. In 2013, an application was submitted to Natural England by a local interest group to designate an area of the Great Ouse Valley and Ouse Washes as an Area of Outstanding Beauty (AONB). This reflects its importance to Buckden, biodiversity, landscape character, people and the local economy.
- 13.2.5 This must be considered in future planning, sustainability, council and commercial decisions, so that inappropriate developments or decisions made that negatively impact the fragile ecosystem of the village and its surrounding areas are avoided. Diversification of agricultural, farming and other land based rural businesses to support the Great Ouse Valley is also important.
- 13.2.6 From the HDC Local Plan to 2036 Green Infrastructure Section: starting from Paragraph 4.26 and including Policy LP 3, A proposal within the Great Ouse Valley Landscape Character Area, defined in the Huntingdonshire Landscape & Townscape Assessment Supplementary Planning Document (2007) or the boundary of the Great Ouse Valley, will be supported where it contributes to the landscape, wildlife, cultural and historical value of the area and this Plan supports that.

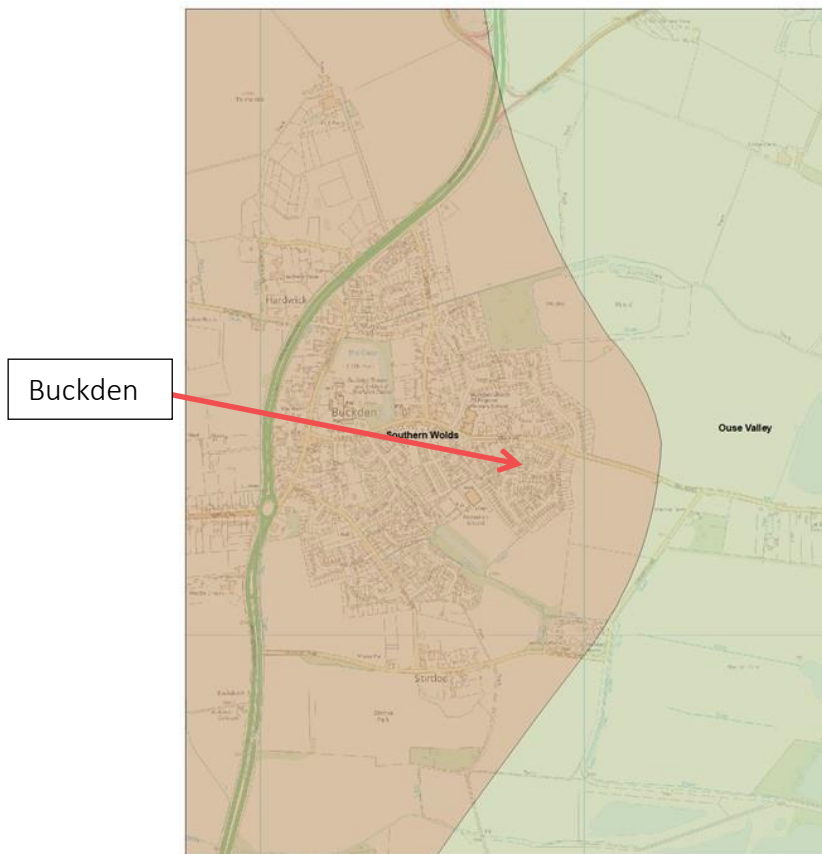


FIGURE 27 GREAT OUSE VALLEY LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREA BOUNDARY REF:
HUNTINGDONSHIRE LANDSCAPE & TOWNSCAPE ASSESSMENT SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING
DOCUMENT (2007)

13.2.7 Within the above vision and constraints, during the timeframe of this plan, the objective is to ensure that Buckden will be an even better place to live, work in and visit than it is now. The natural environment of the Great Ouse Valley will be conserved and enhanced by:

- Buckden protecting the Great Ouse Valley and surrounding countryside that falls within the parish from development
- Keeping any loss of agricultural land to a minimum
- Preventing flooding and activities that would increase the risk of flooding
- Protecting wetlands, meadows, trees and hedgerows and other key habitats within in and surrounding the Great Ouse Valley

13.2.8 Enhancing biodiversity by protecting and increasing habitats and wildlife corridors to and from the Great Ouse Valley and surrounding area to and from the village by:

- Conserving water resources and adjacent habitats
- Promoting sustainable rural tourism or leisure uses and visitor facilities appropriate to the character of a countryside location
- It is recommended that developments gain accreditation under the Building with Nature Toolkit in order to demonstrate how they comply with these policies? ²²

²² • Building with Nature Toolkit <https://www.buildingwithnature.org.uk/about>

13.3 Great Ouse Valley Policies

<p>Great Ouse Valley 1 – Protection of Ouse Valley</p>	<p>Development proposals shall not take place in, or encroach into, the Great Ouse Valley as defined in Policy LP 3 of the Huntingdonshire Local Plan and surrounding land and habitats, to the east of the existing built area of the village.</p> <p>Exceptionally, development proposals to support Anglian Water’s infrastructure, footpath and cycle provision or conservation projects may be supported.</p>
<p>Great Ouse Valley 2 – Light Pollution</p>	<p>Any development in Buckden shall demonstrate a positive design strategy that limits the impact of light pollution from artificial light on the Great Ouse Valley</p>
<p>Great Ouse Valley 3 – Landscape Character and Views</p>	<p>Developments will be supported provided they do not impact the landscape character and unrestricted views to the village and from the village to the Great Ouse Valley designated areas, as described in Buckden’s Landscape Appraisal, Appendix 5 - Protected Views, Gateways, Transition Zones, Scenic Quality and Sense of Arrival and the Local Plan defined Green Infrastructure Priority Area, especially from Greenway, Hoo Close, Mill Road, Church Street and Stirtloe Lane.</p>

14 Preserving the Rural Setting of the Village, Protecting and Enhancing Valued Landscapes

14.1 Aim: To preserve the rural setting of the village and to ensure that access to the countryside and important rural views and open areas are maintained.

14.1.1 *“96% of residents who took part in the Neighbourhood Plan Questionnaire agreed that Buckden’s cultural heritage and rare natural environment be recognised and preserved for future generations”*

14.2 Context

14.2.1 *National Planning Policy Framework Paragraph 170 (part A) of NPPF 2019 states “the planning system should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by Protecting and enhancing valued landscapes”,*

14.2.2 Buckden wishes to maintain its cultural heritage and remain a village.

14.2.3 The village enjoys a unique sense of place derived from the landscape and built environment. Its position surrounded by Grafham Water to the west, the Great Ouse Valley to the east, combined with the village’s, pre-Domesday Book, history is unsurpassed.

14.2.4 In addition, new man-made lakes, resulting from the gravel extraction as part of the A14 works, will create a further, potentially enhanced, natural environment to the north of the village.

14.2.5 In summary, Buckden is surrounded by a living landscape of nature reserves and countryside, rich in diverse and varied wildlife habitats full of endangered and rare, species. This unique environment needs to be recognised and preserved for future generations.

14.2.6 For the purposes of the Neighbourhood Plan, Buckden Parish (excluding the village itself) has been divided into three Character Zones²³ derived from Buckden’s Landscape Appraisal, as described below:

²³ *Buckden Landscape Appraisal – Robin Taylor BA(Hons) DipLA, 1995)*



FIGURE 28 MAP SHOWING BUCKDEN'S LANDSCAPE CHARACTER ZONES

14.3 Village Edge Zone

14.3.1 The Village Zone is exceptionally, and unusually, rich in wildlife due to factors such as ample provision and wildlife-friendly maintenance of green space, trees and scrub, hedgerows and other habitats and good connectivity with the surrounding countryside. Considerate planning has created many good-sized private gardens and green spaces that contribute to village biodiversity and its movement.



FIGURE 29 LOOKING EAST INTO THE GREAT OUSE VALLEY FROM THE VILLAGE EDGE FROM THE EASTERN VILLAGE EDGE ZONE

14.3.2 Buckden should remain an island settlement; the eastern slopes and the low-lying landscapes which surround Buckden should remain open. Development should not cause the village to sprawl e.g. merge into surrounding settlements or migrate into the Great Ouse Valley and surrounding landscape. It is expected that new developments will not obscure the views of the spire of St Mary's Church from the Village Edge Zone.

14.3.3 The strategically important, predominantly undeveloped, gaps between Buckden and Stirtloe, the Offords, Southoe and Brampton, plus the Great Ouse Valley should be maintained. For example the preservation of the narrow strip of land to the east and west of Lucks Lane that provides a landscape gap between the village and the small hamlet of Stirtloe to the south is a gap of great consequence to both village and hamlet.

