Edwardstone Neighbourhood Plan

Consultation Statement

March 2024

Edwardstone Neighbourhood Plan

To accompany the Submission Version of the Neighbourhood Plan

Contents

Chapter 1: Introduction

1.1 The Edwardstone Neighbourhood Development Plan is a community-led document for guiding the future development of the parish. It is the first of its kind for Edwardstone and a part of the Government's current approach to planning. It has been undertaken with extensive community engagement, consultation and communication.

1.2 The Consultation Statement is designed to meet the requirements set out in the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 for Consultation Statements. This document sets out the consultation process employed in the production of the Edwardstone Neighbourhood Development Plan. It also demonstrates how the requirements of Regulation 14 and 15 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 have been satisfied.

1.3 The Edwardstone Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group (ENPSG) have endeavoured to ensure that the Neighbourhood Plan reflects the desires of the local community and key stakeholders, which have been engaged with from the outset of developing the Plan.

1.4 This consultation statement has been prepared to fulfil the legal obligations of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012.

1.5 Section 15(2) of Part 5 of the Regulations sets out what a consultation statement should contain:

a) Details of the persons and bodies who were consulted about the proposed Neighbourhood Plan.

b) Explains how they were consulted.

c) Summarises the main issues and concerns that were raised by the persons consulted.

d) Describes how these issues and concerns have been considered and where relevant, addressed in the proposed Neighbourhood Plan.

1.6 This consultation statement will also demonstrate that the process undertaken to produce the Edwardstone Neighbourhood Development Plan has complied with Section 14 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012. This sets out that before submitting a Neighbourhood Plan to the Local Planning Authority (in this case Babergh District Council) a qualifying body (in this case the Parish Council) must:

i. Publicise, in a manner that it is likely to bring it to the attention of people who live or work within Edwardstone civil parish,

ii. Provide details of the proposals within the Neighbourhood Plan.

iii. Provide details of where, how and when the proposals within the Plan can be inspected.

iv. Set out how representations may be made; and

v. Set out the date for when those representations must be received, being not less than 6 weeks from the date from when the draft proposals are first publicised.

vi. Consult any consultation body referred to in Para 1 of Schedule 1 whose interests the qualifying body may be affected by the proposals for a Neighbourhood Plan.

vii Send a copy of the Neighbourhood Plan to the Local Planning Authority.

1.7 Furthermore the Planning Practice Guidance (PPG) at paragraph 15, requires that the qualifying body should be inclusive and open in the preparation of its Neighbourhood Plan and to ensure that the wider community:

- is kept fully informed of what is being proposed,
- can make their views known throughout the process,
- has opportunities to be actively involved in shaping the emerging Neighbourhood Plan.
- Is made aware of how their views have informed the draft Neighbourhood Plan or Order

1.8 This document accompanies the Submission Version of the Edwardstone Neighbourhood Plan.

2. Context for the Edwardstone Neighbourhood Development Plan

2.1 The idea of producing a Neighbourhood Plan for Edwardstone formally began in March 2021 when the Neighbourhood Plan Area was designated.

2.2 A Steering Group was formed which comprised a mix of local residents and Parish Councillors. The Parish Council appointed an independent planning consultant to help guide them through the process. The Group was keen to be as democratic and open as possible.

2.3 A key driver for the Neighbourhood Plan was to give residents a voice in the sustainable development of the Parish, by developing a Plan that is inclusive, innovative and bespoke to the needs of the parish. In addition, the Parish Council was keen to produce a document that would enable them to provide informed and consistent responses to consultations on planning applications within the parish.

2.4 By undertaking a Neighbourhood Plan, the Steering Group aimed to give a voice to the community to influence and shape future development. The Plan content is based on evidence from local people derived from the various community consultation exercises and from empirical evidence and bespoke technical assessments. The result provides a framework for delivering economic, social, and environmentally sustainable future development.

2.5 To spread the word about the emerging Neighbourhood Plan, the Steering Group agreed engagement needed to be effective throughout the process if it were to result in a well-informed plan and a sense of local ownership. Communication is dealt with in **Section 5** of this report.

3. Designation of the Neighbourhood Plan Area

3.1 Edwardstone Parish Council applied to Babergh District Council for the entire parish to be designated a Neighbourhood Plan area on 16th March 2021. The application was approved on 30th March 2021. The Edwardstone NDP Area Designation Application, the Neighbourhood Area Map and Designation Statement can all be found on Babergh's website: https://www.babergh.gov.uk/w/edwardstone-neighbourhood-plan

3.2 The Neighbourhood Plan area application and Map can be found in full at **Appendix A.**

3.3 The Neighbourhood Plan Area Decision Notice can be found in full at **Appendix B**.

4. Community Engagement Stages

4.1 The Edwardstone Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group led on the preparation of the Neighbourhood Plan, and it is hoped that the document reflects the community's vision and aspirations for the future of the parish. In order, to create a Plan that represents the needs and aspirations of residents, the Steering Group have drawn upon a number of sources including technical evidence and data gathered through the various stages and as a result of stakeholder and community input.

Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

4.2 The management of the Neighbourhood Plan process has been undertaken by the Steering Members themselves with support from the Parish Council and other local residents as required. The Steering Group has consisted on average of between 4-5 members who are all local residents and with some geographical spread throughout the parish. The Steering Group has been supported through the process by an independent consultant who was appointed in April 2021.

4.3 The Steering Group has met as required to progress the Neighbourhood Plan both in person and online depending on the stage reached in the process and on workload. Parish Council representation has been consistent with two Councillors being part of the Steering Group. One is the Parish Council Chairman, and the other is the Chairman of the Steering Group.

4.3 There is a dedicated Neighbourhood Plan web page which is located on the parish council's website and contains details of the progress of the Neighbourhood Plan, together with copies of the consultation materials and exhibition boards used for consultation events together with feedback from those events. The Edwardstone Neighbourhood Plan webpage has been updated regularly to provide information to residents about the process and as well as advance notice of any consultations or events and any write ups from those events.

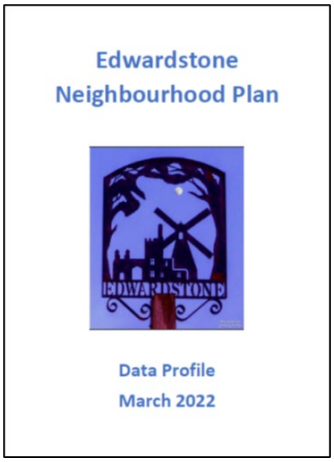
http://edwardstonepc.onesuffolk.net/edwardstone-neighbourhood-plan/

4.4 Details of all consultation events were also published in the Box River News which is a newsletter which covers the parish of Edwardstone together with adjacent parishes. Posters and flyers were used to publicise events. Feedback from the consultation events indicated that the flyers and the Box River News were both effective forms of communicating and promoting the Neighbourhood Plan events. An update for the Parish Council on Neighbourhood Plan progress was presented at every meeting.

Evidence Gathering and Key Issues Identification.

4.5 Work on the Neighbourhood Plan began in earnest in September 2021. The Steering Group devised a short questionnaire aimed at identifying key issues in the parish which was delivered to every household in early 2022. Steering Group members went door to door in the parish making themselves available to answer any questions. Questions were asked about the key things that were important to Edwardstone residents, what they felt needed to improve and what the Neighbourhood Plan should seek to achieve. 43 responses were received, and the results were used to help draft a vision, objectives and policy ideas. The questionnaire results are shown at **Appendix C**.

4.6 During this time the consultant produced a Data Profile for the parish which contained key data to help inform policy development. The Data Profile was completed in March 2021 and is a supporting document to the Neighbourhood Plan.



Commissioning of the Design Code and development of Policy Ideas

4.7 In 2022, the Steering Group commissioned A Design Code for the Parish from AECOM via the Locality Technical Support Package. The Parish Council asked for the whole parish to be covered by the document and for it to include specific design codes for the built up parts of Edwardstone with a focus on small scale and infill development. The Edwardstone Design Code and Guidance was completed in September 2022 and the final report has been used to support the Neighbourhood Plan policies. The Design Code is a submission document.

Figure 1 : Edwardstone Design Codes and Guidance September 2022

4.8 At the same time, the Steering Group were developing a series of policy ideas which they sought to share with the community. A Policy Ideas 'Drop-in' style public exhibition was held in the Parish Hall over two days in September 2022, where members of the community were invited to leave feedback on the draft policy ideas. The policy ideas covered a range of themes such as Housing, Natural Environment, Landscape, Heritage, Community and Access.

4.9 The Exhibition sessions were held in the Parish Hall and were held on Thursday 22nd September 2022 (4pm-9pm) and Saturday 24th September 2022 (9am-1pm). The information boards at the Exhibition explained what a Neighbourhood Plan was, what its scope was, the draft timetable and how to find out further information on the future stages. The consultation boards asked for feedback on the vision and

objectives, and the specific policy ideas such as new housing, important views, non-designated heritage assets, community facilities and local green spaces. Maps were available for annotation.

4.10 The event was publicised through a leaflet drop to every household undertaken by Steering Group Members. 71 local people attended the exhibition and left their comments. All comments left were recorded, and a write-up of the results of the exhibitions, together with the exhibition material was posted on the Neighbourhood Plan website. The results of the feedback were written up and have helped to inform further policy development

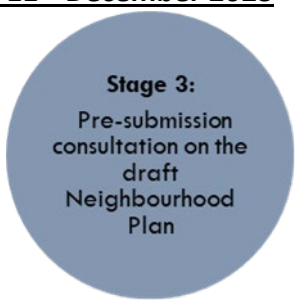
Figure 2 : Policy Ideas Exhibition Boards and photos

4.9 The write-up from the exhibitions can be found at **Appendix D**. An example of the publicity for the event is at **Appendix E**.

4.10 Analysis undertaken by the Steering Group of the results of the exhibition sessions reveals a number of issues for the parish with some consistent themes emerging:

- Protect green spaces
- Encourage access by foot and by bicycle, including new footpaths
- Protect wildlife habitats from development
- Don't develop between the hamlets
- Protect dark skies
- Retain existing facilities e.g. church, parish hall, public house, Millennium green
- Prevent development that doesn't fit with the aesthetics of the village
- Limited appetite for new residential development
- No appetite for large scale development
- Off street parking for new development
- Infill is better than development on greenfield land
- Affordable housing for locals first

Pre-Submission Consultation (Regulation 14) 30th October 2023 to 11th December 2023



4.11 The results of the public exhibitions and the evidence base were considered in detail by the Steering Group during late 2022 and early 2023. Work began on drafting the pre-submission version of the Plan.

4.12 The Parish Council commissioned Suffolk Wildlife Trust to undertake an assessment of the green corridors and spaces within the parish. The report was completed in September 2023.

4.13 The Pre-Submission Regulation 14 Consultation was undertaken between 30th October 2023 and 11th December 2023. The consultation period was just longer than the statutory 6 weeks period and another 'Drop-in' style public exhibition was held to publicise the consultation and to enable local residents to comment on the draft plan. The Exhibition was held at the Parish Hall on 6th November 2023 between 1pm and 8pm. The exhibition comprised Neighbourhood Plan policies displayed on boards with a response form available for comments to be left in writing. The exhibition was publicised in the Box River News and via a leaflet drop undertaken by Steering Group members. 42 people attended the Exhibition.

4.14 During the consultation period, hard copies of the Plan and supporting documents were available to the public at Boxford Post Office and The White Horse Public House. Hard copies of the response form were also available. A flyer publicising the consultation and explaining how to respond was delivered throughout the parish. (**Appendix F**) Copies of the plan and the response form (**Appendix G)** were posted onto the website, which also contained full details of the consultation dates.

4.15 Notification letters were sent to the owners of proposed Local Green Spaces and the Non- Designated Heritage Asset. (**Appendix H**). A copy of the Plan was also sent to Babergh District Council who included details of the consultation on their Neighbourhood Plan website.
https://www.babergh.gov.uk/w/edwardstone-neighbourhood-plan

4.16 Notifications of the consultation and details of how to view the draft plan and submit and return comments were sent to a wide range of consultees. (**Appendix I)** The list of consultees is shown at **Appendix J)**.

4.17 Following the closing date of the Pre-Submission Consultation, responses had been received from 15 members of the public including local landowners. In addition, responses had also been received from the following consultees:

- Babergh District Council
- Natural England
- Historic England
- Suffolk Wildlife Trust
- Anglian Water
- National Grid Electricity
- National Grid Gas
- Suffolk County Council
- National Highways
- Little Waldingfield Parish Council
- Environment Agency

4.18 All responses were acknowledged, and respondents informed that their comments would be considered by the Steering Group. The Steering Group considered all responses received at their meetings in January and February 2024, and each separate comment received consideration. The response table is at **Appendix K**. Each individual comment has been logged and assessed. The table shows each individual comment made together with the response of the Steering Group and any proposed changes to the Plan.

Summary of key issues raised.

4.19 The key issues raised during the REG14 consultation exercise can be summarised as:

- General support for the plan
- Housing policies – clarification on the settlement boundaries.
- Clarification required on existing permissions (commitment)
- Support for the environmental and heritage policies
- Support for the policies on community facilities
- Suggestions for strengthening of policies and clarity around wording.
- Request for NDHA to be removed
- Support for the identified new footpath connections

4.20 Following consideration of the Pre-Submission consultation comments the following amendments to the Plan were agreed:

- Factual updates to reflect publication of new NPPF in December 2023
- Factual updates to reflect the adoption of Part 1 of the BMSJLP in November 2023
- Additional text to support the identification of the Non Designated Heritage Asset
- Mapping updates and corrections
- Changes to policy wording to reflect the most up to date position with Biodiversity Net Gain
- Changes to policy wording to align with BMSJLP and for clarity

Submission (Regulation 15-16)

4.21 Following consideration of the revised Neighbourhood Plan documents by the Steering Group and approval by Edwardstone Parish Council on 18th March 2024 , the Neighbourhood Plan and its supporting documents were submitted to Babergh District Council (BDC).

5. Communication

5.1 Good communication is key to the local community feeling included and informed about the progress and content of the Edwardstone Neighbourhood Plan.

5.2 The Neighbourhood Plan had a specific page on the Parish Council website which was updated regularly during the production of the Neighbourhood Plan and new information included to publicise upcoming consultations as well as the results of the consultation exercises including all exhibition and consultation material, Neighbourhood Plan documents and contact details.

5.3 To spread news of the emerging Neighbourhood Plan, the Steering Group used:

- Neighbourhood Plan website
- Flyers delivered around the parish delivered by Steering Group Members
- Event posters which went up throughout the Parish
- Door to door visits by Steering Group members inviting parishioners to engage
- Updates to the Parish Council
- Regular articles and updates in the Box River News
- Social media including Facebook and Nextdoor

5.4 Copies of the exhibition boards for the drop-in sessions and consultation documents were placed on the website so that anyone unable to attend the events was able to view the information. The results of each stage of consultation have also been placed on the website to provide an overall picture of comments received.

6. Conclusion

6.1 The programme of community engagement and communications carried out during the production of the Edwardstone Neighbourhood Plan used a range of mechanisms and sought to reach a wide range of the local population and provided opportunities for many parts of the local community to input and comment on the emerging policies.

6.2 The comments received throughout and specifically in response to the policy exhibitions and the Pre-Submission (Regulation 14) consultation, have been addressed, in so far as they are practical, and in conformity with the National Planning Policy Framework and the policies in the development plan for Babergh and the Adopted Part 1 Babergh-Mid Suffolk Joint Local Plan.

APPENDICES

Appendix A - Decision Notice for Neighbourhood Plan Area Designation
Appendix B - Neighbourhood Plan Area Designation Notice Map
Appendix C – 5 Things Questionnaire Results
Appendix D – Policy Ideas Exhibition Results
Appendix E – Policy Ideas Exhibition Publicity
Appendix F – Regulation 14 Consultation Publicity/Flyer
Appendix G – Regulation 14 Response Form
Appendix H – Notification letters – NDHA and LGS
Appendix I - Regulation 14 Consultee Letter/Notification
Appendix J – Regulation14 Consultee List
Appendix K - Regulation 14 Response Table

Appendix A: Decision Notice for Neighbourhood Plan Area Designation

AREA DESIGNATION NOTICE

EDWARDSTONE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Babergh District Council received an application from Edwardstone Parish Council (the 'Relevant Body') to designate the whole of the parish as a Neighbourhood Plan Area on Tuesday 16 March 2021.

The application was made under Regulation 5 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (as amended). A copy of the application and a map which identifies the area to which this relates can be found on the District Council website at:

https://www.babergh.gov.uk/EdwardstoneNP

Regulation 5A states that ... "*where (1)(a) a local planning authority receives an area application from a parish council*" and "*(1)(b) the area specified in the application consists of the whole of the parish council's area, (2) the local planning authority must exercise their powers under section 61G of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to designate the specified area as a neighbourhood area*."

Regulations 6 and 6A relating to publicising an area application do not apply in this instance. Therefore, in accordance with Regulation 5A(2) and 7(1) of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (as amended), Babergh District Council hereby give notice that it has designated the parish of Edwardstone as a Neighbourhood Area in order to facilitate the preparation of a Neighbourhood Plan by the Parish Council.