14.3.4 The village has many species of attractive mature trees and hedgerows, which provide vital habitat for wildlife and green corridors for it to move around. Examples of where green corridor habitats for wildlife have been particularly successfully married with residential developments, can be found on Greenway.

- Definitive, straight edges
- Housing areas that are inward-looking
- Repetition of building style and form
- Mixed boundary styles
- Wide views with little surprise

14.3.5 The Village Edge Zone area adjacent to the east side of the built environment including the high-value farmland, field margins, hedgerows and scrub adjacent to Greenway and Hoo Close is the home of many priority and threatened species - and for many, important populations of them (See Section 10).



FIGURE 30 VIEW FROM THE ANGLIAN WATER ROAD TO THE VILLAGE EDGE, FROM THE EAST, WITH ST MARY'S CHURCH IN THE BACKGROUND

14.3.6 It is a vital wildlife corridor for birds, badgers, bats and other mammals, amphibians, reptiles and insects such as dragonflies, moths and butterflies, forming strong ecological links to and with the Great Ouse Valley and the County Wildlife Sites of Settling Beds East of Silver Street and Buckden Pits.



FIGURE 31 IMPORTANT TRANSITION ZONE FROM THE VILLAGE EDGE TO THE GREAT OUSE VALLEY FROM THE EAST OF THE VILLAGE

14.4 Gravel Pits Zone

14.4.1 Buckden lies on and is surrounded by important mineral resources comprising of river sand and gravel deposits (terrace and sub-alluvial deposits). The deposits are represented by 2m to 5m of clean sand and gravel resting on a grey, chalky till. The sands are coarse to fine grained, have a low silt content and a high, but variable, gravel content of up to 70%.

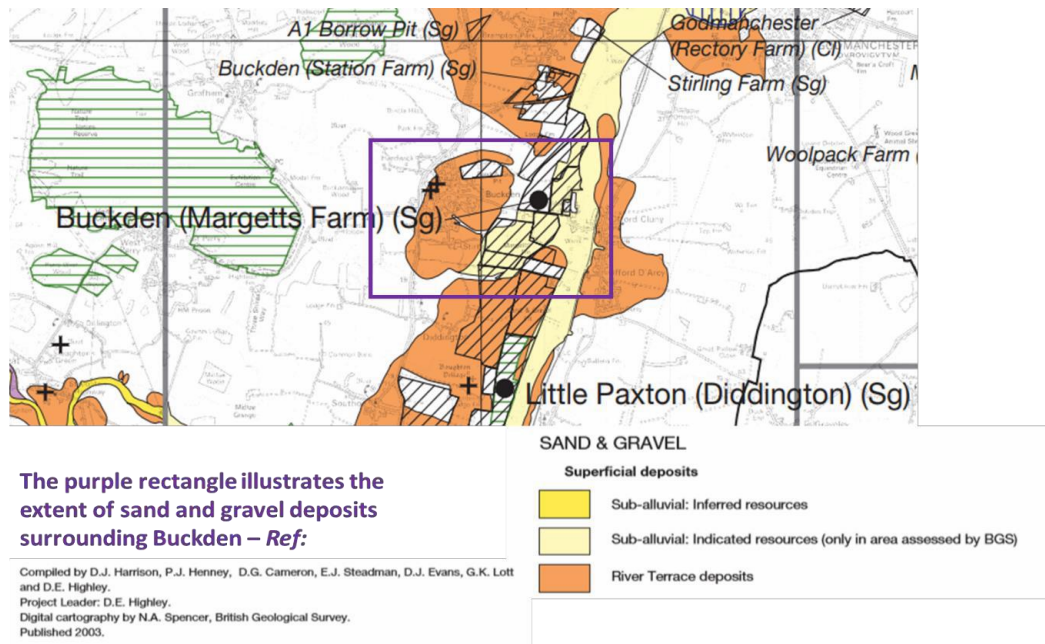


FIGURE 32 MINERAL RESOURCE MAP FOR BUCKDEN TAKEN FROM BRITISH GEOLOGICAL SURVEY 2003

- 14.4.2 The extraction of aggregates can provide valued assets during and after extraction. In conservation terms the UK would be poorer without such assets.
- 14.4.3 Many SSSIs, and some SPAs and SACs, have their origins in quarrying because the quarry, on restoration, has provided a range of habitats and ecological niches (ponds, reed beds, etc) either rare in the UK or lost to other development.
- 14.4.4 Even during working, quarries can provide valuable nesting sites for birds in sand faces and a range of habitats and associated flora and fauna on silt and clean water ponds. Bare mineral surfaces in quarries provide ideal conditions for rare colonising species that can only survive when not overwhelmed by more vigorous species that grow on more productive land and a continuity of such surfaces is desirable.
- 14.4.5 It is now recognised that restored mineral workings can make a major contribution to both biodiversity and geodiversity.



View across one of many lakes at Buckden Pits. Allan Jones 2020

FIGURE 33 A VIEW OF ONE OF THE BUCKDEN PITS LAKES

14.4.6 It is noted, in this Neighbourhood Plan, that in many cases the extraction of gravel and subsequent restoration of mineral workings has enhanced the biodiversity of Buckden and its surrounding area.

14.4.7 2.63 Paragraph 9.3 of the Cambridgeshire Minerals & Waste Core Strategy Development Plan Document (2011) (“CMWCS11”) states:
“The purpose of MSAs is to make sure that mineral resources are adequately taken into account in all land use planning decisions. They do not automatically preclude other forms of development taking place, but flag up the presence of economic mineral so that it is considered and not unknowingly or needlessly sterilised”

14.4.8 This Plan recognises the significant value of the sand and gravel assets surrounding the village edge. It is highlighted that these assets lie primarily to the East of the village in the Great Ouse Valley. The extraction of gravel from the Ouse Valley has enhanced the biodiversity in the mid-term and has, to date, preserved the green corridor that is the Ouse Valley.

This Neighbourhood Plan serves to provide guidance based upon local knowledge and amenity – it strongly recommends that the finite resources of sand and Gravel MSAs are not sterilised.

Further development on land that contains such deposits would prevent their future extraction and therefore, should be discouraged so the mineral assets are preserved for future generations. Although such deposits may not be economic today the plan recognises that this may not be the case in the future.

The Gravel Pit Zone is made up of:

14.4.9 Working Pits

At the time of writing there are working pits in close proximity to the village of Diddington, which has a parish grouping arrangement with Buckden Parish.

They are characterised by:

- Everchanging scene of low sand and gravel mounds and, often water filled, excavations
- Vegetation at the periphery of sites only
- Long and wide views

14.4.10 Former Pits

Characterised by:

- Large water bodies. Definite edges
- Long and wide views
- Initially a visually immature landscape that blends into the natural environment with careful management of diversity and planting:
 - Buckden Pits is now a County Wildlife Site

- The quarry to the north-east of Greenway and Hoo Close (see Figure 15 in the Biodiversity Chapter) – is a site warranting closer study by naturalists. It is already known to host several rare and important species and habitats.
- Few specimen trees augmented with strong sapling growth as the former pits mature.

14.5 Riverside Zone

14.5.1 Characterized by:

- A mosaic of land uses, united by their topography and relationship to the river.
- The constant feature in the landscape is the River Great Ouse. Its meandering channel is approximately 10m wide, although it sometimes splits into smaller channels.
- Wetlands, flood meadows and unimproved grassland are of high ecological value.
- Willow and poplar trees flourish in the valley and increase its sense of identity and enclosure.
- Existing gravel workings, and former workings which have been flooded to create significant areas of open water.
- Many recreational activities, including the Ouse Valley Way, boating and fishing.



FIGURE 34 TYPICAL RIVERSIDE ZONE ALONG BUCKDEN'S GREAT OUSE VALLEY

Ref: Huntingdonshire Landscape and Townscape Assessment, June 2007

14.6 Specific Features Recommended for Preservation / Conservation

14.6.1 Features recommended for preservation in the 1995 Landscape Appraisal are principally still in place. The Hedgerow at Brampton Road is unfortunately no longer present due to its removal as part of the new A14 works. With reference to Buckden's Landscape Appraisal and associated location map the following features continue to be recommended for preservation and/or conservation:

1. The spinney in the 'valley' running east from the pond near the Village Hall.
2. Vegetation alongside Diddington Brook
3. Former Gravel Pits.
4. Hedgerow at Brampton Road – largely removed due to the A14 works, but is being reinstated where possible.
5. Former Railway – the Neighbourhood Plan would be highly supportive of the old railway route being conserved and opened up to cyclists and walkers as, primarily, a leisure route to Grafham Water.

6. Roadside hedge at Mill Road
7. Copse at Stirtloe
8. Fields behind Taylor's Lane

FIGURE 35 MILL ROAD HEDGEROW



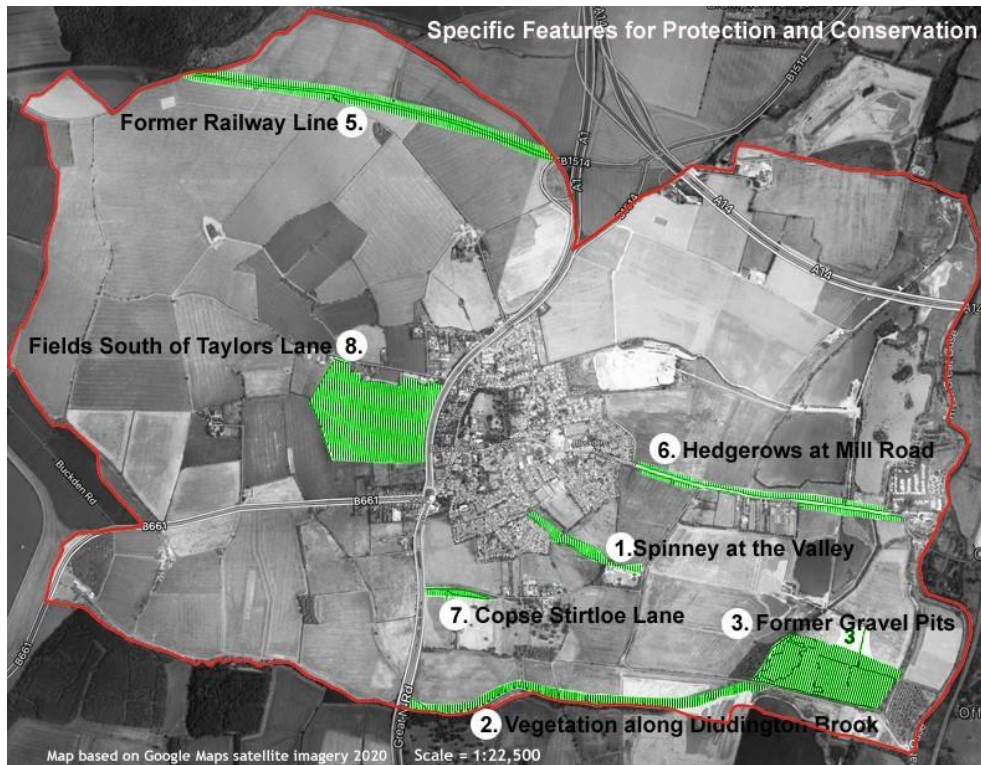


FIGURE 36 MAP OF SPECIFIC FEATURES RECOMMENDED FOR PRESERVATION/CONSERVATION REF: BUCKDEN LANDSCAPE APPRAISAL, TAYOR, 1995.

14.6.2 Appendix 5 contains the following map and associated pictures that illustrate the sense of arrival to Buckden and the scenic quality within the village and the surrounding countryside. Where possible valued views taken from the 1995 Landscape Appraisal have been updated and posted alongside the view in 2020 to illustrate that these views have been preserved. The aim of this Neighbourhood Plan is to continue to preserve these views and the sense of arrival to the village for future generations.

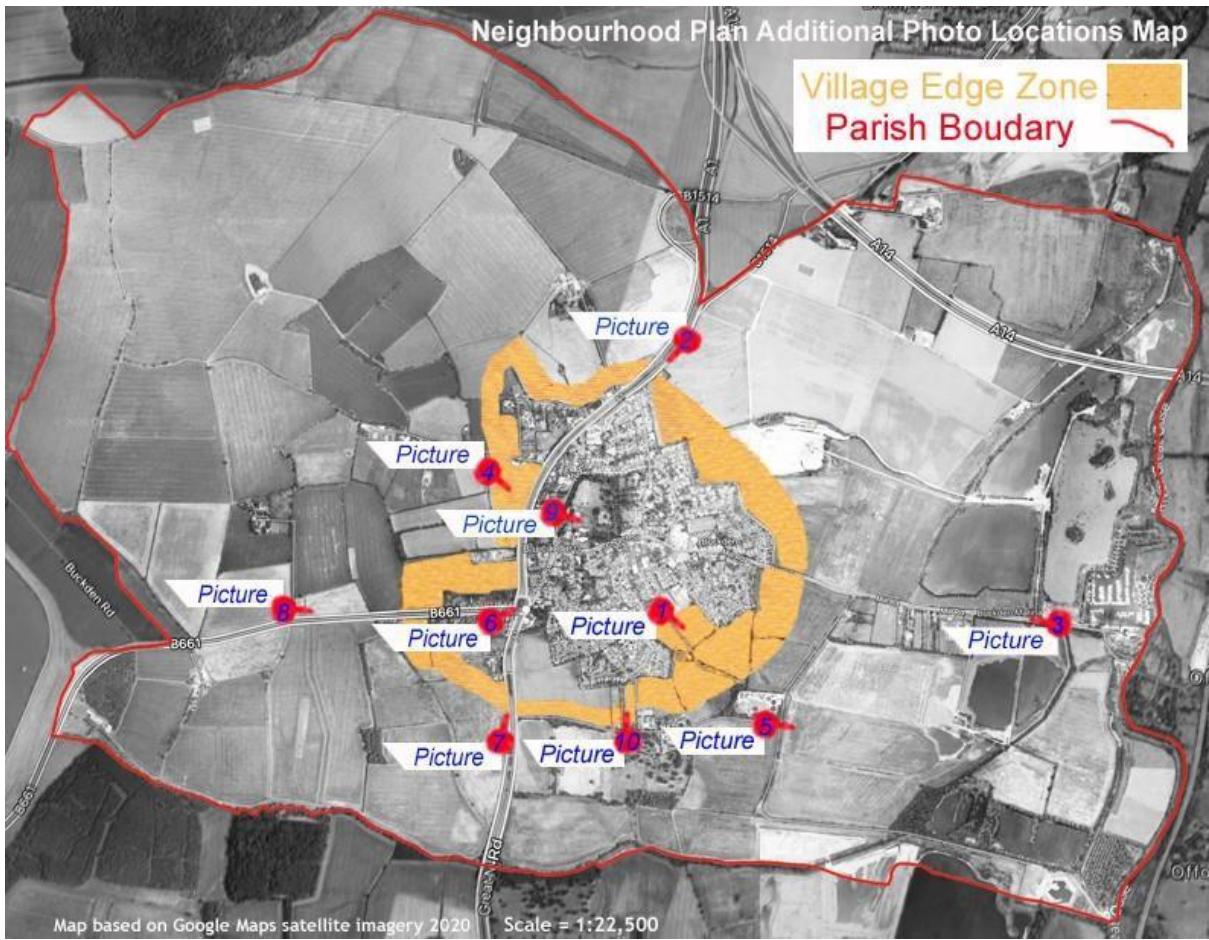


FIGURE 37 MAP SHOWING LOCATIONS OF PICTURES OF VALUED VIEWS PRIMARILY REFERENCING BUCKDEN'S 1995 LANDSCAPE APPRAISAL

14.7 Rural Setting and Landscape Policies

Landscape 1	<p>All development proposals shall be sensitive to the distinctive landscape setting and settlement character of the village, as described in the Buckden Landscape Appraisal and this Neighbourhood Plan. Specifically:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preservation and conservation of the features identified in Figure 36 and recommended for protection in Buckden's Landscape Appraisal. • Locations where the landscape extends into the village shall be protected from development where this would result in undermining a strong connection between settlement, countryside and, in particular, the Great Ouse Valley.
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The sense of arrival and distinctiveness at existing settlement gateways (Appendix 5) should remain intact or be strengthened in accordance with the recommendations in the Buckden Landscape Appraisal. • Developments should conserve landscape features such as mature trees, hedgerows, ponds, meadows, woodlands, areas rich in wildflowers and water courses as described in the Buckden Landscape Appraisal and illustrated in Appendix 5. • Development proposals should respect and do not adversely impact upon the key views from the edge of Buckden village out into the countryside and the views from the countryside into the Buckden village (Appendix 5).
Landscape 2	<p>Where potential development impacts on Buckden’s distinctive landscape and settlement character, applicants will be expected to demonstrate accordance with these principles through the provision of an assessment of landscape and visual impacts (proportionate to the scheme proposed) and drawing, in this process, on guidance and recommendations in the Buckden Landscape Appraisal. It is expected that the proposals should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • existing and proposed hard and soft landscaping including for sustainable drainage • a survey of all existing trees and hedgerows on and adjacent to the proposed development site • an outline of the measures to be taken to protect existing trees and hedgerows during construction and after development • consideration of both near and distant views of the development from the principal public vantage points showing existing landscaping and that proposed to be established after 15 years • details, where appropriate, of how those areas to be retained for open space and/or woodland will be managed in the future and how such management will be funded.