Tom Barker

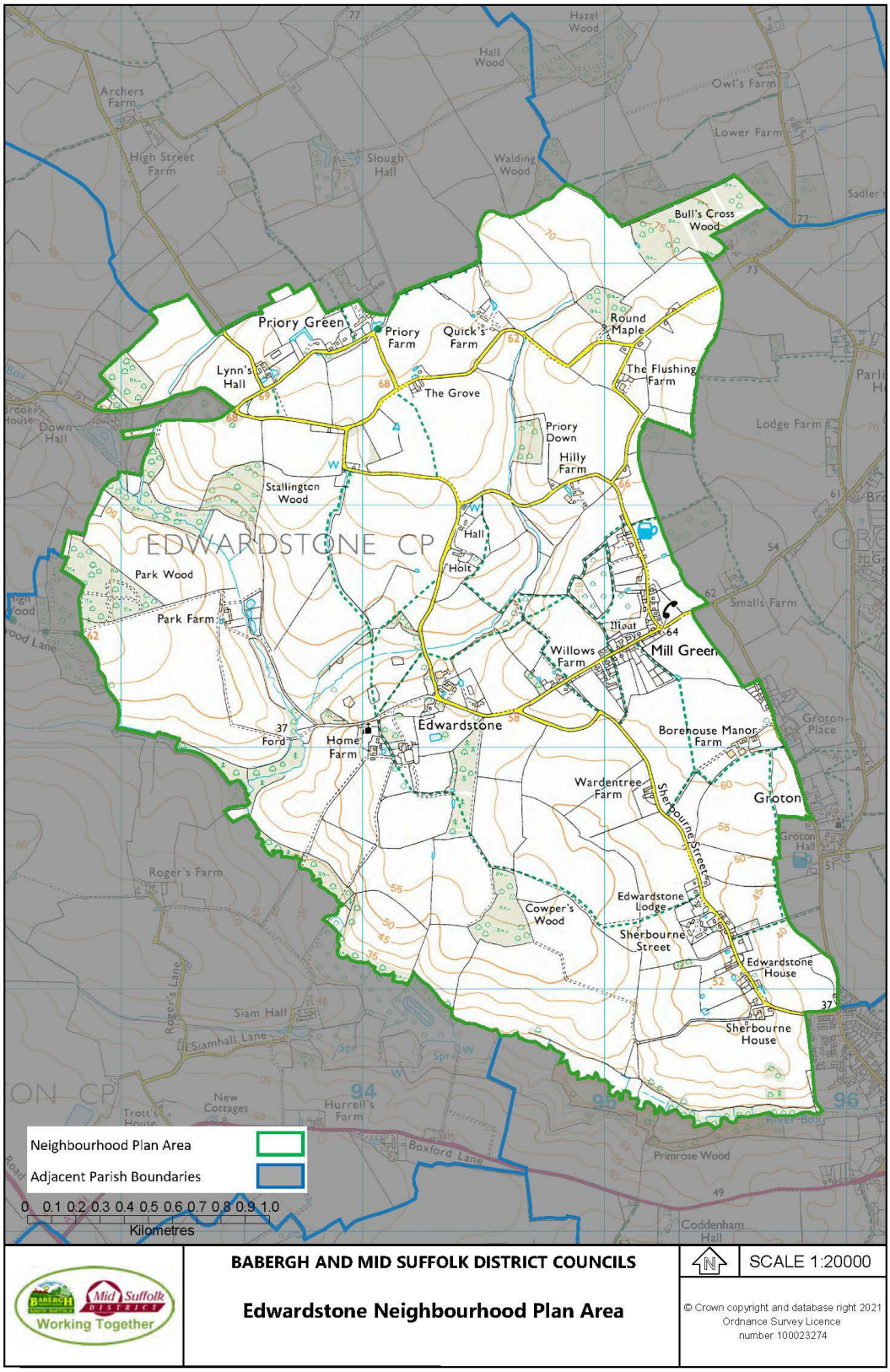
Assistant Director - Planning for Growth
Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Council

Dated: Tuesday 30 March 2021

Babergh District Council
Endeavour House, 8 Russell Road, Ipswich, IP1 2BX
Telephone: (0300) 1234 000
SMS Text Mobile: (07827) 842833
www.babergh.gov.uk

Mid Suffolk District Council
Endeavour House, 8 Russell Road, Ipswich, IP1 2BX
Telephone: (0300) 1234 000
SMS Text Mobile: (07827) 842833
www.midsuffolk.gov.uk

Appendix B: Neighbourhood Plan Area Map



Appendix C: 5 Things Questionnaire Results

Edwardstone Neighbourhood Plan
Questionnaire Results – 1st draft analysis – March 2022

Context

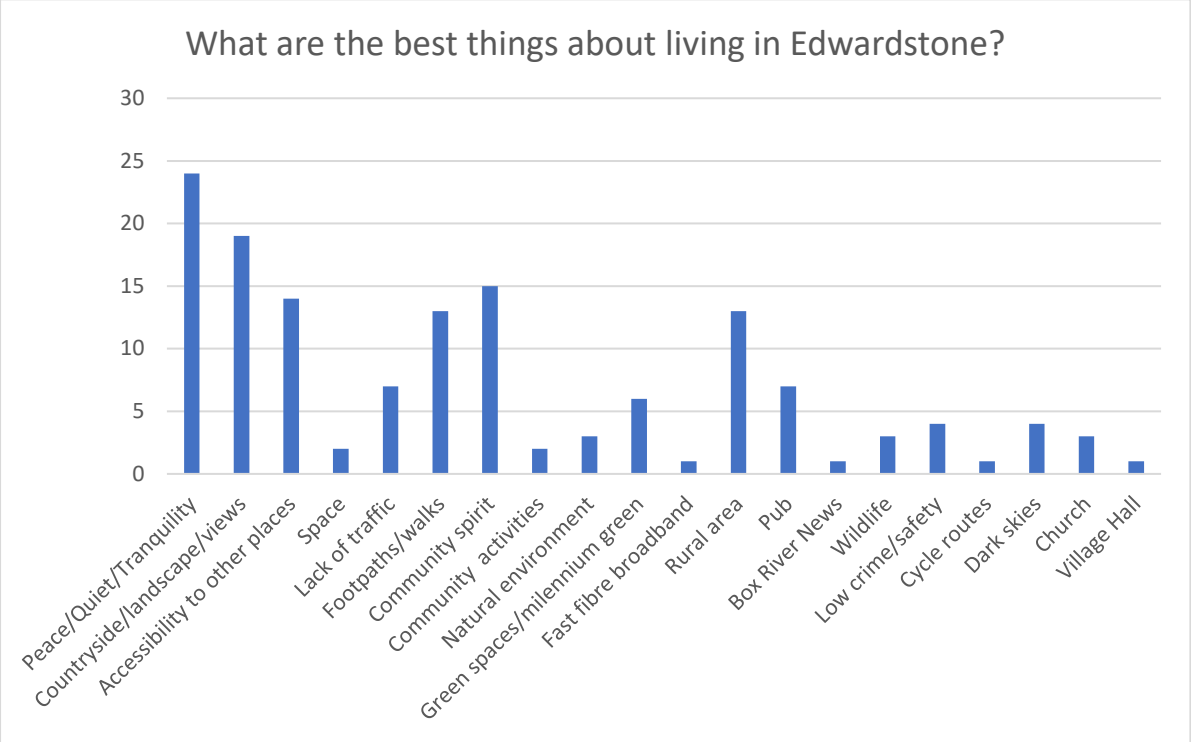
The Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group hand delivered 319 questionnaires to 159 properties and received 43 responses back.

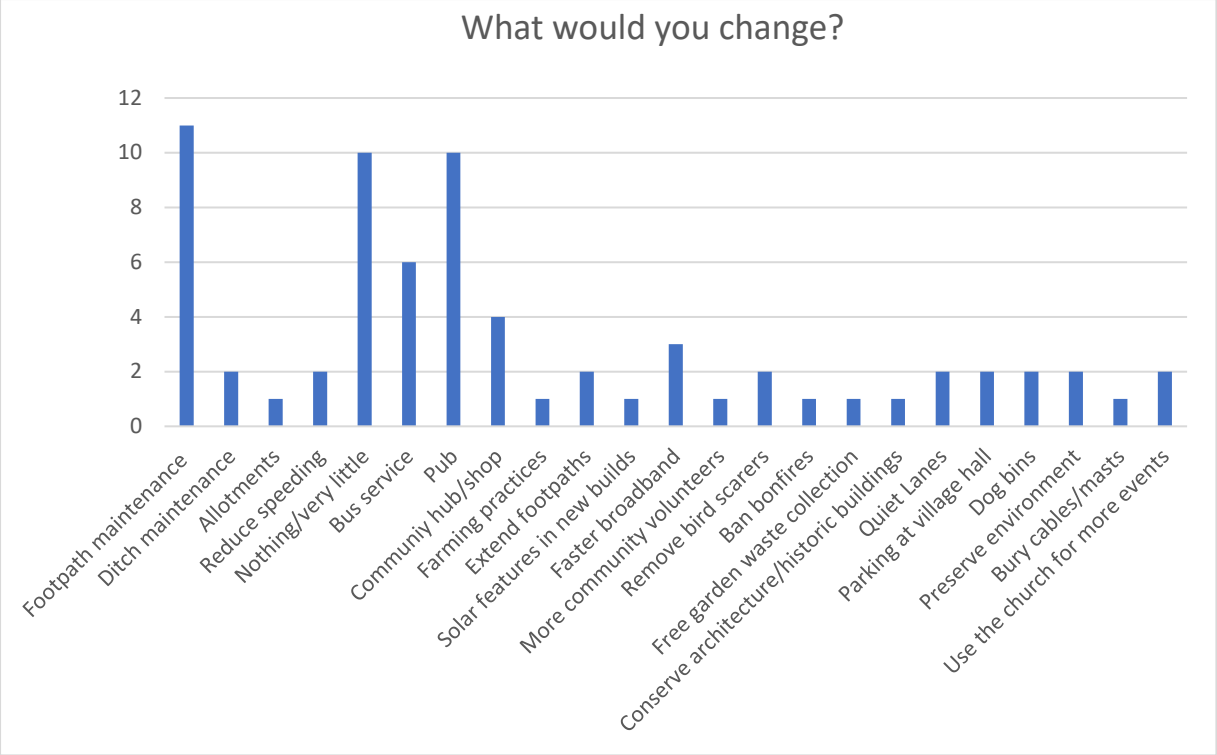
Questionnaire

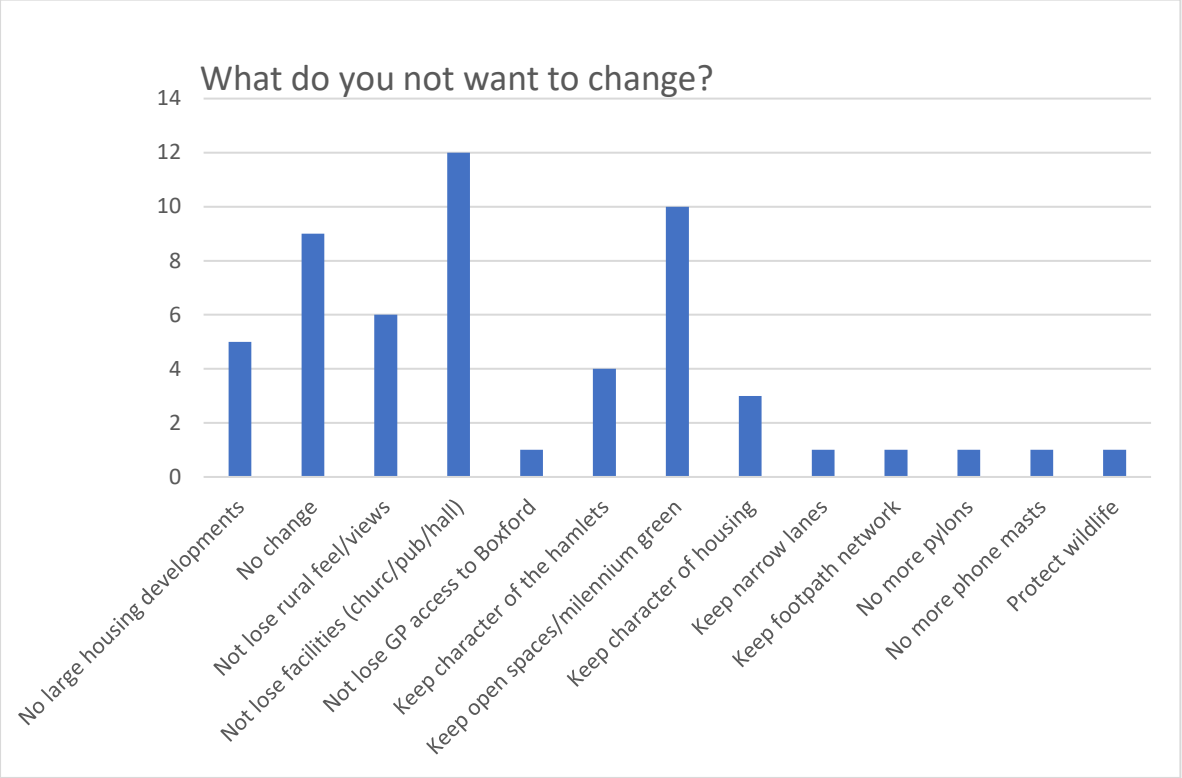
The questionnaire contained 6 short questions designed to establish how local residents feel about their parish at present, and their thoughts about the future.

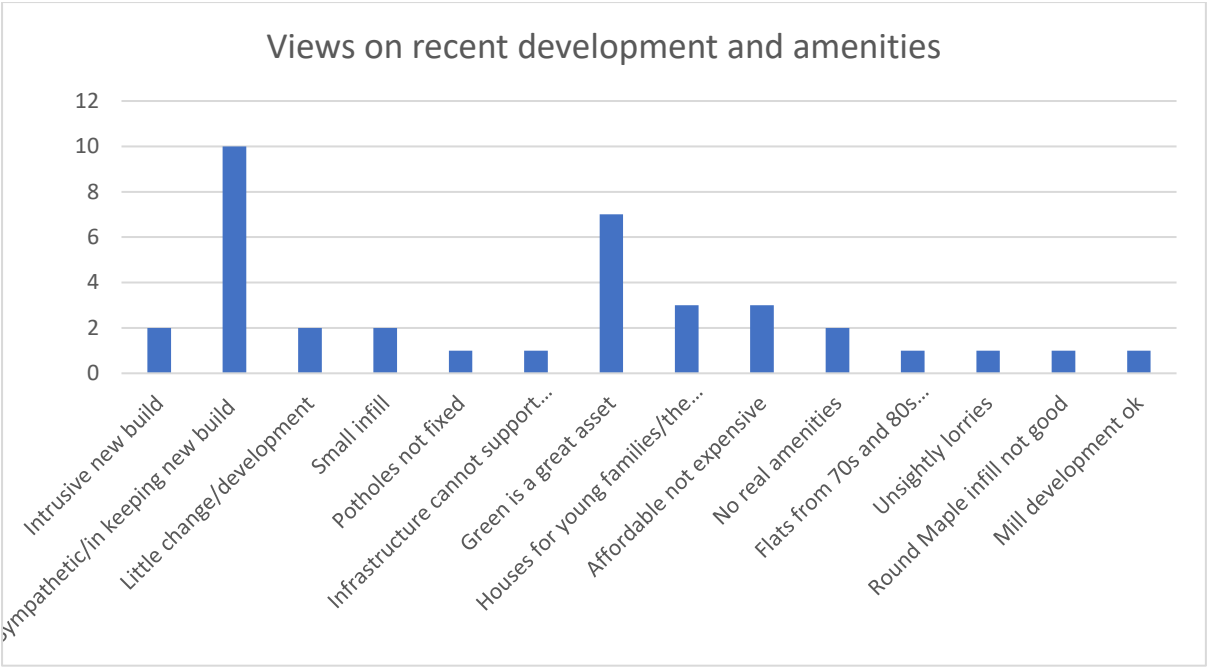
1. What are the best things about living in Edwardstone?
2. What are the things you would change in Edwardstone?
3. What are the things that you would ***not*** want changed in Edwardstone?
4. What are your views on past and recent developments and amenities?
5. What are your views on possible future developments and amenities in the village?
6. Are there any other issues you would like to see included in the Neighbourhood Plan?

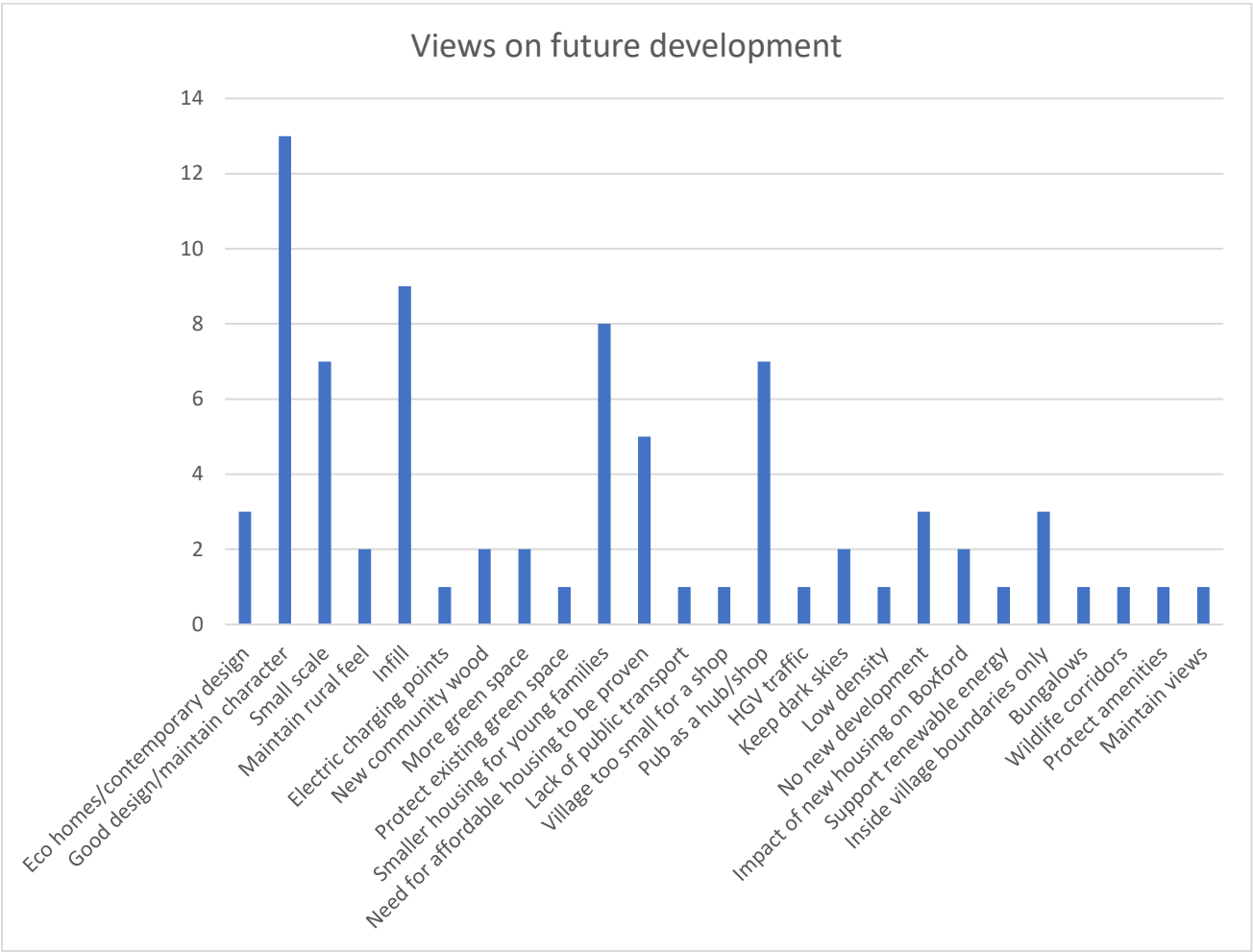
Results

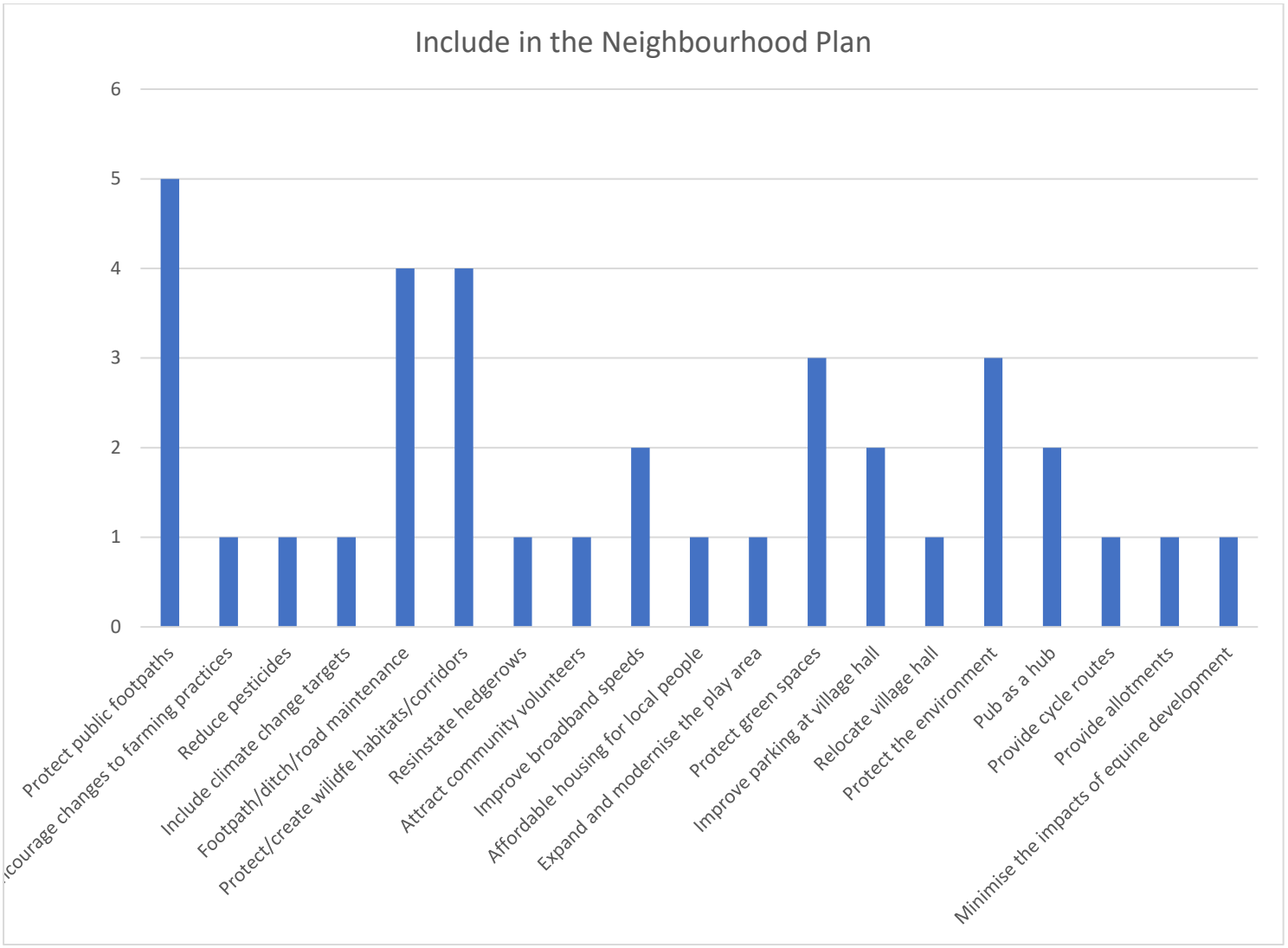



What would you change?
12
10
8
6
4
2
0
Footpath maintenance
Ditch maintenance
Allotments
Reduce speeding
Nothing/very little
Bus service
Pub
Communiy hub/shop
Farming practices
Extend footpaths
Solar features in new builds
Faster broadband
More community volunteers
Remove bird scarers
Ban bonfires
Free garden waste collection
Conserve architecture/historic buildings
Quiet Lanes
Parking at village hall
Dog bins
Preserve environment
Bury cables/masts
Use the church for more events


What do you not want to change?
14
12
10
8
6
4
2
0
No large housing developments
No change
Not lose rural feel/views
Not lose facilities (churc/pub/hall)
Not lose GP access to Boxford
Keep character of the hamlets
Keep open spaces/milennium green
Keep character of housing
Keep narrow lanes
Keep footpath network
No more pylons
No more phone masts
Protect wildlife


Views on recent development and amenities
12
10
8
6
4
2
0
Intrusive new build
ympathetic/in keeping new build
Little change/development
Small infill
Potholes not fixed
Infrastructure cannot support...
Green is a great asset
Houses for young families/the...
Affordable not expensive
No real amenities
Flats from 70s and 80s...
Unsightly lorries
Round Maple infill not good
Mill development ok


Views on future development
14
12
10
8
6
4
2
0
Eco homes/contemporary design
Good design/maintain character
Small scale
Maintain rural feel
Infill
Electric charging points
New community wood
More green space
Protect existing green space
Smaller housing for young families
Need for affordable housing to be proven
Lack of public transport
Village too small for a shop
Pub as a hub/shop
HGV traffic
Keep dark skies
Low density
No new development
Impact of new housing on Boxford
Support renewable energy
Inside village boundaries only
Bungalows
Wildlife corridors
Protect amenities
Maintain views


Include in the Neighbourhood Plan
6
5
4
3
2
1
0
Protect public footpaths
Encourage changes to farming practices
Reduce pesticides
Include climate change targets
Footpath/ditch/road maintenance
Protect/create wildfe habitats/corridors
Resinstate hedgerows
Attract community volunteers
Improve broadband speeds
Affordable housing for local people
Expand and modernise the play area
Protect green spaces
Improve parking at village hall
Relocate village hall
Protect the environment
Pub as a hub
Provide cycle routes
Provide allotments
Minimise the impacts of equine development

Emerging Key themes and implications for planning policy

Housing

- Support for infill
- Previous development largely seen as acceptable
- Little support for new, large scale housing development
- New housing should largely be inside the existing settlement boundary
- New housing should be well designed and respect the local character
- Impacts of new housing on the amenity of adjoining neighbours should be considered carefully
- Support for contemporary design and eco homes
- Support for environmental measures on new builds
- The character and separation of the individual hamlets should be maintained
- The need for any affordable housing needs to be proven
- Affordable housing should be for local people
- Support for smaller and affordable housing for young families
- Some support for bungalows for the elderly
- Low density preferred
- High appetite for little or no change

Community Facilities and Amenities

- On the whole existing facilities (pub/village hall/church) are valued and residents don't want to lose them
- Pub: Divergence of views on the Pub; could be part of a community hub that includes a community shop; play area seen as an asset
- Village hall: concerns over parking ; some support for a new hall or a relocated hall
- Church: could be used for more events
- Footpaths/walks are highly valued
- Millennium Green is highly valued
- Most popular additional facility would be a shop.
- Feeling of safety within the community
- Support for allotment provision
- Support for expanding and modernising the play area

Natural Environment

- Countryside, landscape, and open views are highly valued
- Green spaces should be protected
- Additional green space would be supported
- Creation of community woodland next to millennium green would be supported
- Support for creation of new wildlife habitats/ wildlife corridors
- Concerns over structures in the landscape e.g. pylons and masts, equine development
- Support for electric charging points

- Dark skies are highly valued
- Plan should include policy/targets for climate change and sustainability

Historic Environment

- Listed buildings should be protected.
- Support for protection of unlisted buildings
- Support for use of traditional materials

Transport/Access

- Footpaths and rights of way should be protected
- Support for footpath extension/link from Church, Highwood, Priory Green, and Owls Farm.
- Support for cycle paths and routes.
- Support for keeping narrow lanes/quiet roads

Economic Development/Business

- Lack of jobs for young people

Non-planning issues that will need to be dealt with outside of the Neighbourhood Plan

- Bonfires
- Bird scarers
- Desire for bus service
- Potholes
- Desire for more community volunteers
- Road/ footpath and ditch maintenance
- Free garden waste collection
- Speeding
- Farming practices and use of pesticides
- Broadband
- HGVs

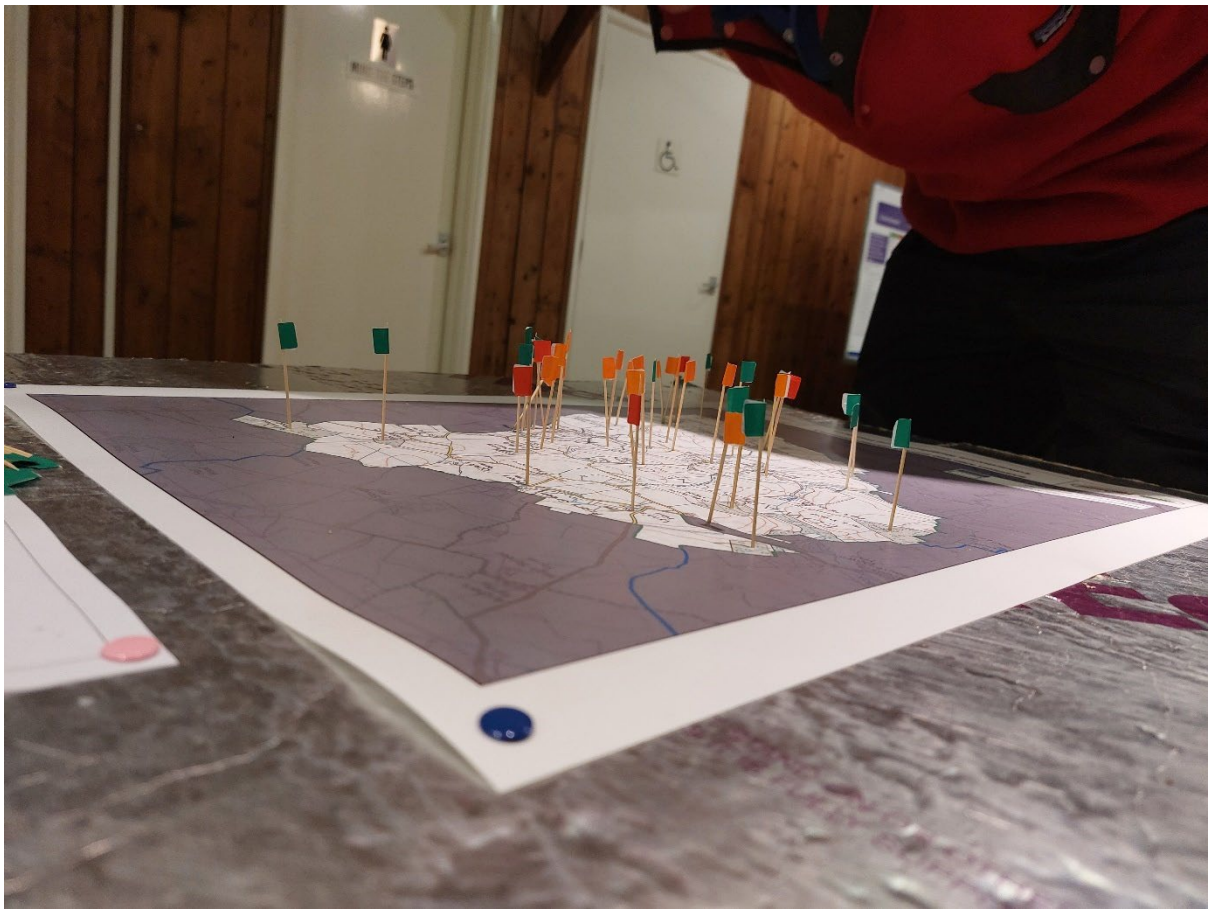
Recommended next steps for the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

1. Review the results of the questionnaire
2. Return to the 1st draft of the vision and review it
3. Draft a vision that reflects the results of the questionnaire
4. Come up with one draft objective for each of the emerging themes – e.g. a single sentence of what you wish to achieve for that theme. You might need more than one for a bigger them e.g. housing or natural environment.
5. Publish the results on the website at an appropriate time
6. Decide in the light of the questionnaire results and the data profile whether there is any additional specific evidence that you think you need
7. We can then start to look at some draft ideas for policy which we can then consult the community on in the summer.

Appendix D: Write Up from Policy Ideas Exhibitions September 2022

Edwardstone
Neighbourhood Plan

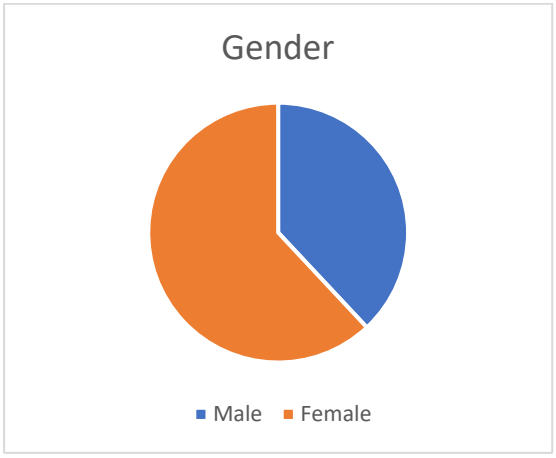
Edwardstone Neighbourhood Plan
Policy Ideas Exhibitions
Held on 22nd and 24th September 2022



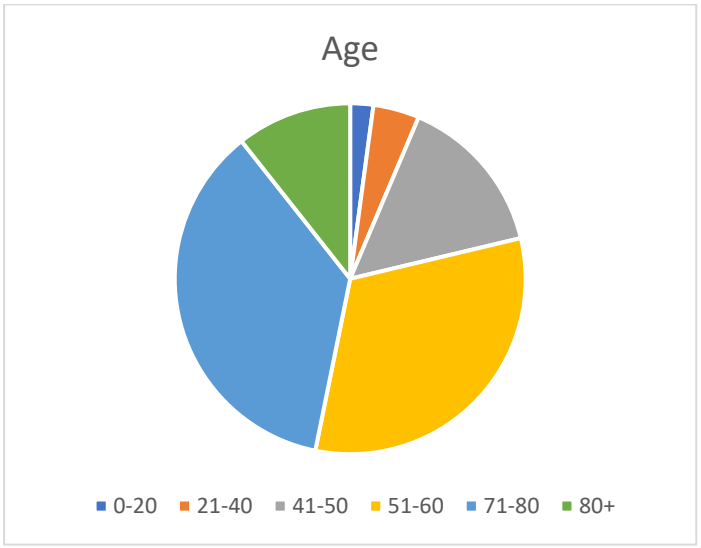
Results

Number of attendees = 71

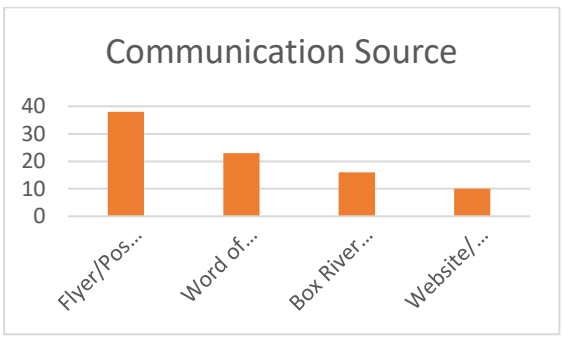
Gender



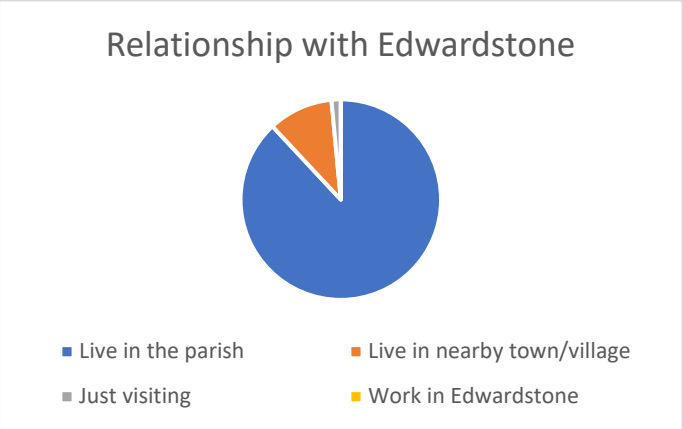
Age



Communication Source

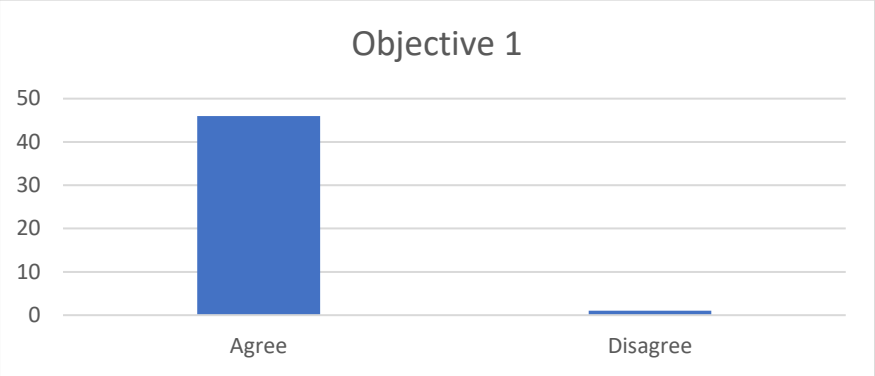


Connection to Edwardstone



HOUSING

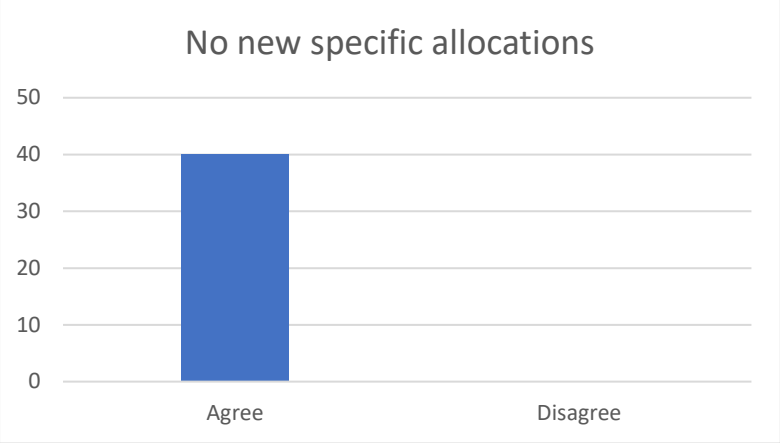
Objective 1 : To ensure that new housing development is sustainable in terms of its scale and location, meets proven local needs and complements the existing character of the parish



(47 dots)

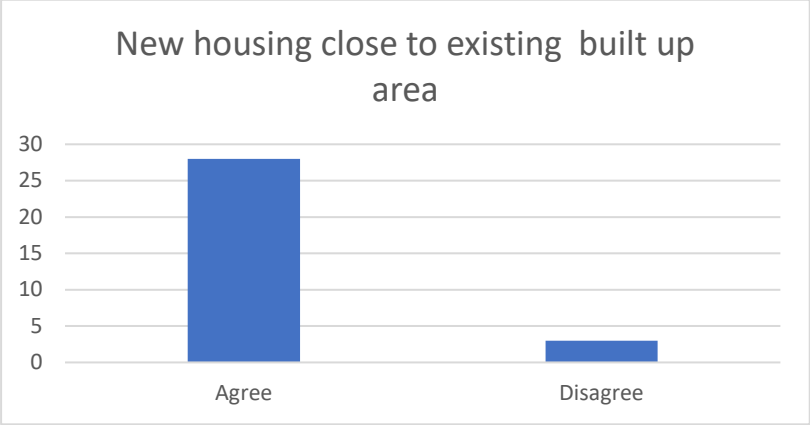
DRAFT POLICY IDEA 1: New Housing

No new specific housing allocations in the Neighbourhood Plan.