15 Monitoring

15.1.1 A Neighbourhood Plan Monitoring Group is part of the Parish Council meeting structure to scrutinise and monitor conformance with the policies within the plan. This group will also have responsibility for overseeing the implementation of the Community Action Plan. Terms of reference for the group are as follows:

15.2 Purpose

15.2.1 The purpose of the Monitoring Group is two-fold:

- to ensure that the actions contained in the Community Action Plan are being delivered by the Parish Council, working alongside a variety of partners.
- to review the application of the policies within the Neighbourhood Plan, in particular by the Planning Authority in their determination of planning applications.

15.3 Responsibilities

- To monitor progress on compliance with Neighbourhood Plan Policies by developers, Local Planning Authority, Highways England and Cambridgeshire County Council.
- To monitor the application of the Neighbourhood Plan Policies by Buckden Parish Council and Huntingdon District Council in relation to planning applications.
- To monitor progress of actions with the Community Action plan by Parish Advisory Groups and partners
- To produce a detailed annual report for each Annual Parish Meeting.
- To recommend any additions, amendments or updates to Policies or Action Points for consideration in any future review of the Neighbourhood Plan.
- To monitor the overall effectiveness of the Plan in the previous 12 months and the likely implications and impact of the Plan for the forthcoming year.

15.4 Monitoring Criteria

15.4.1 Monitoring Criteria will include:

- The degree to which planning applications comply with Neighbourhood Plan policies
- The ongoing capacity and performance of local services
- The levels of traffic congestion in the village
- The levels of pollution in the village, particularly at the school and roads leading to the roundabout.
- The safety of roads
- The increase in miles of footpaths and cycle ways
- The degree to which wildlife has been protected

- Increase/decrease in biodiversity
- The capacity of both school and GP services

Specific policies may also be reviewed.

15.5 Membership

15.5.1 The Delivery and Monitoring Group will consist of:

- the Chair of the Parish Council,
- the Chair of the Parish Council Large Scale Planning Committee,
- the Chair of the Financial Advisory Group, the Parish Clerk and
- three co-opted members of the public.

15.6 Meetings

15.6.1 The Monitoring Group will meet quarterly. Minutes of the meetings will be posted on the BPC website.

15.6.2 Review of Neighbourhood Plan

15.6.3 The NP will be reviewed every five years to ensure that the plan is up to date and continues to work well against a changing national and local planning policy context.

16 Appendix 1 - List of Evidence

16.1.1 The documents listed in this appendix comprise the evidence used throughout the Neighbourhood Plan to support the conclusions reached. Due to the number and size of the documents they are not included physically here.

- Doc 1 Pell Frischmann Land at Buckden - Transport Assessment - Final Report 101321, November 2018 (C)
- Doc 2 Buckden Design Guidelines written by AECOM May 2019 (A)
- Doc 3- Buckden Housing Needs Assessment. Produced by AECOM June 2019 (A)
- Doc 4 Demographic and Socio-Economic Review Produced by ACRE Feb 2019 (C)
- Doc 5 Output from Scoping the Plan Workshop. Produced by ACRE. Feb 2019 (C)
- Doc 6 Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan Sept 2019 (A)
- Doc 7- Neighbourhood Planning Residents Questionnaire (A)
- Doc 8 Building for Life 12 initiative.
www.designcouncil.org.uk/sites/default/files/asset/document/Building%20for%20Life%2012_0.pdf
- Doc 9 Lifetime Homes Standards Design Criteria
www.housingnet.co.uk/pdf/Habinteg-accessible-housing-policy.
- Doc 10: Healthy Streets <https://healthystreets.com/home/about/>
- Doc 11: Natural England Green Space Standards
www.naturalengland.org.uk/regions/east_of_england/ourwork/gi/accessiblenaturalgreenspacestandardangst.aspx
- Doc 12: Building with Nature Toolkit
<https://www.buildingwithnature.org.uk/about>
- Doc 13: Buckden Landscape Appraisal – Robin Taylor BA(Hons) DipLA, 1995 (C)
- Doc 14: Buckden Neighbourhood Plan: The Planning Policy Context. Produced by ACRE August 2019 (C)
- Doc 15 Buckden Rights of Way Paths/ Buckden footpath leaflet (A)
- Doc 16 Cambridgeshire County Council Emerging Education Requirements February 2020
- Doc 17 Buckden Conservation Area Character Statement 1995
- Doc 18 Letter from Managing Partner of Buckden GP service
- Doc 19 Archaeological Notes for Buckden Parish Council Neighbourhood Plan (Barry Jobling 2020)
- Doc 20 Mark Ward CV
- Doc 21 Housing our Ageing Populations Panel for Innovation (HAPPI)
- Doc 22 Buckden Biodiversity and Ecology Appraisal

- Doc 23 Rights of Way Circular (1/09) - Guidance for Local Authorities, Version 2, October 2009
- Doc 24 Huntingdonshire District Council Design Guide – 2017
- Doc 25 National Planning Policy Framework - Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government, February 2019
- Doc 26 National Standards for Sustainable Drainage Systems: Designing, constructing, operating and maintaining drainage for surface runoff - DEFRA, December 2011
- Doc 27 Huntingdonshire Landscape & Townscape Assessment Supplementary Planning Document (2007)
- Cambridgeshire Green Infrastructure Strategy (2011)

17 Appendix 2 - Designated Local Green Spaces

(A) The allotments. Special because they are the only area of public allotments in the village. They are fully utilized and a valuable source of food and healthy recreation for the residents of the village.

(B) The school playing field. Special because it is a large green space in a central part of the village. It is essential to the children in the school as they have no other accessible sports facility. It is a remnant of old farmland and contributes to the rural feel and sense of place of the village.

(C) The cemetery. Special because it is an open space in a densely developed part of the village, and it is greatly valued by the relatives of those interred there.

(D) The Playing Field. Special because this land was bought by means of public subscription as a memorial to those who fought in the Second World War and therefore should be preserved from development. It is the only large sports facility in the village.