(40 dots)

New housing to be located close to existing development (within the existing built-up area)



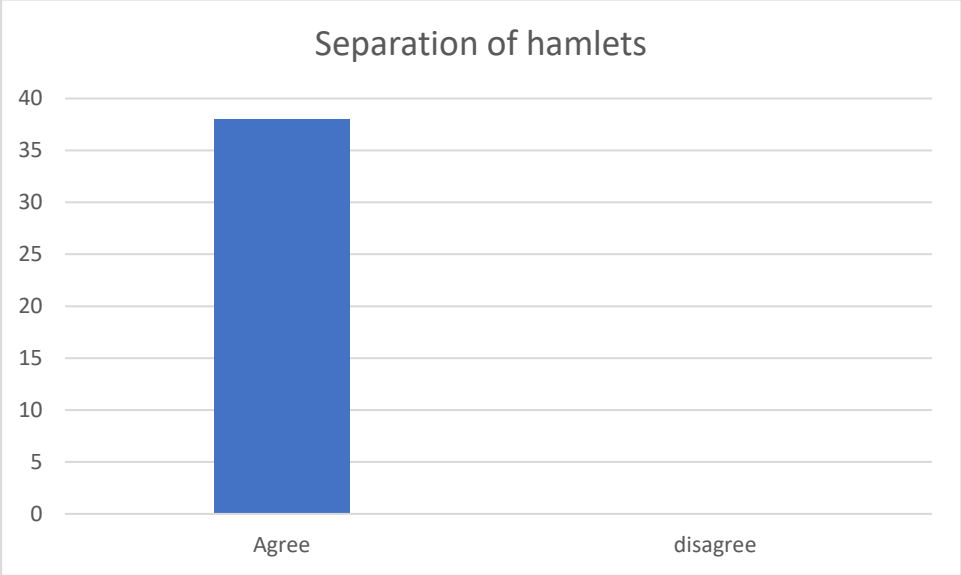
(31 dots)

Comments:

Needs to include people from outside the village as well

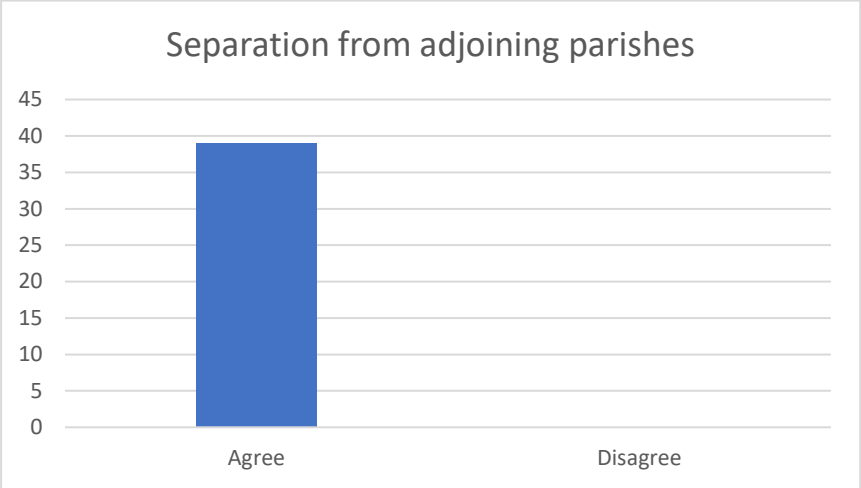
Ribbon development alongside roads is ok but would be nice to keep some green views!

Existing physical separation between the distinct hamlets to be maintained and not eroded by new development



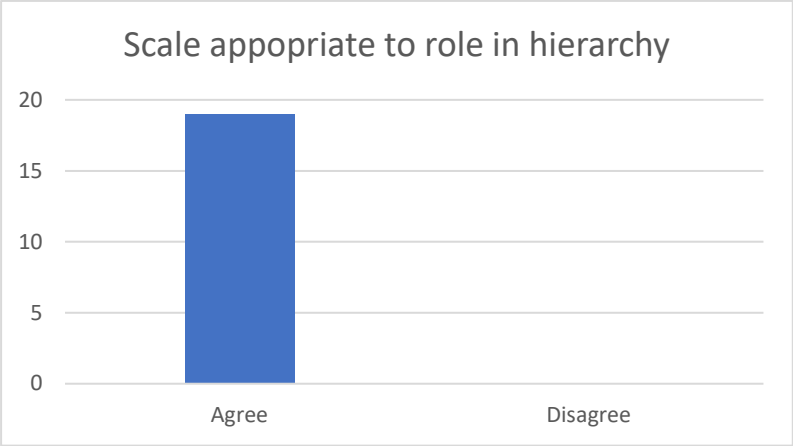
(38 dots)

Separation between existing built development in Edwardstone and adjoining parishes to be maintained



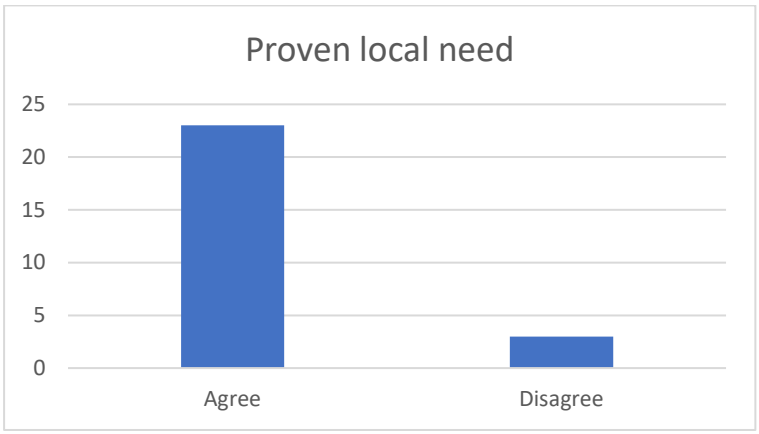
(39 dots)

Scale of development in the parish to be commensurate with its identification in the Local Plan settlement hierarchy e.g., Hinterland village in adopted Core Strategy and 2 x hamlet (Mill Green and Sherbourne Street) in the emerging Local Plan



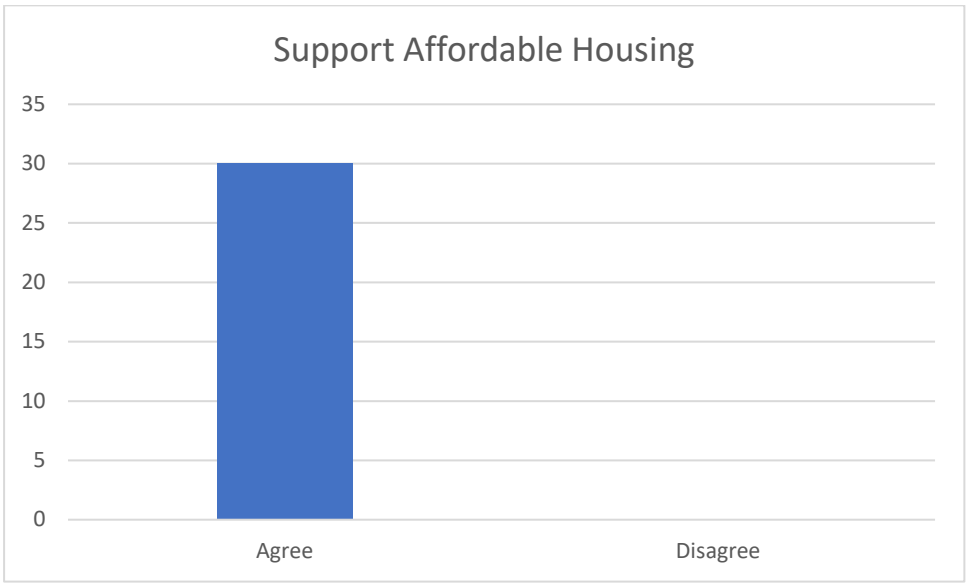
(19 dots)

New housing development to meet the identified/proven needs of the parish



(26 dots)

Affordable housing supported where the need is proven

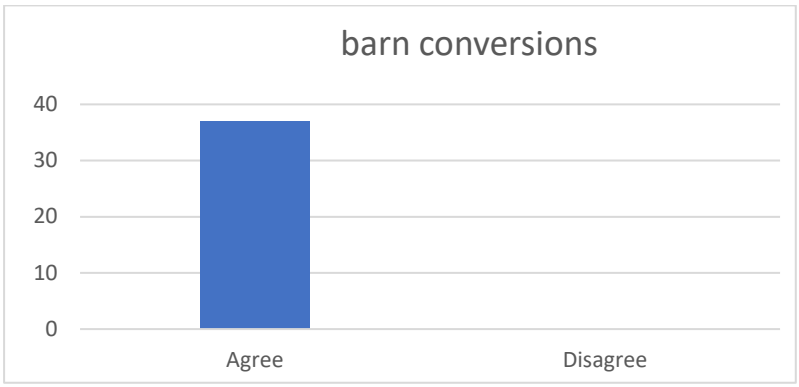


(30 dots)

Comment:

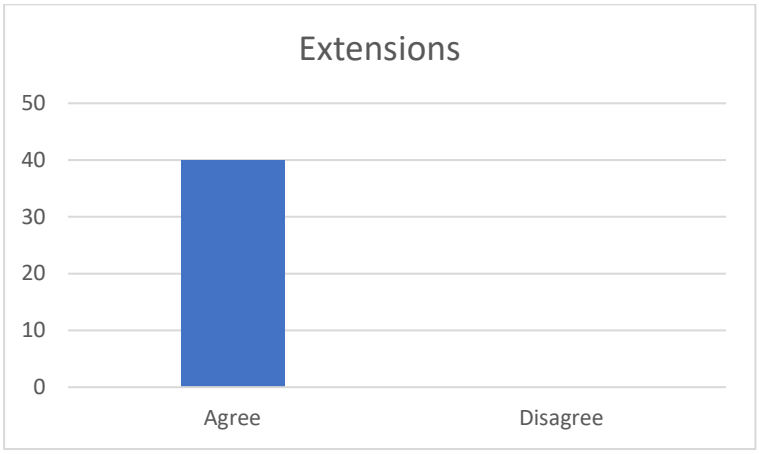
We need new houses but a better infrastructure first +1

Conversions of barns supported subject to criteria governing impact e.g., amenity/traffic



(37 dots)

Extensions (where permission is required) supported subject to criteria governing impact e.g., scale, amenity

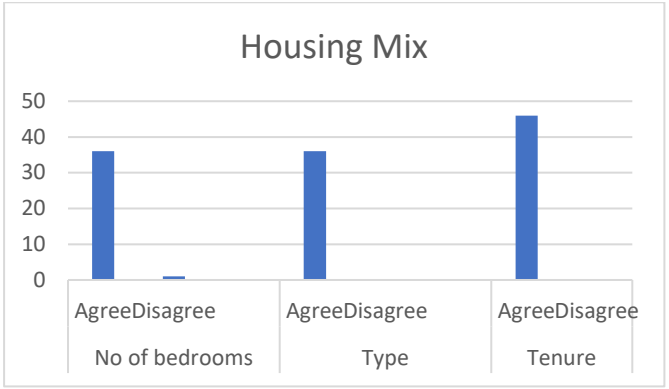


(40 dots)

DRAFT POLICY IDEA 2: Housing Mix (size, type/tenure

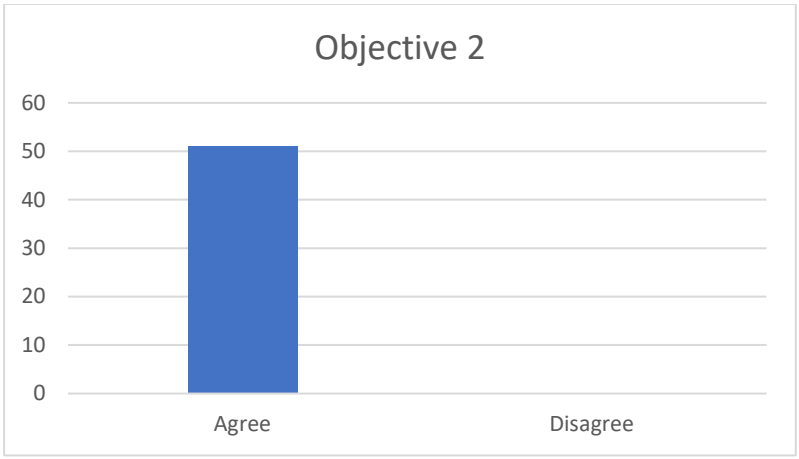
Policy to cover the following elements:

- size of housing e.g. no of bedrooms (37 dots)
- type e.g. bungalows, flats, housing with care, sheltered housing etc (36 dots)
- Tenure – open market/affordable/rented (40 dots)



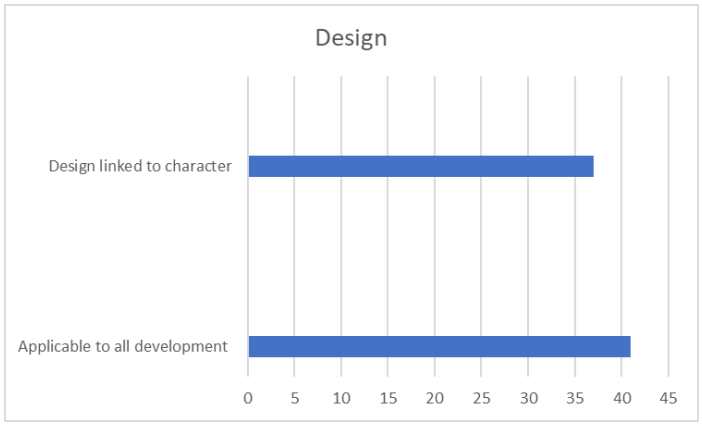
ENVIRONMENT

Objective 2: To maintain the existing peace and tranquility of the parish, whilst protecting its wildlife, distinctive character, and heritage



(51 dots)

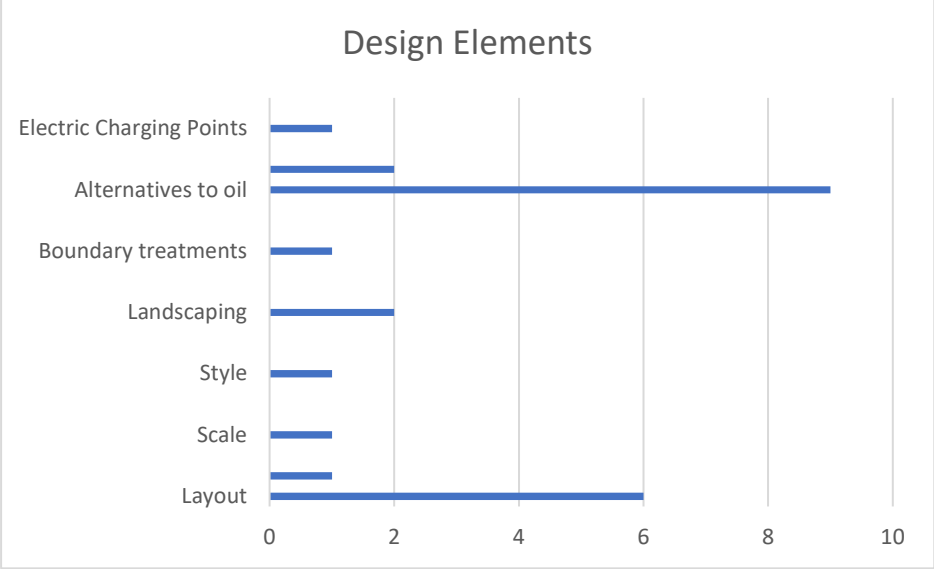
DRAFT POLICY IDEA 3: Design
Policy applicable to all forms and all scales of development e.g., housing, barn conversions, extensions, annexes, employment, and commercial development



(57 dots)

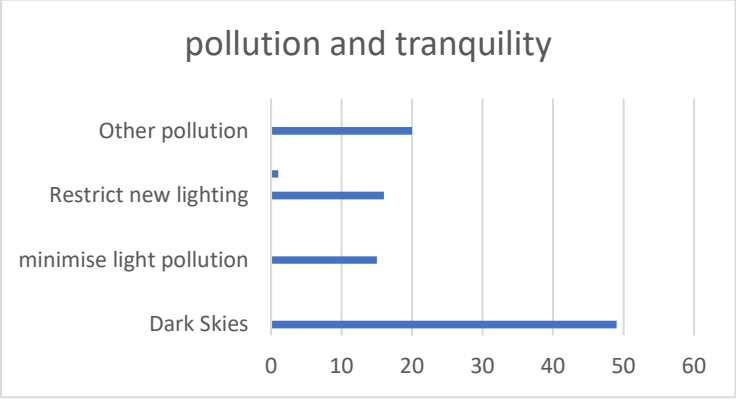
Policy seeks to generally raise the standard of design of new development in the parish and ensure that new development enhances the character of the area

Detailed criteria covering design elements:

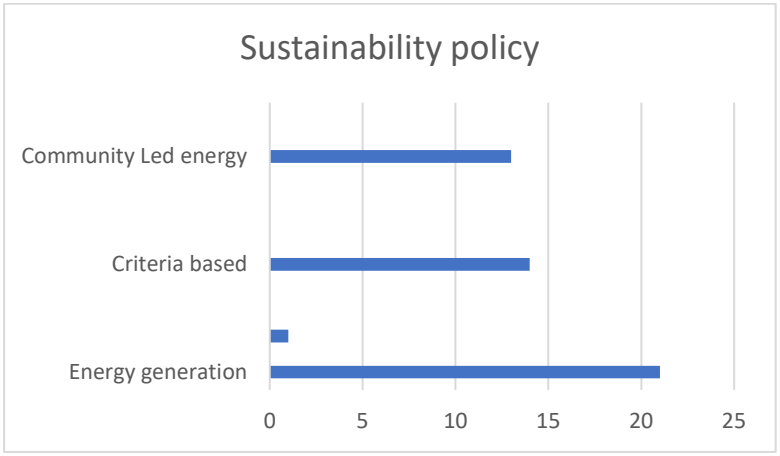


Comments:
Must include sufficient parking
Protection for existing trees - TPOs to be included
Criteria too restrictive - unacceptable to enforce boundary treatments or energy alternatives +1
Realistic car parking important i.e. no presumption that one space sufficient
Ensure choice of fuel is maintained. Do not insist on oil alternatives only +2
Solar panels on all new builds +1
Renewable energy not always practical

DRAFT POLICY IDEA 4: Pollution and Tranquility
Policy seeking to protect dark skies of the parish and general tranquility

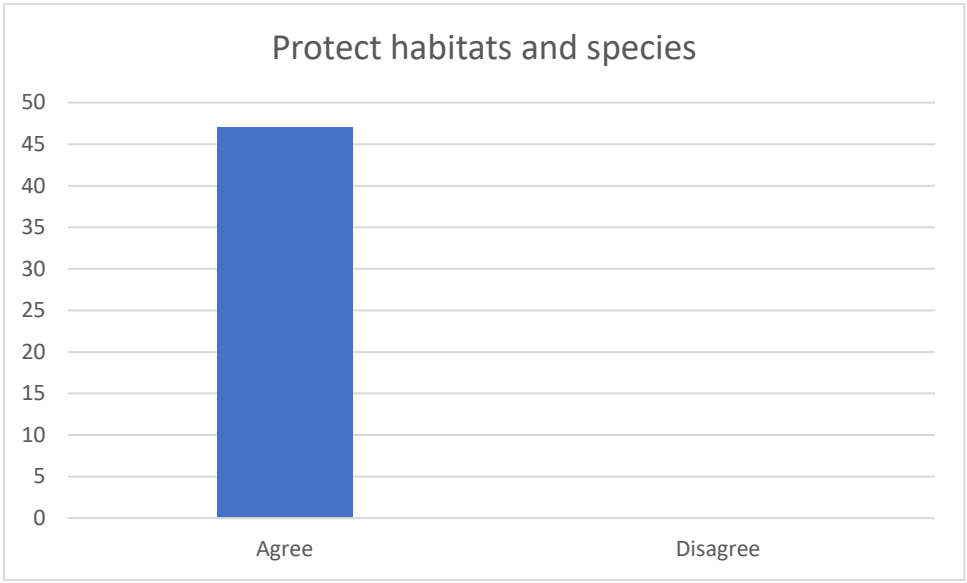


DRAFT POLICY IDEA 5:
Sustainability and climate change
Policy setting out criteria for governing proposals for energy generation (renewable (e.g., solar, wind energy)



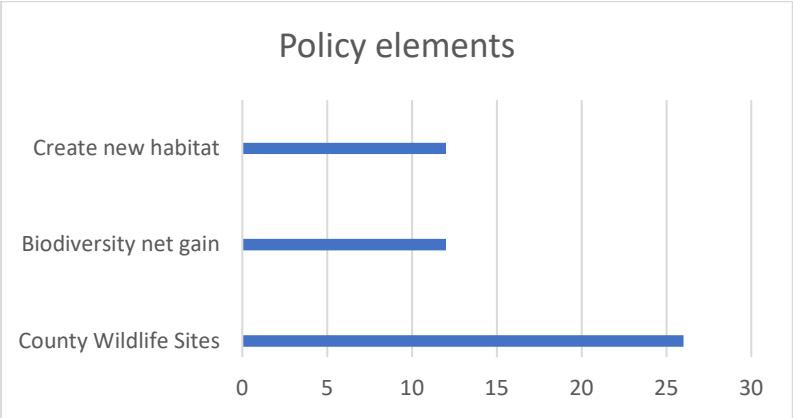
Comments:
Agreement depends upon the criteria - I agree!
Renewables covered by government policy

DRAFT POLICY IDEA 6: Nature conservation and wildlife
Protection of existing wildlife in the parish including habitats and species e.g., woodlands, ponds, hedges, tree lines, etc



(47 dots)

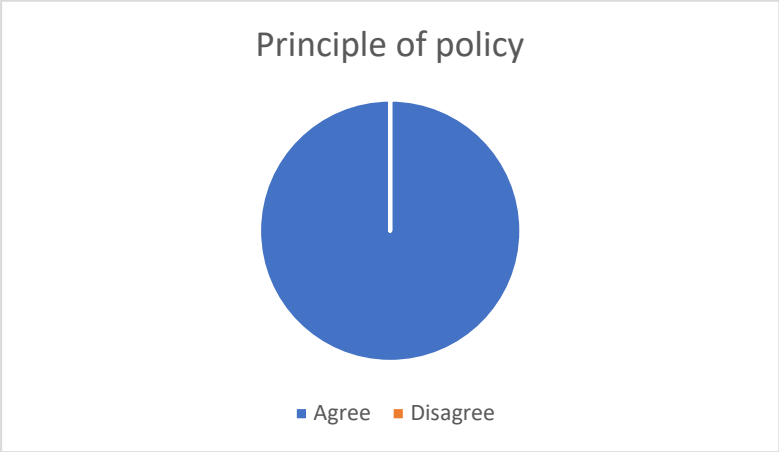
Policy elements



DRAFT POLICY IDEA 7: Non-Designated Heritage Assets

Policy protecting heritage of the parish generally

Identifies specific buildings/structures within the parish as being important locally in terms of their heritage contribution to the local character of the area



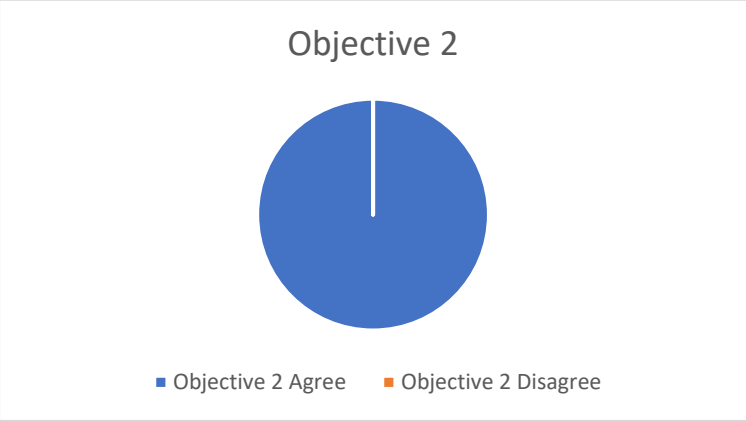
(53 dots)

Comments:

Consider the protection of Edwardian/Victorian buildings within the village

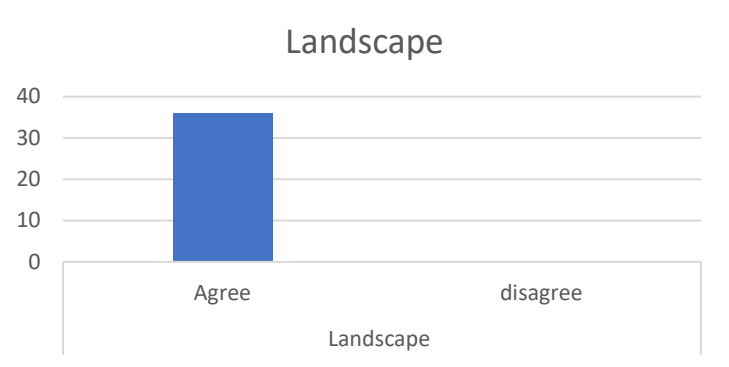
Landscape

Objective 2: To maintain the existing peace and tranquility of the parish, whilst protecting its biodiversity, distinctive character, and heritage.



(42 dots)

DRAFT POLICY IDEA 8 : Landscape
Policy protecting the landscape setting and quality of the landscape of the parish as a whole; Retention of a designation covering the most special areas of landscape in the parish (the former Special Landscape Area - see Map) as an Area of Local Landscape Sensitivity – consistent with other Babergh Neighbourhood Plans

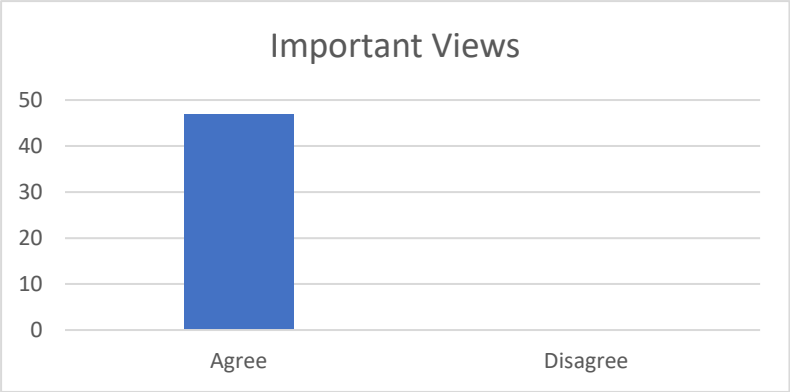


(36 dots)

Comment:
As long as the policy doesn't rule out the installation of renewable energy farms i.e. solar and wind

DRAFT POLICY IDEA 9: Important Public Local Views

Policy that identifies the most important public views in the parish and seeks to protect them from development that would adversely affect their character and value



(47 dots)

Are there any important public local views within the parish that you would like to nominate for protection?

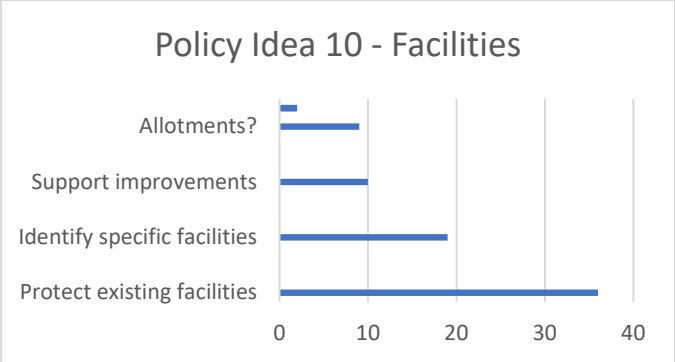
1. War memorial +2
2. View to and from our Grade I listed church+1 1
3. Views surrounding Edwardstone Church +4
4. triangle before Mill green
5. Millennium Green
6. Hideaway Corner
7. From road through Round Maple to north
8. towards Millennium green including view s towards Groton Woods

9. Protect views to and from War memorial +5
10. Protect view to and from church+5
11. Millennium Green
12. Farmland around Smalls Farm towards Boxford Wood

Access and Community
Objective 3: To protect the parish's existing community facilities and green spaces and to improve pedestrian accessibility both within Edwardstone and with neighbouring parishes

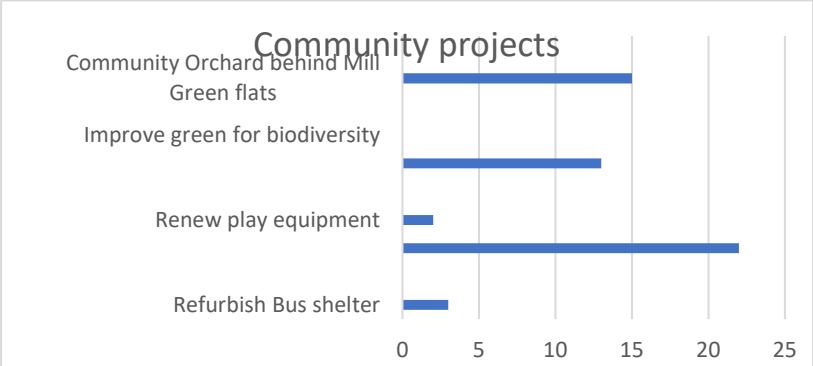
DRAFT POLICY IDEA 10: Community Facilities
Policy that protects the existing community facilities of Edwardstone from development (including change of use) that would reduce or remove their value to the community

Identify the specific facilities e.g., church, parish hall and the public house
Support for development that would improve or extend the community value of existing facilities
Is there a need for allotments?



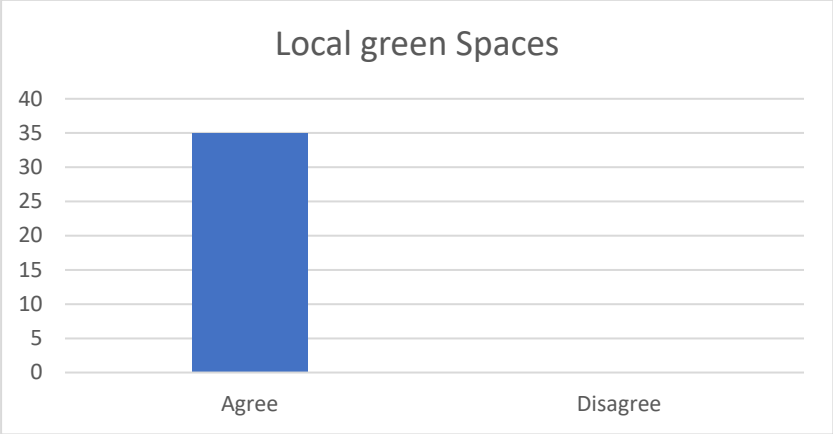
Comments
1. Church to be used as a venue . A lovely building that could be more used+2
2. The pub used to be the hub of the village. Would be nice to see again as it's a sorry state +2
3. It would be good to see the public house become the lively hub it once was +2
4. White Horse should be protected and not allowed to be developed for housing.
5. Keep as a pub and include camping ground+1
6. Allotments - I don't know - survey needed +3 7.
7. Agree again that the White Horse was once a huge asset that appears to be struggling. Very sad
8. White Horse much improved with new publicans

Community Projects



DRAFT POLICY IDEA 11: Local Green Spaces

Policy that protects existing green spaces within the parish.
Policy will list all relevant spaces



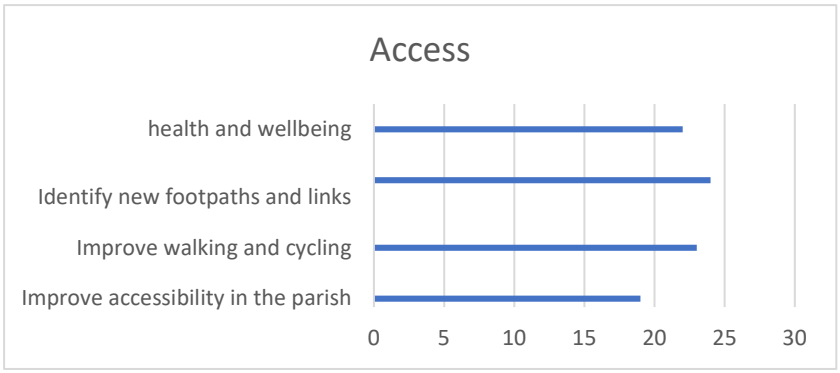
(35 dots)
Are there any green spaces in the parish that you believe should be protected from development?

1. Millennium Green
2. Play Area
3. War memorial
4. Groton Woods

See also Map

DRAFT POLICY IDEA 12: Access
Policy that seeks to improve accessibility in the parish and non- vehicular connections with other parishes ; policy elements can include :

- Support for improvements to walking and cycling
- Protection of existing footpaths
- Identification of extensions/links to existing footpaths that would create a more joined up network
- Support for the health and well-being benefits of improved levels of walking and cycling



Comments:

1. Speed of traffic is alarming. Would love to reduce limit to 30mph
2. A local bus service?
3. Seek control of speed of traffic, especially for Round Maple. Dangerous speeds experienced whilst walking (no footpaths) +2
4. Very pleased that health and well-being is included in relation to footpaths and walking. When footpaths inaccessible you can feel very cut off. We can walk to Boxford from Edwardstone
5. Agree with somehow addressing speed on lanes and danger on corners i.e. Tye West Corner