FIGURE 38 ALLOTMENT GARDENS AREA



FIGURE 39 PRIMARY SCHOOL AREA

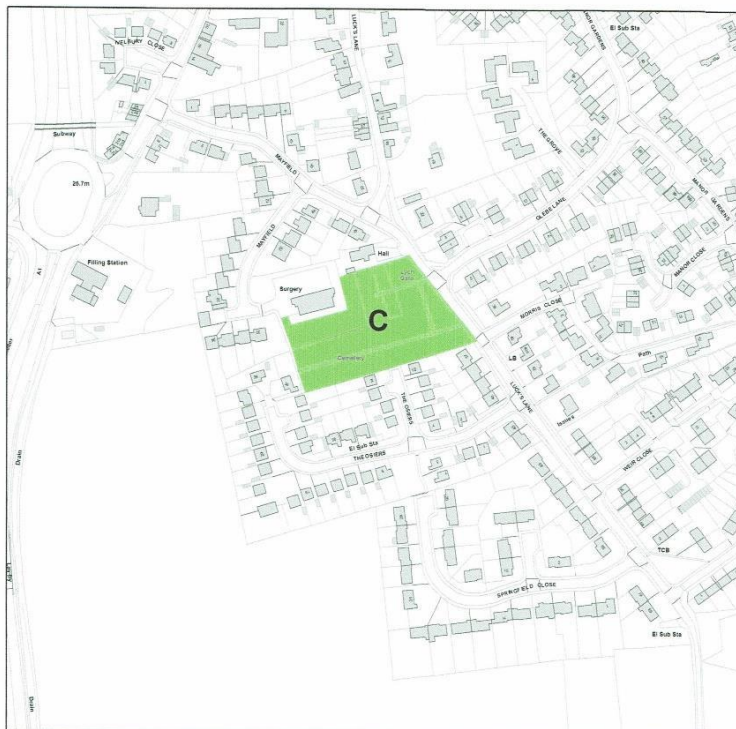


FIGURE 40 CEMETERY AREA

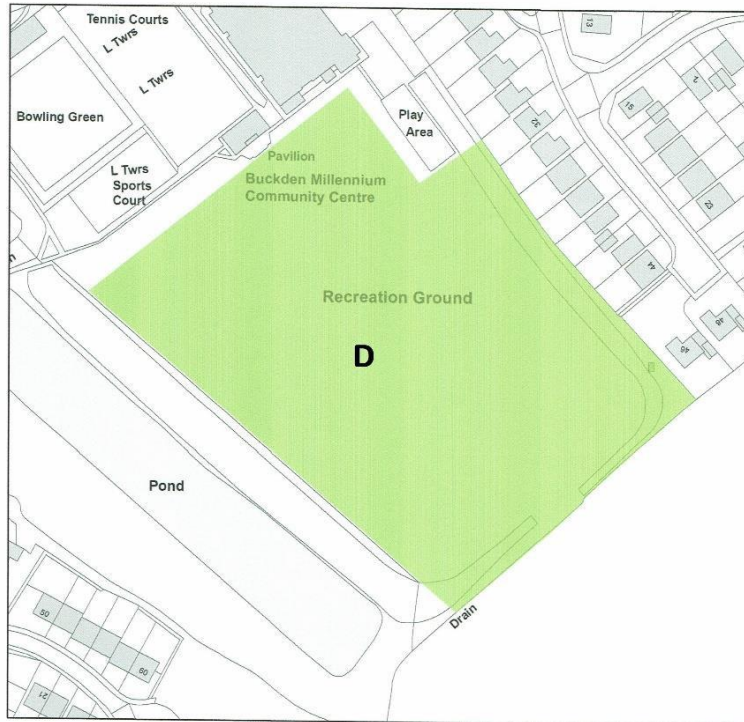


FIGURE 41 RECREATION GROUND AREA

Buckden Neighbourhood Plan - Other Green Spaces



FIGURE 42 OTHER GREEN SPACES

- 1 and 2. Land at Beaufort Drive providing open amenity and play space in a densely developed location
3. Land At the centre of Lincoln Close being a key design feature of this former council estate.
4. and 5. Land fronting the north end of High Street which is essential to the open feel of the locality
6. Land fronting High Street providing a key wildlife corridor and buffer zone.
7. Land at the corner of Church Street and Manor Gardens, giving an open feel to the access into Manor Gardens.
- 8, 9, 10 and 11. Areas within Manor Gardens estate contributing to the character of the estate and the rural feel of the village.
12. Land at Glebe Way contributing to the open feel of the development there.
13. Land at Lucks Lane enhancing the rural feel of the village.
14. Land between Springfield Close and The Osiers forming a valuable informal play area.
15. Land fronting bungalows at Cranfield Way, giving an open feel to the entrance to the estate and enhancing the ambience of the bungalows for the benefit of their residents.
- 16 to 25 (inclusive). Small areas of land within the Park Road and Vineyard Way estate being informal play areas, and public amenity enhancing the semi-rural feel of these developments.
- 26 and 27. Land at Copes Close and Hunts End, containing a wildlife pond and being an essential mitigation of the less attractive features of the shops fronting the village green.
28. The village green of historical importance and contributing to the rural feel of the village.
29. Land at the entry to the main part of the village from the Offords providing an open welcoming feel to the village.
- 30 to 42 (inclusive). Areas of open amenity, informal play and recreation within the Greenway/School Lane developments, allocated as public amenity spaces under planning consents for neighbouring properties and contributing significantly to the open and generous ambience of the area.
43. A large amenity area, planted with trees and contributing to the rural feel of the village.
44. A continuation of area 43 and having a similar purpose.

19 Appendix 4: Listed Buildings in Buckden

1 and 3, Lucks Lane	Coach House and Stables to Stirtloe House
1-8 Almshouses	Coach House to Number 2
15, 17 and 19, Taylors Lane	Curtain Wall to Buckden Palace
16, Lucks Lane	Field House
18 and 20, Mill Road	Forge to South of the George Hotel
2, Lucks Lane	Gate Piers to Stirtloe House
4, Silver Street	Gates, Gate Piers and Wall to Number 2
40, Church Street	Headstone, South of Porch at St Mary's Parish Church
41, 43 and 45, High Street	Horseshoes
45, Church Street	Ivy House
47, High Street	Jessamine House
5 and 7, Lucks Lane	K6 Telephone Kiosk
5, 7 and 9, Church Street	Low Farm
50, Silver Street	Lucks Cottage
51, High Street	Outer Gateway and Boundary Wall
52, Silver Street	Parish Church of St Mary
53, High Street	Spread Eagle (Former Public House – now housing)
61 and 63, High Street	St Mary's Cottage
61, Church Street	Stirtloe House
65 and 67, High Street	Sycamore House
75, High Street	Table Tomb, South of Porch at St Mary's Parish Church
8, Lucks Lane	The George Hotel
93, High Street	The Great Tower
Barn to North West of Number 51	The Inner Gatehouse
Boundary Wall to North of Stirtloe House	The Lion Hotel
Bridge House	* The Manor House three Willows
Buckden House	The Mews
Churchyard Boundary Wall to West of St Mary's Parish Church	

The Old Vicarage

The Towers

The Vine

Valency House

Vernon House

White House

York House

20 Appendix 5: Landscape – Protected Views, Gateways, Transition Zones, Scenic Quality and Sense of Arrival

The rural landscape that surrounds Buckden is in good condition and has many facets. Buckden is a gateway to the Great Ouse Valley, a potential AONB. Its countryside has scenic quality along with wildness and tranquillity. There are both natural and cultural heritage features, some of which date back to pre-Saxon times, that are highly valued and need to be preserved.

The map and pictures below illustrate the sense of arrival to Buckden and the scenic quality within the village and the surrounding countryside. Where possible valued views taken from the 1995 Landscape Appraisal have been updated and posted alongside the view in 2020 to illustrate that these views have been preserved for many years. The aim of this Neighbourhood Plan is to continue to preserve these valued views and the sense of arrival to the village for future generations.

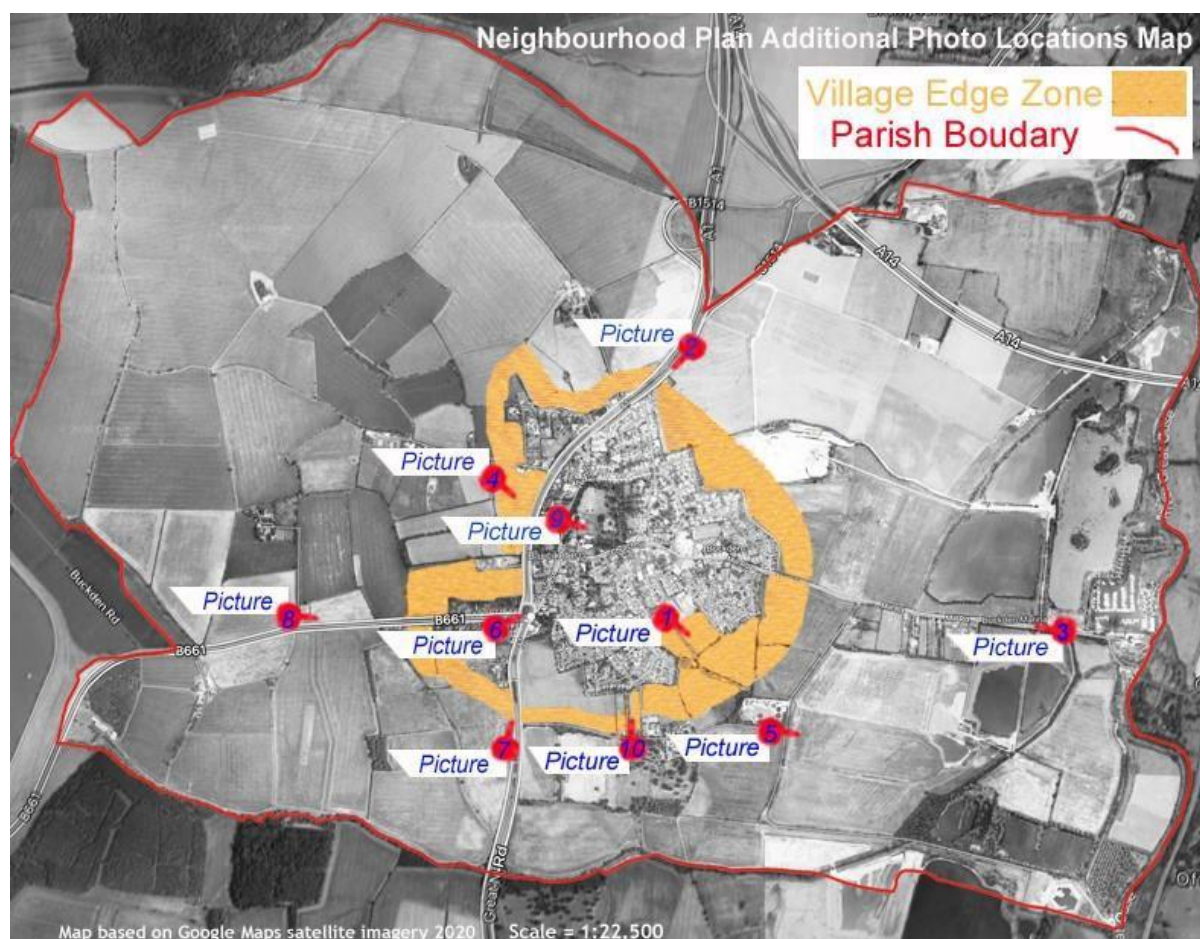


FIGURE 43 MAP SHOWING LOCATIONS OF PICTURES OF VALUED VIEWS PRIMARILY REFERENCING BUCKDEN'S 1995 LANDSCAPE APPRAISAL



FIGURE 44 PICTURE 1 - THE REAR OF THE PROPERTIES ON VINEYARD WAY AND VIEW OF THE VILLAGE HALL PLAYING FIELD

Picture 1 illustrates the growth and enhancement of the visual amenity since the original photo was taken in 1995. Trees have matured and have been planted to improve both views and biodiversity.

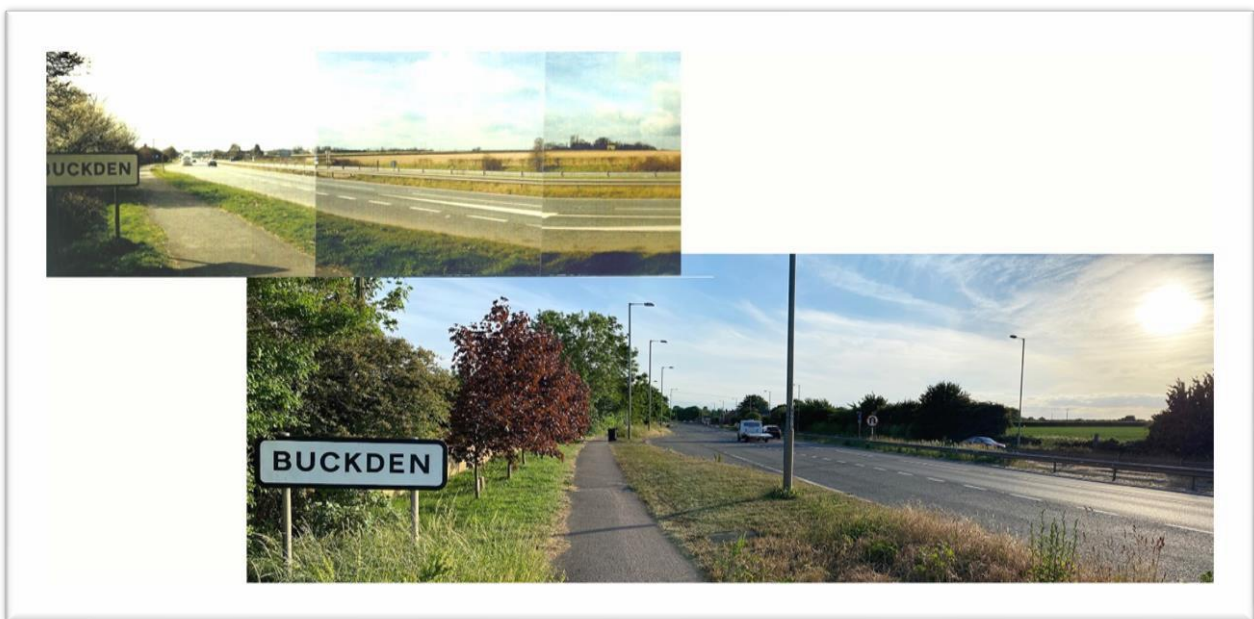


FIGURE 45 PICTURE 2 - A1 LOOKING SOUTH TOWARDS HARDWICK LANE AND PARK FARM

Picture 2 shows the sense of arrival from the north into Buckden via the A1. Hedgerows have been enhanced and trees planted since 1995. It also illustrates how careful planting can mitigate the impact of the A1. Open views to the west continue to be preserved.

Picture 3 highlights the preservation of the roadside hedges along Mill Road as Buckden is approached from the Great Ouse Valley from the east. The hedgerows serve to control the wide views from either side and focus the view up to the village.



FIGURE 46 PICTURE 3 - ROADSIDE HEDGE AT MILL ROAD LOOKING WEST TOWARDS BUCKDEN VILLAGE

Picture 4 illustrates the sense of arrival for the Village Edge Zone from the west with the spire of St Mary's Church on the skyline to the left of the photograph. It is expected that the current views of the spire from the edge of the village be preserved. . The iconic view of the spire provides residents with a sense of connection with the centre of the village and associated community from the outskirts of the village. If the village were to develop beyond this visual limit, due to unfettered or excess development, it is likely that Buckden's centuries old cultural existence as a village will be lost to the detriment of future generations.



FIGURE 47 PICTURE 4 - VIEW FROM THE FIELDS SOUTH OF TAYLORS LANE



FIGURE 48 PICTURE 5 JUNCTION OF LEADENS LANE WITH STIRTLOE LANE

Picture 5 illustrates legacy of sand and gravel extraction primarily to the east of the village. The sterile environment of working sand and gravel extraction in 1995 has been restored and

has now become visually mature. Lakes are now surrounded by lush vegetation, hedgerow and a high degree of biodiversity from the harshness of the previous landscape.

Picture 6 shows the dominant feature of the Buckden Roundabout. Again, the spire of St Mary's Church, seen in the background on this entrance to the village from Perry Road can also be seen from the A1 coming north, gives the visitor a strong sense of arrival to the village. The views of St Mary's Church and Buckden Towers are the only valued views in this scene.

The increasing maturity of the trees and shrubs disrupts the visual impact of the A1 somewhat, but the majority of villagers surveyed would like an A1 bypass of the village to remove traffic, air and noise pollution from the village.



FIGURE 49 PICTURE 6 - BUCKDEN ROUNDABOUT

Picture 7 again highlights the sense of arrival from the south with clear views, across open countryside, to St Mary's Church and Buckden Towers. The sight of the spire of St Mary's Church, from the village edge zone, is a view that should be preserved from development encroachment



FIGURE 50 PICTURE 7 - ARRIVAL TO BUCKDEN FROM THE A1 SOUTH SHOWING THE VIEW OF BUCKDEN TOWERS AND ST MARY'S CHURCH



FIGURE 51 PICTURE 8 - VIEW OF ST MARY'S CHURCH SPIRE FROM PERRY ROAD

Picture 8 again illustrates the sense of arrival to the village with views of St Mary's Church Spire as the village is approached from the west via Perry Road. Note that the small copses are valuable landscape features because they, 'punctuate', the landscape of the roads.



FIGURE 52 PICTURE 9 - BUCKDEN TOWERS AND ST MARY'S CHURCH

Picture 9 showing Buckden Towers and St Mary's Church is the culmination of the sense of arrival to the village. Buckden Towers has been the historical centre of the village since the 12th century. It is a focal point for residents of the village. The views of the Towers and Church are very evocative and foster a strong sense of both community and belonging to villagers who wish Buckden to remain a village.



FIGURE 53 PICTURE 10 - STIRTLOE LANE PUBLIC FOOTPATH LEADING TO CRANFIELD CLOSE
Picture 10 illustrates the small separation between the hamlet of Stirtloe and Buckden. The houses on the skyline of the picture show the perimeter housing of Buckden when viewed from the footpath from Stirtloe. It is expected that this separation be preserved from development to conserve the physical separation and social identity of both village and hamlet.