EDWARDSTONE CP
Priory Green
Priory Farm
Quick's Farm
Round Maple
The Flushing Farm
Lynn's Hall
The Grove
Priory Down
Hilly Farm
Stallington Wood
Park Wood
Park Farm
Hall
Holt
Mill Green
Willows Farm
Edwardstone
Home Farm
Ford
Borehouse Manor Farm
Wardentree Farm
Groton
Sherbourne Street
Edwardstone Lodge
Cowper's Wood
Sherbourne House
Bull's Cross Wood
Neighbourhood Plan Area
Adjacent Parish Boundaries
Kilometres
BABERGH AND MID SUFFOLK DISTRICT COUNCILS
Edwardstone Neighbourhood Plan Area
SCALE 1:20000
Working Together
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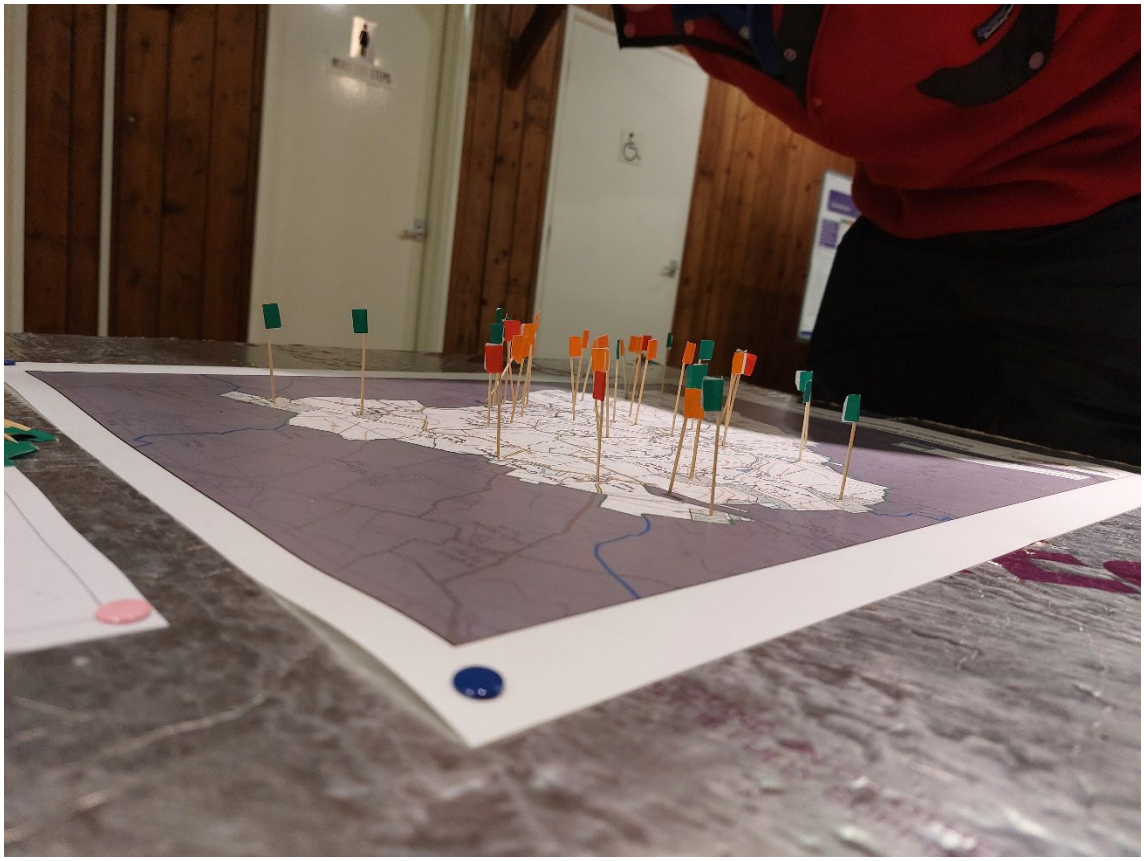
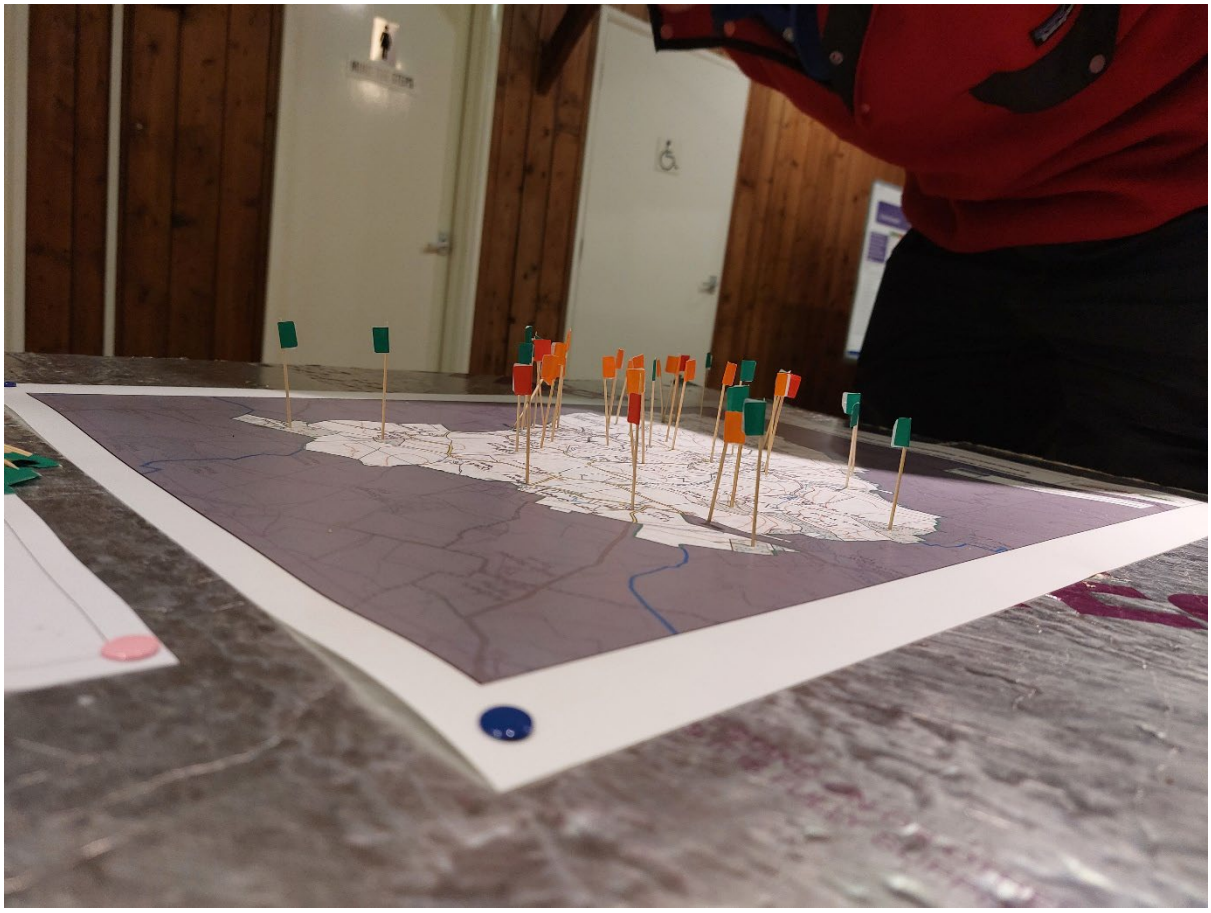
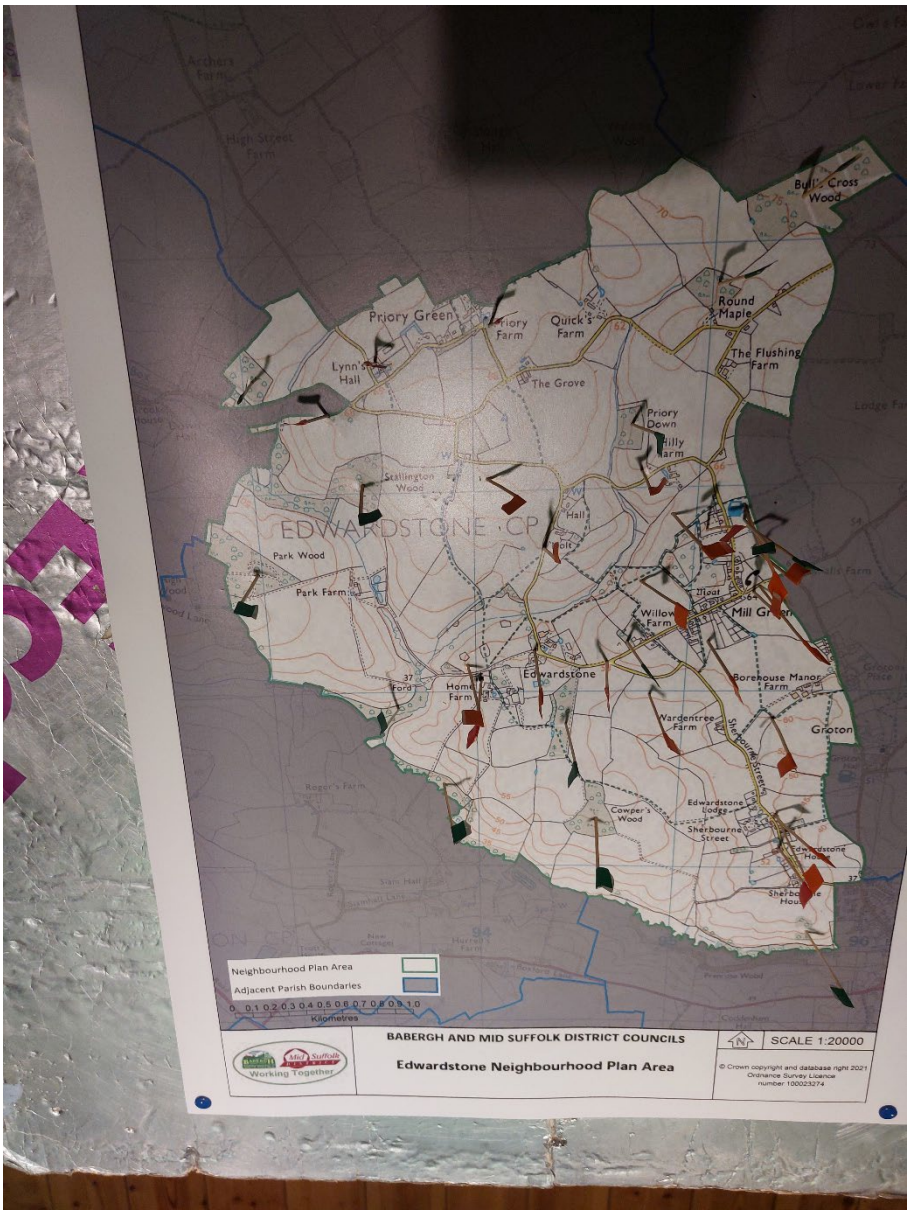
number 100023274






Priory Green
Priory Farm
Quick's Farm
Round Maple
The Flushing Farm
Lynn's Hall
The Grove
Priory Down
Scallington Wood
EDWARDSTONE CP
Park Wood
Park Farm
Willow Farm
Edwardstone
Borehouse Manor Farm
Wardentree Farm
Groton
Cowper's Wood
Edwardstone Lodge
Sherbourne Street
Neighbourhood Plan Area
Adjacent Parish Boundaries
Kilometres
BABERGH AND MID SUFFOLK DISTRICT COUNCILS
Edwardstone Neighbourhood Plan Area
SCALE 1:20000
Working Together


EDWARDSTONE CP
Priory Green
Priory Farm
Quick's Farm
Round Maple
Bull's Cross Wood
The Flushing Farm
The Grove
Priory Down
Hilly Farm
Lynn's Hall
Stallington Wood
Park Wood
Park Farm
Hall
Holt
Willows Farm
Mill Green
Edwardstone
Ford
Ham Farm
Borehouse Manor Farm
Wardentree Farm
Groton
Sherbourne Street
Edwardstone Lodge
Cowper's Wood
Sherbourne House
Roger's Farm
Hurrell's Farm
Primrose Wood
Coddenham Hall
Neighbourhood Plan Area
Adjacent Parish Boundaries
0 0.1 0.2 0.3 0.4 0.5 0.6 0.7 0.8 0.9 1.0
Kilometres
BABERGH AND MID SUFFOLK DISTRICT COUNCILS
Edwardstone Neighbourhood Plan Area
SCALE 1:20000
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number 100023274
Mid Suffolk DISTRICT
Together

Appendix E: Policy Ideas Exhibition Publicity

EDWARDSTONE

Edwardstone Neighbourhood Plan 'Policy Ideas Public Exhibition'

The Edwardstone Neighbourhood Plan is a planning policy document written by the community to guide future development in the area.

The Steering Group want to know your views on the draft ideas.

Please visit our exhibition and make your views known.

After this consultation, work will being on drafting the Neighbourhood Plan, which will be the subject of public consultation in 2023. Please help us to shape the draft Plan

The Neighbourhood Plan will be the subject of a Referendum and if agreed, it will become 'Adopted' by Babergh District Council .

The adopted Plan will have legal weight and be used in the determination of all planning applications in the parish.

Appendix F: Regulation 14 Pre-Submission Consultation Flyer

Edwardstone Neighbourhood Plan
Consultation and Exhibition on the draft Plan

In September 2022 we held an Exhibition to seek the views of Edwardstone residents on a Neighbourhood Plan for the Parish. The Exhibition was well attended and we received a lot of support for the ideas we were proposing.

The Steering Group has reviewed the comments received on the initial ideas and has now produced a draft Neighbourhood Plan to reflect your views.

We are about to start a formal consultation on the Policies that will affect Edwardstone over the lifetime of the Plan from now until 2037.

THIS IS THE LAST OPPORTUNITY FOR YOU TO HAVE YOUR SAY ON THE CONTENT OF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN BEFORE IT IS SUBMITTED TO BABERGH DISTRICT COUNCIL FOR INSPECTION.
A REFERENDUM WILL BE HELD IN 2024 ON WHETHER OR NOT YOU WANT THE PLAN TO BE ADOPTED.

The Policies cover Housing, the Environment, Landscape and Access & the Community.

Exhibition

We are holding an Exhibition from 1pm to 8pm on Monday 6th November in the Parish Hall.

Here you will be able to study the Plan and ask questions of members of the Steering Group about the Policies it is proposing. You will also be invited to leave your thoughts and comments on the response form that will be available on the day.

IF I CAN'T GET TO THE EXHIBITION, WHERE CAN I GET A COPY OF THE DRAFT PLAN?

The draft Neighbourhood Plan (and some associated documents including a Design Code and a Suffolk Wildlife report into biodiversity in the Parish) are available from the Parish Council website **http://edwardstonepc.onesuffolk.net/edwardstone-neighbourhood-plan/**

Copies of the draft Plan will also be available for viewing in the Boxford Post Office and the White Horse.

HOW DO I RESPOND?

On the website you will also find a form you can use for providing your comments. This is available as a MS Word document and as a 'PDF'.

Responses can be emailed as an attachment to edwardstonendp@gmail.com

Or left in one of the collection boxes available in the Boxford Post Office and White Horse

Or contact edwardstoneplan@gmail.com and we will arrange to collect it.

WE NEED YOUR COMMENTS

As this is a Plan that will be used to inform the future of Edwardstone we welcome your comments on it.

WRITTEN RESPONSES MUST BE SUBMITTED BEFORE THE DEADLINE OF MIDNIGHT ON 11 DECEMBER 2023

DON'T FORGET THE EXHIBITION IN THE PARISH HALL ON 6 NOVEMBER BETWEEN 1PM AND 8PM

Appendix G: Regulation 14 Pre-Submission Consultation Response form

EDWARDSTONE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Pre-Submission (REG14) Consultation Response Form

30 October to 11 December 2023

Please use this form to submit comments about the pre-submission draft Plan. We would prefer to receive responses using the form, which is available to download from the Parish Council website.

Please submit your completed form in one of the following ways:
1) Email as an attachment to edwardstonendp@gmail.com; or
2) Leave a paper copy in the collection boxes which are in the **Boxford Post Office** and **White Horse**; or
3) Email edwardstoneplan@gmail.com and we will arrange to collect your form.

The documents being consulted on may be viewed online at:
http://edwardstonepc.onesuffolk.net/edwardstone-neighbourhood-plan/

This public consultation begins on **30 October 2023** and will run for **6 weeks ending at midnight on 11 December 2023.** Responses received after the closing date may not be considered.

Please expand the boxes as necessary or attach additional sheets. Clearly mark any **additional** sheets with your Name, details and the part of the draft Plan your comments relate to.

You do not have to answer every comment box but the more you tell us the more we can ensure the Plan represents local views. Please let us know about the things that are important to you.

NAME	
ADDRESS	
ORGANISATION / CLIENT YOU'RE REPRESENTING (Where applicable)	
YOUR EMAIL (optional)	

All information collected and processed by the Parish Council at this stage is by virtue of our requirement under the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (as amended). Please note: All comments received will be made publicly available and may be identifiable by name / organisation. All other personal information provided will be protected in accordance with the Data Protection Act 2018. For more information on how we do this and your rights with regards to your personal information, and how to access it, please visit the Parish Council Website or speak to the Clerk.

CONSULTATION RESPONSE *Please continue on a separate sheet if the box isn't big enough*	
I am generally in favour of the Plan	**AGREE / DISAGREE**
I would like to see changes to the Plan	**AGREE / DISAGREE**
General comments on the Plan	
Do you have any comments on Chapters 1 – 4?	YES / NO
Comment	
Do you agree with the Vision and Objectives of the Plan (Chapter 5)?	YES / NO
Comment	
Do you have any general comments on Chapter 7 – Housing	YES / NO
Comment	
Do you agree with Policy EDW1 – Location and scale of new housing development?	YES / NO
Comment	
Do you agree with Policy EDW2 – Housing Mix and Affordable Housing	YES / NO
Comment	
Do you have any general comments on Chapter 8 –Environment?	YES / NO
Comment	

All information collected and processed by the Parish Council at this stage is by virtue of our requirement under the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (as amended). Please note: All comments received will be made publicly available and may be identifiable by name / organisation. All other personal information provided will be protected in accordance with the Data Protection Act 2018. For more information on how we do this and your rights with regards to your personal information, and how to access it, please visit the Parish Council Website or speak to the Clerk.

Do you agree with Policy EDW3 – Design?	YES / NO
Comment	
Do you agree with Policy EDW4– Pollution and amenity?	YES / NO
Comment	
Do you agree with Policy EDW5 – Energy sustainability and climate change?	YES / NO
Comment	
Do you agree with Policy EDW6 – Protecting and enhancing biodiversity?	YES/NO
Comment	
Do you agree with Policy EDW7 – Heritage Assets?	YES/NO
Comment	
Do you have any general comments on Chapter 9 – Landscape?	YES/NO
Comment	
Do you agree with Policy EDW8 – Landscape?	YES/NO
Comment	
Do you have any general comments on Chapter 10 – Access and Community?	YES / NO
Comment	

All information collected and processed by the Parish Council at this stage is by virtue of our requirement under the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (as amended). Please note: All comments received will be made publicly available and may be identifiable by name / organisation. All other personal information provided will be protected in accordance with the Data Protection Act 2018. For more information on how we do this and your rights with regards to your personal information, and how to access it, please visit the Parish Council Website or speak to the Clerk.

Do you agree with Policy EDW9– Community Facilities?	YES / NO
Comment	
Do you agree with Policy EDW10– Local Green Spaces?	YES / NO
Comment	
Do you agree with Policy EDW11 – Accessibility?	YES/NO
Comment	
Do you have any ideas for Community Projects (such as those shown on Pages 34 and 35)?	YES/NO
Comment	
Do you have any general comments on the supporting documents: The Design Guidelines or the Biodiversity report?	YES/NO
Comment	
Do you have any other comments?	YES/NO
Comment	

Thank You!

All information collected and processed by the Parish Council at this stage is by virtue of our requirement under the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (as amended). Please note: All comments received will be made publicly available and may be identifiable by name / organisation. All other personal information provided will be protected in accordance with the Data Protection Act 2018. For more information on how we do this and your rights with regards to your personal information, and how to access it, please visit the Parish Council Website or speak to the Clerk.

Appendix H: Notification letters to NDHA and LGS owners

Edwardstone Neighbourhood Plan

Pre-Submission Public Consultation
30th October 2023 to 11th December 2023

Dear Landowner,

Local Green Spaces

This letter is to advise you that the draft Edwardstone Neighbourhood Plan will be published for public consultation on 30th October 2023 with a six-week public consultation period lasting until 11th December 2023.

The Neighbourhood Plan is being prepared on behalf of Edwardstone Parish Council. It is a planning policy document which will guide future development in the area. More information can be found here: http://edwardstonepc.onesuffolk.net/edwardstone-neighbourhood-plan/

A piece of land that you own/have an interest has been suggested for inclusion in the Neighbourhood Plan as a Local Green Space.

Local Green Space designation allows local communities to protect green spaces of local importance. We are keen to include Local Green Spaces in the Neighbourhood Plan, to ensure that that some of the important characteristics of Edwardstone are recognised and protected. If the spaces meet the following criteria, they will receive protection equivalent to green belt land, once the Neighbourhood Plan is approved.

The Local Green Space designation should only be used where the green space is:

a. in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves.
b. 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
c. local in character and is not an extensive tract of land.

(National Planning Policy Framework, paragraph 102)
Promoting healthy and safe communities - National Planning Policy Framework - Guidance - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

A draft list of candidate Local Green Spaces for Edwardstone is as follows:
Policy SF18
a) Millennium Green
b) Play area
c) War Memorial Green
d) Churchyard
e) New Community Orchard at Mill Green and area immediately adjacent

The list of Local Green Spaces is in draft at present. We are seeking your views as to whether you think your land should be included in the final version of the Neighbourhood Plan. We would be grateful therefore if you could email edwardstonendp@gmail.com by the closing date of the consultation which is 11th December 2023, with your views. If you have any questions, please email before this date.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely,

Andrea Long
Consultant to Edwardstone Neighbourhood Plan
edwardstonendp@gmail.com

Edwardstone Neighbourhood Plan

Consultation 30th October to 11th December 2023

Dear XXX,

Non-designated Heritage Assets

This letter is to advise you that the draft Edwardstone Neighbourhood Plan will be published for public consultation on 30th October with a six-week public consultation period lasting until 11th December 2023

The Neighbourhood Plan is being prepared on behalf of Edwardstone Parish Council. It is a planning policy document which will guide future development in the area. More information can be found here: http://edwardstonepc.onesuffolk.net/edwardstone-neighbourhood-plan/

We are writing to you because a building/structure you own/have an interest in, has been suggested for inclusion in the Neighbourhood Plan as a Non-designated Heritage Asset (Important Unlisted Building).

A Non-designated Heritage Asset is a building or structure that is locally important to the community because of its age, rarity, aesthetic interest, group value, historic association, landscape interest, landmark status or social/communal value. These do not have the same protection or restrictions as those on the national list of Listing Buildings.

If a building is identified as a Non-designated Heritage Asset, it does not mean that it cannot be altered or amended in anyway nor does it mean that there are additional regulations or consents required to undertake any works to it. It simply means that any proposals that already require the benefit of planning permission that may affect your property should take your building's architectural or historic significance into account. We are keen to include Non-designated Heritage Assets in the Neighbourhood Plan, to ensure that that some of the important characteristics of Edwardstone are recognised.

I attach the information gathered to date for this property. We are seeking your views as **to whether you think your building should be included in the final version of Neighbourhood Plan and whether the information is correct. We would be grateful therefore if you could email edwardstonendp@gmail.com**

by the closing date of the consultation, which is midnight on XX 2023, with your views. If you have any questions, please contact us before this date.
Thank you.

Yours sincerely,

Andrea Long
Consultant to Edwardstone Neighbourhood Plan
edwardstonendp@gmail.com

Appendix B: Non-Designated Heritage Assets Justification

Group Value: Groupings of assets with a clear visual design or historic relationship.

Archaeological Interest: The local heritage asset may provide evidence about past human activity in the locality, which may be in the form of buried remains, but may also be revealed in the structure of buildings or in a designed landscape, for instance. Heritage assets with archaeological interest are primary sources of evidence about the substance and evolution of places, and of the people and cultures that made them.

Historic Interest: A significant historical association of local or national note, including links to important local figures, may enhance the significance of a heritage asset. Blue Plaque and similar schemes may be relevant.