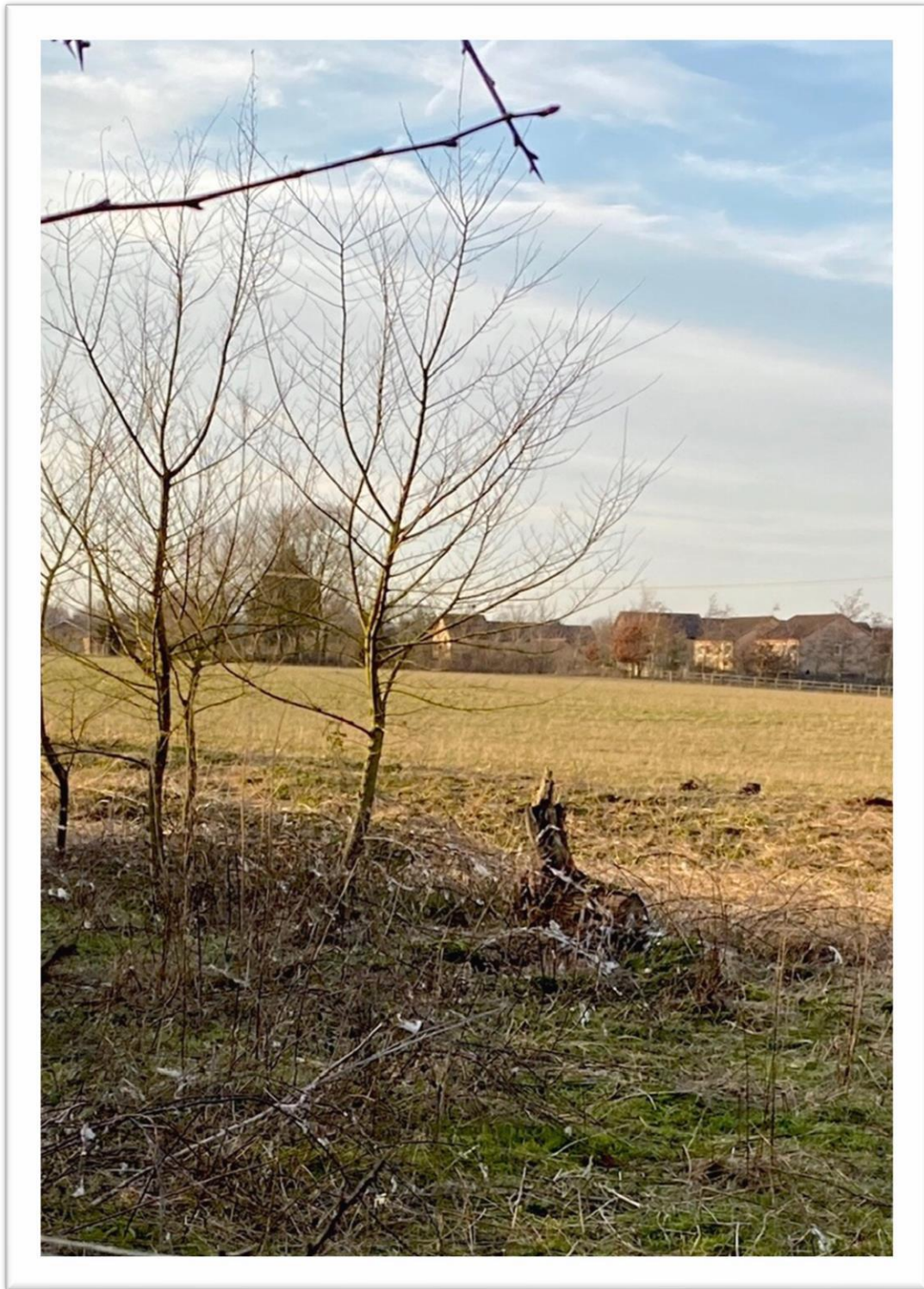


FIGURE 54 PICTURE 11 BUCKDEN FROM THE STIRTLOE END OF LUCKS LANE

Picture 11 shows the view across open land From Stirtloe Lane looking west at the southern edge of the village. New Bloor Homes development distance left and distance right Cranfield Close. It again illustrates the expectation of separation between Buckden and the hamlet of Stirtloe.

21 Appendix 6: Potential Projects for CIL Funding

- At the time of preparing this plan the total amount of CIL funding available to Buckden Parish Council is very unclear due to the uncertainty about the Silver Street development and the timing of approval of the Buckden Neighbourhood Plan. Therefore, a list of possible projects is set out below with an indication of the potential cost. These can be further prioritized when the amount of CIL funding is known.
- In accordance with Government guidelines the Parish council will seek to agree infrastructure spending priorities with HDC but is not obliged to spend CIL money in accordance with HDC's priorities.
- The Parish council will spend CIL money on infrastructure and other facilities needed to deliver the Neighbourhood Plan and to support development within the Neighbourhood Area.
- Set out below are the infrastructure and facilities that, at this point in time, the Parish Council considers should be given priority in funding from CIL money.
- A complete list of all the projects proposed for the village is listed in the CAP, including those where CIL funding is not sought and other funding sources are required.
- The order of projects within the table below does not imply priority.

Project	Lead	BPC Priority	Estimated Cost	Potential Funding Source
Increased play provision for 5-12-year olds	VHT	H	M	CIL
An outdoor facility for 12-18-year olds	VHT	H	M/H	CIL
Create nature and fitness trail in the valley tying in with the schools' curriculum and local health & well-being initiatives	VHT	M	M/H	CIL
Improve drainage of football and cricket pitches to improve availability and capacity	VHT	H	M	CIL
Replace existing tarmac paths around the recreation ground	VHT	H	M	CIL
To put in place comprehensive digital mapping of the village to assist in all aspects of PC work	BPC	H	L	CIL/Precept
Improve safety of the cycle path from Buckden to Hinchingsbrooke School	BPC	H	M/H	CIL in consultation with Brampton
A new walking and cycling route through Paxton Pits, towards Little Paxton and St Neots. This includes a link via Diddington and the planned	BPC	M	H	CIL but crosses Parish boundaries

Project	Lead	BPC Priority	Estimated Cost	Potential Funding Source
Paxton Pits circular cycle route. (SN2a)				
An improved walking and cycling path from Buckden to the Offord's. (SN3)	BPC	M	M	CIL in consultation with Offord
A new leisure route linking Buckden and Brampton with Grafham Village and the reservoir via Brampton Road or Church Commission land. (SN4a and SN4b)	BPC	M	H	CIL but crosses Parish boundaries
Accessibility and road danger reduction measures throughout Buckden. These are aimed principally at making the village more accessible for pedestrians, cyclists and those with restricted mobility.	BPC	H	H	CIL
Support the provision of Alternative Natural Green Spaces <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further opportunities to improve the allotments as a facility for the community will be sought and encouraged • New wood for Buckden, increase tree canopy cover, provide trees where it is within our powers to do so 	BPC	M	L	CIL
Fund the 5 metre extension of the cycle route that goes under the A1 from the bridge to Mere Lane	BPC	M	M	CIL
Produce and updated landscape appraisal and HNA.	BPC	M	L	CIL