Social and communal interest may be regarded as a sub-set of historic interest but has special value in local listing. As noted in the PPG: 'Heritage assets ... can also provide meaning for communities derived from their collective experience of a place and can symbolise wider values such as faith and cultural identity'. It therefore relates to places perceived as a source of local identity, distinctiveness, social interaction and coherence, contributing to the 'collective memory' of a place.

Landmark Status: An asset with strong communal or historical associations, or because it has especially striking aesthetic value, may be singled out as a landmark within the local scene.

The table below outlined the justification for the inclusion of The Icehouse as a Proposed Non-Designated Heritage Asset. The criteria is based on the 'Local Heritage Listing: Historic England Advice Note 7', page 9.

Age: The age of an asset may be an important criterion, and the age range can be adjusted to take into account distinctive local characteristics or building traditions.

Rarity: Appropriate for all assets, as judged against local characteristics.

Architectural and Artistic Interest: The intrinsic design and aesthetic value of an asset relating to local and/or national styles, materials, construction and craft techniques, or any other distinctive characteristics.

Property Details	Property Photograph
The Icehouse: **A brick and flint Icehouse, located near to the Edwardstone Church, and identified in the Suffolk Heritage Explorer as (EDN015) and described as a post-medieval icehouse sometime between 1540-1900. Believed to have originally be constructed in association with the former Edwardstone Hall which was a Victorian building, although there was an earlier 18th Century Hall on the same site. The Hall was demolished in 1952, leaving only the gatehouse (Temple Bar).** ***(Age, Rarity, Architectural and Artistic Interest, Group Value, Historic Interest and Landmark Status)***	

Appendix I: Notification Letter /consultees

Edwardstone Neighbourhood Plan

Dear Statutory Consultee,

Pre-submission consultation on the Edwardstone Neighbourhood Plan

I am delighted to inform you that the pre-submission consultation on the Edwardstone Neighbourhood Plan begins on **30th October 2023** and concludes at midnight on **11th December 2023**

Details of the consultation including how to make comments on the plan a can be found on the Edwardstone Parish Council Neighbourhood Plan web page: http://edwardstonepc.onesuffolk.net/edwardstone-neighbourhood-plan/

The Pre-Submission Consultation Draft NDP and the accompanying supporting documents can also be viewed using this link.

As this is a formal stage, comments on the plan must be made using the response form and emailed to this email address. edwardstonendp@gmail.com

Kind Regards

Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

Edwardstone Neighbourhood Plan

Dear Local Consultee,

Pre-submission consultation on the Edwardstone Neighbourhood Plan

We are contacting you as you or your organisation have/has been identified as having an interest in the parish of Edwardstone. I am delighted to inform you that the pre-submission consultation on the Edwardstone Neighbourhood Plan begins on **30th October 2023** and concludes at midnight on **11th December 2023**

Details of the consultation including how to make comments on the plan a can be found on the Edwardstone Parish Council Neighbourhood Plan web page: http://edwardstonepc.onesuffolk.net/edwardstone-neighbourhood-plan/

The Pre-Submission Consultation Draft NDP and the accompanying supporting documents can also be viewed using this link.

As this is a formal stage, comments on the plan must be made using the response form and emailed to this email address. edwardstonendp@gmail.com

Kind Regards

Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

Appendix J: REG 14 Consultee List

MP for South Suffolk	
County Cllr for Stour Valley Division	Suffolk County Council
County Cllr to Sudbury East and Waldingfield	Suffolk County Council
Ward Cllr to Box Vale	BDC
Ward Cllr to Assington	BDC
Ward Cllr to Lavenham (x2)	BDC
Parish Clerk to …	Groton
Parish Clerk to …	Milden
Parish Clerk to …	Lt Waldingfield
Parish Clerk to …	Gt Waldingfield
Parish Clerk to …	Newton
Parish Clerk to	Boxford
BMSDC Community Planning	Babergh & Babergh DC
SCC Neighbourhood Planning	Suffolk County Council
Transport Policy	Suffolk County Council
Planning Obligations Manager	Suffolk County Council
HR Manager - SOR, Children and Young People	Suffolk County Council
	The Coal Authority
Area Manager, Norfolk & Suffolk Team	Homes & Communities Agency (HCA)
Land Use Operations	Natural England
Essex, Norfolk & Suffolk Sustainable Places Team	Environment Agency
East of England Office	Historic England
East of England Office	National Trust
Town Planning Team	Network Rail Infrastructure Limited
	Highways England

Stakeholders & Networks Officer	Marine Management Organisation
	Vodafone and O2 - EMF Enquiries
Corporate and Financial Affairs Department	EE
	Three
Estates Planning Support Officer	Ipswich & East Suffolk CCG & West Suffolk CCG
	Transco - National Grid
Consultant	Wood Plc (obo National Grid)
Infrastructure Planner	UK Power Networks
Strategic and Spatial Planning Manager	Anglian Water
	Essex & Suffolk Water
	National Federation of Gypsy Liaison Groups
	Norfolk & Suffolk Gypsy Roma & Traveller Service
	Diocese of St Edmundsbury & Ipswich
Chief Executive	Suffolk Chamber of Commerce
Senior Growing Places Fund Co-ordinator	New Anglia LEP
Strategy Manager	New Anglia LEP
Conservation Officer	RSPB
Senior Planning Manager	Sport England (East)
	Suffolk Constabulary
Senior Conservation Adviser	Suffolk Wildlife Trust
Director	Suffolk Preservation Society
	Suffolk Coalition of Disabled People
	Dedham Vale Society
	Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB
	Suffolk Preservation Society

	Landowners; owners of NDH and LGS
Community Development Officer – Rural Affordable Housing	Community Action Suffolk
Internal Drainage Board	
Defence Infrastructure Organisation	
Senior Manager Community Engagement	Community Action Suffolk

Local Landowners/Agents
James Bailey Planning
James Lawson Planning
Millennium Green Trust
Parish Hall Trust
Edwardstone Cricket Club
Boxford and Groton United Charities
Edwardstone United Charities
LGS owners
NDHA owner

Appendix K– Regulation 14 Response Table

Table code

Supportive comment or no change to the Plan
Non substantive change made to supporting text. Steering group to check
Change made to policy. Steering group to discuss and check

General comments

Rep No.	Paragraph or policy number	Respondent	Response	Suggested Steering Group response	Action
1	General	Individual 1	I am generally in favour of the Plan.	Support noted	No change
2	General	Individual 2	I am generally in favour of the Plan.	Support noted	No change
3	General	Individual 2	The village hall should be moved to the green opposite the pub.	Comments noted. There are no plans to move the village hall . It should be noted that the green space opposite referred to is protected as a Local Green Space which would preclude development taking place.	No change
4	General	Individual 3	I am generally in favour of the Plan. There is nothing major to disagree with. It all looks sensible. It might not technically be a planning issue, but the aspiration of a modest bus service should in	Comments noted. However, the provision of a bus	No change

Rep No.	Paragraph or policy number	Respondent	Response	Suggested Steering Group response	Action
			my view be recorded. I wish you success in establishing the Plan and having it accepted by Babergh DC and subsequently incorporated into the development plan.	service is not within the scope of the Neighbourhood Plan	
5	General	Individual 4	I am generally in favour of the Plan	Support noted	No change
6	General	Individual 4	We would fully support the re-opening of footpaths in the area. It seems a very comprehensive and well written plan. Thanks to all involved.	Support noted	No change
7	General	Individual 5	We both think the Plan is excellent as it stands and have no detailed comments on any of the serials below. Our grateful thanks to all involved in formulating the Plan.	Support noted	No change
8	General	Individual 7	All looks fantastic and makes me proud to live in Edwardstone!	Support noted	No change
9	General	Individual 8	Seems very comprehensive	Support noted	No change
10	General	Boxford and Groton United Charities	Just a brief note to say that Boxford and Groton United Charities have reviewed the Neighbourhood Plan and will not be making any comment.	Comments noted	No change
11	General	National Highways	Thank you for your correspondence, received on 27 October 2023, notifying National Highways of the consultation above. National Highways is responsible for the operation, maintenance, and improvement of the Strategic Road Network (SRN) in England on behalf of the Secretary of the State. In relation to this proposed pre-submission consultation on the Edwardstone Neighbourhood Plan, our principal interest will include safeguarding the operation of the A12 and A14 SRN routes within Suffolk. This proposed Neighbourhood Plan area is remote from the nearest Strategic Road Network (SRN). Due to the proposed development	Noted.	No change

Rep No.	Paragraph or policy number	Respondent	Response	Suggested Steering Group response	Action
			scale, nature, and location, there would not be any predicted adverse impact on the Strategic Road Network (SRN). National Highways do not have any comment on this above-mentioned neighbourhood Plan consultation.		
12	General	Natural England	Thank you for your consultation on the above dated 27 October 2023. Natural England is a non-departmental public body. Our statutory purpose is to ensure that the natural environment is conserved, enhanced, and managed for the benefit of present and future generations, thereby contributing to sustainable development. Natural England is a statutory consultee in neighbourhood planning and must be consulted on draft neighbourhood development plans by the Parish/Town Councils or Neighbourhood Forums where they consider our interests would be affected by the proposals made. Natural England does not have any specific comments on this draft neighbourhood plan. However, we refer you to the attached annex which covers the issues and opportunities that should be considered when preparing a Neighbourhood Plan and to the following information. Natural England does not hold information on the location of significant populations of protected species, so is unable to advise whether this plan is likely to affect protected species to such an extent as to require a Strategic Environmental Assessment. Further information on protected species and development is included in Natural England's Standing Advice on protected species. Furthermore, Natural England does not routinely maintain locally specific data on all environmental assets. The plan may have	Noted. Babergh have undertaken Screening for both Strategic Environmental Assessment and Habitats Regulation Assessment and neither revealed the need for further assessments to be undertaken.	No change

Rep No.	Paragraph or policy number	Respondent	Response	Suggested Steering Group response	Action
			environmental impacts on priority species and/or habitats, local wildlife sites, soils and best and most versatile agricultural land, or on local landscape character that may be sufficient to warrant a Strategic Environmental Assessment. Information on ancient woodland, ancient and veteran trees is set out in Natural England/Forestry Commission standing advice. We therefore recommend that advice is sought from your ecological, landscape and soils advisers, local record centre, recording society or wildlife body on the local soils, best and most versatile agricultural land, landscape, geodiversity and biodiversity receptors that may be affected by the plan before determining whether a Strategic Environmental Assessment is necessary. Natural England reserves the right to provide further advice on the environmental assessment of the plan. This includes any third-party appeal against any screening decision you may make. If an Strategic Environmental Assessment is required, Natural England must be consulted at the scoping and environmental report stages.		
13	General	Historic England	Thank you for inviting Historic England to comment on the Regulation 14 Pre-Submission Draft of this Neighbourhood Plan. We welcome the production of this neighbourhood plan, but do not consider it necessary for Historic England to be involved in the detailed development of your strategy at this time. We would refer you to our advice on successfully incorporating historic environment considerations into your neighbourhood plan, which can be found here:	Noted	No change

Rep No.	Paragraph or policy number	Respondent	Response	Suggested Steering Group response	Action
			https://historicengland.org.uk/advice/planning/plan-making/improve-your-neighbourhood/. For further specific advice regarding the historic environment and how to integrate it into your neighbourhood plan, we recommend that you consult your local planning authority conservation officer, and if appropriate the Historic Environment Record at Suffolk County Council. To avoid any doubt, this letter does not reflect our obligation to provide further advice on or, potentially, object to specific proposals which may subsequently arise as a result of the proposed plan, where we consider these would have an adverse effect on the historic environment.		
14	General	Anglian Water	Overall we are supportive of the policy ambitions within the Neighbourhood Plan and wish the Parish Council every success in taking this forward.	Support noted	No change
15	General	SCC Fire and Rescue Service	Fire and Rescue Suffolk Fire & Rescue Service (SFRS) has considered the plan and are of the opinion that, given the level of growth proposed, do not envisage additional service provision will need to be made in order to mitigate the impact. However, this will be reconsidered if service conditions change. As always, SFRS would encourage the provision of automated fire suppression sprinkler systems in any new development as it not only affords enhanced life and property protection but if incorporated into the design/build stage it is	Comments noted. The provision of automated fire suppression sprinkler systems in new development is not a planning matter and therefore not	No change

Rep No.	Paragraph or policy number	Respondent	Response	Suggested Steering Group response	Action
			extremely cost effective and efficient. SFRS will not have any objection with regard access, as long as access is in accordance with building regulation guidance. SFRS will of course wish to have included adequate water supplies for firefighting, specific information as to the number and location can be obtained from our water officer via the normal consultation process.	appropriate for planning policy.	
16	General	Minerals and Waste (SCC)	Minerals and Waste Suffolk County Council is the Minerals and Waste Planning Authority for Suffolk. This means that SCC makes planning policies and decisions in relation to minerals and waste. The relevant policy document is the Suffolk Minerals and Waste Local Plan,5 adopted in July 2020, which forms part of the Local Development Plan. It is a material consideration in plan making alongside other local plan documents and the NPPF. SCC notes that paragraphs 9.3 and 9.10 refer to mineral extraction and deposits, however, there is no mention of the Suffolk Minerals and Waste Local Plan 2020 in Chapter 3 or elsewhere in the Plan. SCC considers that this must be included as it forms part of the Local Development Plan. The Suffolk Minerals and Waste Local Plan sets out (among other policies) safeguarding policies for minerals and waste consultation areas and safeguarded minerals and waste sites. These policies will need to be taken into consideration for any plan-making or development proposals. A considerable amount of land within the Edwardstone parish boundary is located within the consultation area as defined by	Comments noted. Chapter 3 can be amended to refer to the Suffolk Minerals and Waste Local Plan 2020	Amend paragraphs Chapter 3 accordingly ☑

Rep No.	Paragraph or policy number	Respondent	Response	Suggested Steering Group response	Action
			Policy MP10: minerals consultation and safeguarding areas and as outlined on the Safeguarding and Proposals Map6. This area can also be viewed on the Interactive Map of Waste Locations of Interest7 by enabling the "consultation area" overlay (this can be activated via the tab in the lower right corner). This means that Policy MP10 (Safeguarding) will apply to any proposed development within these areas (proposed development require consultation with the local mineral authority if development meets policy requirements). 5 https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/planning-waste-and-environment/minerals-and-waste-policy/suffolk-mineralsand-waste-development-scheme/ 6 https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/asset-library/imported/minerals-and-waste-safeguarding-and-proposals-mapreduced.pdf 7 https://scc-planning.github.io/minerals-waste-map/ There are no safeguarded minerals and waste sites in the Edwardstone parish boundary. Please be aware the closest safeguarded facility is the AW73 – Groton-Park Corner STW – Anglian Water site, located to the east of Edwardstone.		
17	General	SCC	General There are several instances of duplicate paragraph numbers throughout the plan. Namely, on page	Comments noted. Formatting and numbering will be reviewed.	Review all numbering ☑

Rep No.	Paragraph or policy number	Respondent	Response	Suggested Steering Group response	Action
			42 the paragraph number goes from 7.17 to 7.13, thereby repeating 17.13 – 17.17; on pages 55-56 the paragraph number goes from 8.29 to 8.13; on page 15 the paragraph number goes from 2.20 to 2.18. Paragraph 10.7 refers to Figure X which is understood to be Figure 28. Appendix C for LGS justification is incorrectly noted as Appendix B.		
18	General	Avison Young for National Grid Electricity	National Grid Electricity Transmission has appointed Avison Young to review and respond to local planning authority Development Plan Document consultations on its behalf. We are instructed by our client to submit the following representation with regard to the current consultation on the above document. About National Grid Electricity Transmission National Grid Electricity Transmission plc (NGET) owns and maintains the electricity transmission system in England and Wales. The energy is then distributed to the electricity distribution network operators, so it can reach homes and businesses. National Grid no longer owns or operates the high-pressure gas transmission system across the UK. This is the responsibility of National Gas Transmission, which is a separate entity and must be consulted independently. National Grid Ventures (NGV) develop, operate and invest in energy projects, technologies, and partnerships to help accelerate the development of a clean energy future for consumers across the UK, Europe and the United States. NGV is separate from National Grid's	Comments noted.	No change

Rep No.	Paragraph or policy number	Respondent	Response	Suggested Steering Group response	Action
			core regulated businesses. Please also consult with NGV separately from NGET. Proposed development sites crossed or in close proximity to NGET assets: An assessment has been carried out with respect to NGET's assets which include high voltage electricity assets and other electricity infrastructure. NGET has identified that it has no record of such assets within the Neighbourhood Plan area.		
19	General	Avison Young on behalf of National Grid Gas	National Gas Transmission has appointed Avison Young to review and respond to Neighbourhood Plan consultations on its behalf. We are instructed by our client to submit the following representation with regard to the current consultation on the above document. About National Gas Transmission National Gas Transmission owns and operates the high-pressure gas transmission system across the UK. In the UK, gas leaves the transmission system and enters the UK's four gas distribution networks where pressure is reduced for public use. Proposed sites crossed or in close proximity to National Gas Transmission assets. An assessment has been carried out with respect to National Gas Transmission's assets which include high-pressure gas pipelines and other infrastructure. National Gas Transmission has identified that it has no record of such assets within the Neighbourhood Plan area.	Comments noted	No change
20	General	Environment Agency	Thank you for consulting us on the reg 14 submission plan for the Acton Neighbourhood Plan.	Noted – general advice given	No change

Rep No.	Paragraph or policy number	Respondent	Response	Suggested Steering Group response	Action
			We regret that at present, we are unable to review this consultation. We have had to prioritise our limited resources and must focus on influencing plans where the environmental risks and opportunities are highest. For the purposes of neighbourhood planning, we have assessed those authorities who have “up to date” local plans (plans adopted within the previous 5 years) as being of lower risk, and those authorities who have older plans (adopted more than 5 years ago) as being at greater risk. We aim to reduce flood risk and protect and enhance the water environment, and with consideration to the key environmental constraints within our remit, we have then tailored our approach to reviewing each neighbourhood plan accordingly. A key principle of the planning system is to promote sustainable development. Sustainable development meets our needs for housing, employment and recreation while protecting the environment. It ensures that the right development is built in the right place at the right time. To assist in the preparation of any document towards achieving sustainable development we have identified the key environmental issues within our remit that are relevant to this area and provide guidance on any actions you need to undertake. We also provide hyperlinks to where you can obtain further information and advice to help support your neighbourhood plan. Environmental Constraints We have identified that the Neighbourhood Plan Area will be affected by the following environmental constraints:		

Rep No.	Paragraph or policy number	Respondent	Response	Suggested Steering Group response	Action
			Flood Risk Based on a review of environmental constraints for which we are a statutory consultee, we find that there are areas of fluvial flood risk and watercourses within the neighbourhood plan area. In particular, we note that the boundary does extend into areas of Flood Zones 2 and 3 of the designated main River Box. On the basis that future development is steered away from the sensitive aspects of the environment highlighted, we do not consider there to be potential significant environmental effects relating to these environmental constraints. Nevertheless, we recommend the inclusion of relevant policies to cover the management of flood risk. Allocation of any sites and any windfall development delivered through the Plan period should follow the sequential approach. National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) paragraph 161 sets this out. Water Resources Being in one of the driest areas of the country, our environment has come under significant pressure from potable water demand. New developments should make a significant contribution towards reducing water demand and mitigate against the risk of deterioration to our rivers, groundwater and habitats from groundwater abstraction. We recommend you check the capacity of available water supplies with the water company, in line with the emerging 2024 Water Resources Management Plan which is due to be published in 2023. The Local Planning Authorities Water Cycle Study and Local Plan may indicate constraints in water supply and		