NB. VHT refers to the Village Hall Trust

Key

High Cost: £250k plus

Medium Cost: £50 - £250k

Low Cost Less than: £50k

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Emp No	Name	Basic Allowance	Special Responsibility Allowance	Arrears	Care & Other Allowances	Civic Allowance	Travel Expenses	Subsistance	Grand Total	
33565	ALBAN TIMOTHY CLLR	£4,613.22		£3.54					£4,616.76	
34561	BANKS BARRY CLLR	£4,613.22		£3.54					£4,616.76	
34562	BELLAMY RICHARD CLLR	£2,295.24		£3.54					£2,298.78	
34563	BESLEY LEWIS CLLR	£4,613.22	£634.26	£11.54					£5,259.02	
34564	BEUTTELL MARGARET CLLRM	£4,613.22	£8,605.53	£10.15					£13,228.90	
32488	BULL GRAHAM CLLR	£4,613.22	£2,678.46	£32.99					£7,324.67	
34565	BURTON SHAUN CLLR	£4,613.22		£4.28					£4,617.50	
23639	BUTLER ERIC CLLR	£4,613.22	£1,561.50	-£163.37					£6,011.35	
34566	BYWATER SIMON CLLR	£4,613.22	£6,839.79	£284.82					£11,737.83	
32216	CHAPMAN BARRY CLLR	£4,613.22		£3.54			£66.60		£4,683.36	
34567	CLARKE JEFFREY CLLR	£4,613.22	£2,157.27	£5.21					£6,775.70	
33246	CONBOY SARAH CLLRM	£4,613.22	£1,375.47	£12.12					£6,000.81	
34568	COOPER-MARSH JUSTIN CLLR	£4,613.22		£3.54					£4,616.76	
34569	CORNEY STEPHEN CLLR	£4,613.22	£4,963.98	£2,050.79					£11,627.99	
25034	CRISWELL STEPHEN CLLR	£4,613.22	£6,469.26	£8.48					£11,090.96	
20013	DAVIES JOHN CLLR	£2,907.72	£394.74	£92.91		£2,265.50	£21.60		£5,682.47	
24491	DEW DOUGLAS CLLR	£4,613.22	£6,445.77	£17.01					£11,076.00	
34570	DIAZ ANITA CLLRM	£4,613.22		£3.54					£4,616.76	
33250	DICKINSON ANGELA CLLRMS	£4,613.22	£2,497.26	-£160.45					£6,950.03	
32689	FULLER RYAN CLLR	£4,613.22	£16,402.23	£16.10			£60.30		£21,091.85	
33561	GARDENER IAN CLLR	£4,613.22	£1,781.04	£65.57					£6,459.83	
34571	GASKIN PHILIP CLLR	£4,613.22	£712.53	£4.08					£5,329.83	
34590	GILES DEREK CLLR	£4,613.22		£3.54					£4,616.76	
33879	GILES SANDRA CLLRM	£4,613.22		£3.54					£4,616.76	
25037	GRAY JONATHAN CLLR	£4,613.22	£8,605.53	£10.15					£13,228.90	
34572	GRICE MICHAEL CLLR	£4,613.22		£3.54					£4,616.76	
34573	GULSON KEVIN CLLR	£4,613.22	£634.26	£11.54					£5,259.02	
34574	HUMPHREY MICHAEL CLLR	£4,613.22	£634.26	£11.54					£5,259.02	
34582	JOHNSON NIK CLLR	£4,613.22	£634.26	£11.54					£5,259.02	
33828	JORDAN PATRICIA CLLRMS	£4,613.22		£3.54					£4,616.76	
34588	KADEWERE PATRICK CLLR	£4,613.22		£3.54					£4,616.76	
34575	KEANE DAVID CLLR	£4,613.22	£8,605.53	£10.15					£13,228.90	
34576	MASLEN COLIN CLLR	£4,613.22	£634.26	£11.54					£5,259.02	
34586	MASSON HAMISH CLLR	£4,613.22		£3.54					£4,616.76	
30830	MCGUIRE LAWRENCE CLLR	£4,613.22	£1,910.01	-£42.97		£592.00			£7,072.26	
33566	MEAD DAVID CLLR	£4,613.22		£3.54					£4,616.76	
32990	MORRIS JOHN CLLR	£4,613.22		£3.54					£4,616.76	
34577	NEISH JONATHAN CLLR	£4,613.22	£12,301.53	£17.00			£244.80		£17,176.55	
33567	PALMER JOHN CLLR	£4,613.22	£2,768.22	-£292.52					£7,088.92	
34578	PRENTICE KEITH CLLR	£4,613.22	£8,605.53	£10.89					£13,229.64	
35075	ROBERTS ADAM CLLR	£4,613.22	£479.25	£28.39					£5,120.86	
22825	SANDERSON THOMAS CLLR	£4,613.22	£5,092.47	£1,050.15					£10,755.84	
32036	SHRAPNEL PATRICIA CLLRM	£4,613.22		£3.54					£4,616.76	
34579	SMITH SALLY CLLRM	£4,613.22	£634.26	£10.82					£5,258.30	
33881	TAVENER JILL CLLRM	£3,950.94	£610.24	£4.08					£4,565.26	
34580	TERRY DOUGLAS CLLR	£4,613.22		£3.54					£4,616.76	
21129	TUPLIN RICHARD CLLR	£4,613.22	£634.26	£11.54			£19.80		£5,278.82	
32217	TYSOE DARREN CLLR	£4,613.22	£4,963.98	£232.00					£9,809.20	
34583	WAKEFORD SAMUEL CLLR	£4,613.22		£3.54					£4,616.76	
34581	WELLS DAVID CLLR	£4,613.22		£3.54					£4,616.76	
30489	WEST RICHARD CLLR	£4,613.22	£3,097.47	-£28.94					£7,681.75	
34926	WILSON SARAH CLLRM	£4,613.22		£3.54					£4,616.76	
		£235,201.68	£124,364.41	£3,426.39		£0.00	£2,857.50	£413.10	£0.00	£366,263.08

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ANNEX B

**MEMBERS' ATTENDANCES
AT MEETINGS OF THE COUNCIL, CABINET, COMMITTEES AND PANELS**

MUNICIPAL YEAR 2020/21

COUNCIL <i>(met on 5 occasions)</i>			
Alban, T	5	Humphrey, M	4
Banks, B S	4	Johnson, Dr N	5
Bellamy, R E <i>(until 16.09.20)</i>	0	Jordan, Mrs P A	4
Besley, L A	5	Kadewere, P	5
Beuttell, Mrs M L	5	Keane D N	5
Bull, G J	5	Maslen, C J	5
Burton, S M	4	Masson, H V	4
Butler, E R	5	McGuire L W	5
Bywater, S	5	Mead, D J	5
Chapman, B S	4	Morris, J P	4
Clarke, J	4	Neish, J	5
Conboy, Mrs S J	5	Palmer, J M	5
Cooper-Marsh J C	1	Prentice, K I	5
Corney, S J	5	Roberts, A	5
Criswell, S J	4	Sanderson, T D	5
Davies, J W <i>(until 19.03.21)</i>	5	Shrapnell, Mrs P E	3
Dew, D B	5	Smith, Mrs S	4
Diaz, Ms A <i>(until 23.03.21)</i>	5	Tavener, Mrs J <i>(until February 2021)</i>	3
Dickinson, Ms A	5	Terry, D	5
Fuller, R	5	Tuplin, R G	4
Gardener, I D	5	Tysoe, D M	5
Gaskin, P L R	5	Wakeford, S	5
Giles, D A	5	Wells, D J	3
Giles, Mrs S	5	West, R J	5
Gray, J A	5	Wilson, Mrs S	5
Grice, M S	5		
Gulson, K P	5		

CABINET <i>(met on 12 occasions)</i>			
Beuttell, Mrs M L	11	Keane, D	12
Bywater, S	11	Neish, J	11
Fuller, R	11	Prentice, K I	11
Gray, J A	12	Palmer, J (Cabinet Assistant)	12

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE <i>(met on 5 occasions)</i>			
Bull, G J	5	Kadewere, P	5
Burton, S M <i>(until 24.2.21)</i>	3	Masson, H V	5
Butler, E R	5	McGuire, L W	4
Cooper-Marsh, J C <i>(from 24.2.21)</i>	1	Morris, J P	4
Gaskin, P L R	5	West, R J	5
Giles, D A	4	Wilson, S R	4
Gulson, K	5		

DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE <i>(met on 12 occasions)</i>			
Besley, L A	11	Johnson, Dr N	9
Burton, S (from 24.2.21)	2	Maslen, C J	10
Butler, E R	11	Neish, J	11
Conboy, Mrs S J	12	Roberts, A	12
Corney, S J	12	Sanderson, T D <i>(until 24.2.21)</i>	9
Dew, D B	11	Smith, Mrs S	11
Gardener, I	11	Tuplin, R G	11
Gulson, K P	11	Tysoe, D M	12
Humphrey, M	12		

EMPLOYMENT COMMITTEE <i>(met on 3 occasions)</i>			
Jordan Mrs P A	3	Tavener, Mrs J <i>(until February 2021)</i>	2
Keane, D N	3	Terry, D	2
Maslen, C	2	Tysoe, D M	3
Palmer, J M	3	West, R J	3

LICENSING AND PROTECTION COMMITTEE <i>(met on 5 occasions)</i>			
Banks, B S	5	Jordan, Mrs P A	4
Clarke, J	5	McGuire, L W	5
Criswell, S J	5	Mead, D J	3
Diaz, Ms A <i>(until 23.03.21)</i>	3	Prentice, K I	4
Dickinson, Ms A	5	Shrapnel, Mrs P E	5
Giles, Mrs S A	5	West, R J	5

LICENSING COMMITTEE <i>(met on 3 occasions)</i>			
Banks, B S	3	Jordan, Mrs P A	2
Clarke, J	3	McGuire, L W	3
Criswell, S J	3	Mead, D J	2
Diaz, Ms A <i>(until 23.03.21)</i>	2	Prentice, K I	2
Dickinson, Ms A	3	Shrapnel, Mrs P E	3
Giles, Mrs S A	3	West, R J	3

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL (CUSTOMERS AND PARTNERSHIPS) <i>(met on 8 occasions)</i>			
Alban, T	7	Dickinson, Ms A	8
Banks, B S	7	Giles, D A	8
Bellamy, R E <i>(to 16.09.20)</i>	0	Smith, Mrs S	6
Criswell, S J	6	Tavener, Mrs J <i>(until February 2021)</i>	2
Davies, J W <i>(until 19.03.21)</i>	8	Tysoe, D M	8
Diaz, Ms A <i>(until 23.03.21)</i>	6	Wilson, Mrs S	8

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL (PERFORMANCE AND GROWTH) <i>(met on 12 occasions)</i>			
Butler, E R	11	Grice, M S	8
Chapman, B S	7	Morris, J P	10
Cooper-Marsh, J C <i>(until 24.2.21)</i>	6	Roberts, A	12
Corney, S J	11	Sanderson, T D <i>(from 24.2.21)</i>	1
Dew, D B	10	Wakeford, S	12
Gardener, I	12	Wells, D J	4
Gaskin, P L E	9		

NB: This schedule represents the attendance record of Members at District Council meetings. Members' responsibilities in terms of external organisations to which they are appointed by the District Council and duties within respective wards is not recorded. The Report of the Independent Panel estimated that, on average, non-executive Members spent 8.5 hours per week on Council duties.

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