Rep No.	Paragraph or policy number	Respondent	Response	Suggested Steering Group response	Action
			provide recommendations for phasing of development to tie in with new alternative strategic supplies. New development should as a minimum meet the highest levels of water efficiency standards, as per the policies in the adopted Local Plan. In most cases development will be expected to achieve 110 litres per person per day as set out in the Building Regulations &c. (Amendment) Regulations 2015. However, a higher standard of water efficiency (e.g. 85 l/p/d) should be considered, looking at all options including rainwater harvesting and greywater systems. Using the water efficiency calculator in Part G of the Building Regulations enables you to calculate the devices and fittings required to ensure a home is built to the right specifications to meet the 110 l/p/d requirement. We recommend all new non-residential development of 1000sqm gross floor area or more should meet the BREEAM 'excellent' standards for water consumption. Developments that require their own abstraction where it will exceed 20 cubic metres per day from a surface water source (river, stream) or from underground strata (via borehole or well) will require an abstraction licence under the terms of the Water Resources Act 1991. There is no guarantee that a licence will be granted as this is dependent on available water resources and existing protected rights. The relevant abstraction licencing strategy for your area provides information on water availability and licencing policy at Abstraction licensing strategies (CAMS process) - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk). Informatives		

Rep No.	Paragraph or policy number	Respondent	Response	Suggested Steering Group response	Action
			We encourage you to seek ways in which your neighbourhood plan can improve the local environment. For your information, together with Natural England, Historic England and Forestry Commission, we have published joint guidance on neighbourhood planning, which sets out sources of environmental information and ideas on incorporating the environment into plans. This is available at: How to consider the environment in Neighbourhood plans - Locality Neighbourhood Planning Source Protection Zones Your plan includes areas which are located on Source Protection Zone 3. These should be considered within your plan if growth or development is proposed here. The relevance of the designation and the potential implication upon development proposals should be considered with reference to our Groundwater Protection guidance: https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/groundwater-protection		
21	General	Little Waldingfield Parish Council	Little Waldingfield Parish Council expresses its general support for the plan. Little Waldingfield Parish Council and Little Waldingfield Footpaths Group, which is affiliated to the Parish Council, takes this opportunity to express particular support for the parts relating to Accessibility for Pedestrians and Cyclists	Support welcomed	No change
22	General	Little Waldingfield Parish Council	A great deal of work has gone into the Edwardstone Neighbourhood Plan and Little Waldingfield Parish Council offers its congratulations and support for the work and detail put into it in reaching this stage	Support welcomed	No change

Rep No.	Paragraph or policy number	Respondent	Response	Suggested Steering Group response	Action
23	General	Individual 9	While I generally agree with the ideas laid out in the plan, there are areas I disagree with specifically the settlement boundaries. (see later comment)	Comments noted. (See later response)	No change
24	General	Individual 9	Overall I think the plan is a good document, although I remain a little sceptical about the need. I do have concerns about the settlement boundaries, as these contravene those of Babergh District Council. The plan published by Babergh takes account of built form, whereas the proposal in the document excludes established properties that form part of the main cluster, and does not reflect what is already built or approved.	See also response of BDC. The settlement boundaries proposed in this plan do not *contravene* those of BDC. In fact they are broadly similar to those that were originally proposed by BDC in their 2020 version of the Joint Neighbourhood Plan. The issue of settlement boundaries will be reviewed in Part 2 of the JLP however, if BDC are content with those in the NP there will be no need to produce any new ones. It should be remembered that the purpose of the	

Rep No.	Paragraph or policy number	Respondent	Response	Suggested Steering Group response	Action
				settlement boundary is to delineate the area to which a policy will apply and where new development will be broadly acceptable. It does not always simply follow the pattern of existing development and may exclude existing development if further consolidation of development in that area would be undesirable in planning terms.	
25	General	Individual 11	A comprehensive and detailed document. May I express thanks to the Group members for their hard work. I support the plan, particularly with regard to the footpath proposals. Many thanks.	Support noted	No change
26	General	Individual 12	I am generally in favour of the Plan	Comments noted	No change
27	General	Individual 13	The most northerly east-west road between Down Hall and Bulls Cross Wood is not appropriate for a 60mph speed limit. The scattered settlement and other road users – walkers, runners,	Comments noted however, speed limits is not within	No change

Rep No.	Paragraph or policy number	Respondent	Response	Suggested Steering Group response	Action
			cyclists and horse-riders are threatened by anti-social motoring. The road is increasingly being used as a rat-run. A 30/20 limit is most appropriate for such a residential lane. This would also contribute to sustainability as well as personal safety.	the scope of the Neighbourhood Plan. If the individual wanted to bring a proposal to the Parish Council they would be happy to consider it.	
28	General	Individual 14	I am generally in favour of the Plan. Really good well done.	Comments noted	No change
29	General	Individual 15	I am generally in favour of the Plan	Comments noted	No change
30	General	Babergh District Council (BDC)	Thank you for consulting us on Regulation 14 Pre-submission draft Edwardstone Neighbourhood Plan. It is presented in a now familiar fashion, contains many of the expected policies and adds value at the local level. We do have some comments to make, and these are set out on the following pages. For the most part, they are intended to help bring relevant parts of your draft Plan up to date prior to submission and follow on from our recent adoption of Part 1 of the Joint Local Plan. Some natural updating will be necessary (e.g. Figure 2) and we also ask that you check for and correct those little errors that otherwise detract from what is a good plan.	Comments noted	No change
31	General	BDC	On the Contents Page, amend the page numbering from the Chapter 11 entry onwards. See also our other comments below, as these may result in further page number changes.	Comments noted. Plan to be reviewed for formatting, typos, updates etc	Amend accordingly☑

Rep No.	Paragraph or policy number	Respondent	Response	Suggested Steering Group response	Action
			Correct the paragraph numbering in Chapter 7 (pg 42 to 44) and throughout Chapter 8. When updating these, ensure that any cross-references to these paragraphs (if they exist) are also addressed. Check for and amend all date references to the NPPF. It is still referred to as the 'July 2021' version in para 7.2, para 8.1, and para 10.4. At Appendix D, the introductory paragraph refers to it as the 'July 2023' version!		

Chapters 1-6

Rep No	Paragraph or policy number	Respondent	Response	Suggested Steering Group Response	Action/Plan amendment
32	Chapter 1	BDC	Chapter 1. Introduction Para 1.7 and Para 1.10 - For context, delete the word 'emerging' where these refer to the Joint Local Plan. Para 1.13 - The Design Codes cover date is September 2022. Amend para 1.13 accordingly to avoid confusion. [Nb: We note that, in the Stage 2 text box (pg 28), you do state that the Design Guide was completed in September 2022].	Comments noted	Amend accordingly☑
33	Chapter 2	BDC	Para 2.18 - It would be helpful if you included a reference to 'Figure 10' at the end of the last sentence.	Comments noted	Amend accordingly ☑

Rep No	Paragraph or policy number	Respondent	Response	Suggested Steering Group Response	Action/Plan amendment
34	Chapter 2	Suffolk County Council (SCC)	Archaeology SCC welcomes the detail of the historic background for Edwardstone in Chapter 2 which includes a map of the listed buildings within the parish. This could be enhanced by a search of the Suffolk Historic Environment Record (HER). The inclusion of a HER search in map format within this chapter would be a useful addition to show all heritage assets (above and below ground) in the area, in addition to the listed buildings. Such a map could equally be of use in paragraph 8.20. In paragraph 8.20 SCC welcomes reference to the Suffolk HER and would suggest the inclusion of the following statement: "The HER is maintained by Suffolk County Council Archaeology Service.1 Publicly available. information is also available via the Heritage Explorer.2"	Comments noted	Amend accordingly☑
35	Para 2.14	SCC	Education SCC, as the Education Authority, has the responsibility for ensuring there is sufficient provision of school places for children to be educated in the area local to them. This is achieved by accounting for existing demand and new developments. SCC, therefore, produces and annually updates a five-year forecast on school capacity. The forecast aims to reserve 5% capacity for additional demand. thus the forecast below may refer to 95% capacity. The information below is to inform the Neighbourhood	Comments noted	No change

Rep No	Paragraph or policy number	Respondent	Response	Suggested Steering Group Response	Action/Plan amendment
			Planning Group's understanding of educational provision in the Plan Area and does not need to be included in the Plan. The parish of Edwardstone no longer has a catchment area secondary school as some voluntary aided, free schools and academies do not operate catchment areas to prioritise applications to the school. Primary Education Boxford CEVCP is not currently forecast to exceed 95% capacity during the forecast period. The number of pupils arising from applications pending decision and local plan site allocations is also not expected to cause the school to exceed 95% capacity based on current forecasts. Secondary Education Thomas Gainsborough School is not currently forecast to exceed 95% capacity during the forecast period. However, the number of pupils arising from housing completions beyond the forecast period, applications pending decision, and local plan site allocations may cause the school to exceed 95% capacity for 11-16 pupils based on current forecasts. The proposed strategy for mitigating this growth is via potential future expansion of existing 11-16 provision.		
36	Paras 2.24 and 2.25	SCC	Flooding SCC, as the Lead Local Flood Authority, has the responsibility for managing flood risk arising from	Support noted	No change

Rep No	Paragraph or policy number	Respondent	Response	Suggested Steering Group Response	Action/Plan amendment
			surface water, ground water and ordinary watercourses. The Environment Agency has the responsibility for managing flood risk from main rivers and the coast. SCC notes and supports paragraphs 2.24, 2.25 and the flood maps.		
37	Chapter 2	SCC	Libraries SCC notes that there is no mention of the library service in the plan. Edwardstone is in the Sudbury library catchment and has a mobile library that visits every 4 weeks on a Saturday. Sudbury library is operating at 76% of its modal size, thereby requiring extension to serve the current population in the catchment. Therefore, for the Neighbourhood Planning Group's information, should further development take place in the Sudbury library catchment, which includes Edwardstone, SCC will attempt to ensure that investment is obtained for the library services. SCC would therefore support an addition to the plan to outline this expectation for any potential development in the parish.	Comments noted. Appropriate reference can be included in chapter 2.	Amend accordingly☑
38	Chapter 2	Individual 9	Interesting background reading and statistics. I have comments to make on the settlement boundaries you are proposing but will do this under the heading housing.	Comments noted	No change

Rep No	Paragraph or policy number	Respondent	Response	Suggested Steering Group Response	Action/Plan amendment
39	Chapter 3	BDC	As mentioned in our cover letter, in your submission draft version plan, the 'local planning policy' and 'policy framework' sections, (including Figure 14) will need updating following our adoption of the Part 1 Joint Local Plan. A separate conversation about this after consultation period has ended will be easier.	Comments noted. Paras to be amended accordingly	Amend accordingly ☑
40	Chapter 5	BDC	Chapter 5 – Vision and Objectives Para 5.1 - Could this be simplified? "It is important that any Neighbourhood Plan contains a short and simple vision statement. Our vision statement describes what Edwardstone should be like at the end of the Plan period i.e., 2037. It has been developed, refined and adapted through consultation and captures the overarching spirit and ambition of the local community and the Neighbourhood Plan."	Comments noted.	Amend accordingly☑

Chapter 7 – Housing

Rep No	Paragraph or policy number	Respondent	Response	Suggested Steering Group response	Action/Plan amendment
41	Housing Chapter	Individual 9	Babergh district council has just published their revised joint local plan. This plan was approved after public consultation and examination by an inspector. In the introduction of Edwardstone's neighbourhood plan (1.3), it states that the neighbourhood plan should not contradict the local plan. It also states that there should not be less development than is planned for in the adopted local plan. The settlement boundaries in the neighbourhood plan are much more restrictive than in the local plan and therefore would seem to contravene both of these points	Comments noted. See also responses from BDC on this subject. It should be noted that the recently adopted Part 1 Local Plan does not include any settlement boundaries. Those in force currently are those from the 2006 Plan which identifies just one SB for Mill Green. The NDP proposes two – one at Mill Green, which is slightly amended from the 2006 map and one at Sherbourne Street. (See also response 24 above)	No change
42	Housing Chapter	BDC	Para 7.2 - This paragraph could be simplified by just retaining the first and last sentences. (note that we have also corrected the NPPF date): Government guidance contained in the National Planning Policy Framework (Sept 2023) advises that Neighbourhood Plans must be in general conformity with the strategic policies contained in any development plan that covers	Comments noted.	Amend accordingly☑

Rep No	Paragraph or policy number	Respondent	Response	Suggested Steering Group response	Action/Plan amendment
			their area. The planning policy context for this Neighbourhood Plan is discussed in detail in Chapter 3. Para 7.5 - To bring the paragraph up to date, replace it with the following: 'In December 2022, Babergh published its Five-Year Housing Land Supply Position Statement 2022. This confirmed that the district had a 7.13 year housing land supply against its 5-year requirement. The parish has no formal housing requirement and there is little expectation that there will be development of any scale on the parish given the land supply position.' Para 7.8 - Suggest that you add a brief explanation as to how the need could be proven '(e.g. through a Housing Needs Survey)' Para 7.12 - amend the end of the last sentence to read: ' …and these are covered by BMSJLP Policy LP02.' Para 7.13 and Figure 23 (and the Policies Map at Appendix E) The promotion of new settlement boundaries for Sherbourne Street and Mill Green through this neighbourhood plan is acknowledged. Para 7.13 states that the boundaries incorporate "some minor additions to reflect completions and permissions".		

Rep No	Paragraph or policy number	Respondent	Response	Suggested Steering Group response	Action/Plan amendment
			On Figure 23 and on the Policy Map it is unclear whether or not the three planning permission sites are to be treated as being located within or outside of the proposed settlement boundary. If the latter, it may be simpler not to show those sites or, you could base your decision on whether or not to include them if 'on-site' work has commenced. We remind you also that our work on Joint Local Plan Part 2 is likely to include a review of all settlement boundaries.		
43	Policy EDW1: Location and Scale of new housing development	Individual 9	Settlement Boundaries In the glossary of the neighbourhood plan it states that settlement boundaries constitute " a line drawn around the main settlement in a parish". The committee seem to have forgotten that Tudor Cottage is part of a cluster of houses that constitutes Mill Green. This house, for some reason, has been cut out of the neighbourhood plan's settlement boundaries, whilst it is quite clearly included in the Babergh joint plan. This is either an oversight, or an illogical and prejudicial decision by the committee. I would be interested in knowing the justification and rationale behind such a decision. I understand that you don't want to encourage ribbon development, but this house is near the eastern edge of the parish boundary, therefore this consideration	The settlement boundaries proposed in the Neighbourhood Plan are based on those originally proposed in the November 2020 version of the BMSJLP, with some amendments to reflect recent completions and dwellings under construction, in addition the boundaries have been drawn to protect the setting of listed buildings on the edge of the built up area, to prevent further ribbon development and to prevent encroachment into the open countryside. It is	Amend map to make clear which of the sites which have planning permission are included in the settlement boundary. ☑

Rep No	Paragraph or policy number	Respondent	Response	Suggested Steering Group response	Action/Plan amendment
			seems irrelevant, unless there are other reasons why this house has been left out. New planning has been highlighted in red and has also been positioned outside the settlement boundaries. This includes the house being built next to Moat View, plus two other plots to the north of Mill Green. As the planning has already been passed it seems strange to place them outside the settlement boundary? This also seems to be an irrelevant decision, and would make the settlement boundaries out of date, before they were published. Further development of the village beyond the new plots can be restricted by the planning considerations in the neighbourhood plan. Finally, what about the other hamlets in Edwardstone? Only Mill Green and Sherbourne Street have been highlighted, and Groton Street has not been mentioned anywhere in the whole document.	considered that the settlement boundaries as proposed are logical and rationale and do not undermine the strategic policies in the adopted Local Plan. See also BDC responses. The map can be made clearer to avoid confusion around the sites that have planning permission but where the dwellings are not under construction.	
44	Policy EDW 1: Location and Scale of new housing development	BDC	Policy EDW1: Location and scale of new housing development The third paragraph seeks to restrict development outside of the defined settlement boundaries to only that which meets one or more of the criteria set out in NPPF paragraph 80. In doing so, it might also unintentionally restrict opportunities for rural exception site schemes to come forward, i.e., is	NPPF para 80 does allow for housing where a need is met. However it could usefully be clarified that no conflict is intended.	Amend accordingly ☑

Rep No	Paragraph or policy number	Respondent	Response	Suggested Steering Group response	Action/Plan amendment
			there a conflict within this plan between Policy EDW1 and Policy EDW2? This policy also provides guidance on Conversions and Extensions. Joint Local Plan Part 1 contains separate policies covering 'Residential Extensions & Conversions (policy LP03) and 'Replacement Dwellings & Conversions' (policy LP04). There is some repetition between EDW1 and these to Local Plan policies so you may also wish to consider whether this part of EDW1 is now necessary.		
	Paras 7.14, 7.16	BDC	**Para 7.14** – adding a comma after 'imply' in the first sentence would help with the grammar. **Para 7.16** – There is a lot of information to unpack in this paragraph. Some additional punctation, and clarification is recommended: *Furthermore, when this is considered against parish level information provided by Babergh District Council, or the district level work undertaken for and on behalf of the Suffolk Strategic Housing Partnership (as outlined in Chapter 2), in which those who identified themselves as being in 'housing need' expressed a preference for smaller dwellings (meaning 1-bed, 2-bed or 3-bed properties); coupled with the results of the Policy Ideas exhibition, it would seem sensible for new dwellings in the parish to be these smaller units. This would offer opportunities for downsizing for those who already live in and wish to remain in the parish (thereby releasing larger properties for some families), as well as*	Comments noted	Amend accordingly☑

Rep No	Paragraph or policy number	Respondent	Response	Suggested Steering Group response	Action/Plan amendment
			providing entry level dwellings for first time buyers or smaller families. This would also help to ensure a broader housing mix where the existing stock better matches the needs of the resident population.		
45	Paras 7.15-7.18	BDC	Para 7.15 - Affordable housing can also come forward on Community Land Trust (CLT) sites. Para 7.16 - For clarity, we suggest rewording this paragraph as follows: 'Affordable housing that is delivered as proportion of a wider development site will typically be used to accommodate those in housing need from across the district. Households will need to have pre-registered on the Councils 'Gateway to Homechoice' system (a choice based letting model), with homes offered in the first instance to those 'most in need'. Para 7.17 - Some re-working of this paragraph is suggested for reasons of clarity etc. 'Rural Exception Sites' are small sites immediately adjacent to or otherwise well-connected to the settlement boundary that would not otherwise get planning permission for housing. Such sites usually comprise only affordable dwellings that are will be made available at an appropriate tenure mix. The housing should also remain affordable in perpetuity, and is usually offered in the first instance to households who are able to demonstrate a local connection to the parish. Such schemes typically arise where a specific need for	Agree to include reference to community led housing.	Amend accordingly☑

Rep No	Paragraph or policy number	Respondent	Response	Suggested Steering Group response	Action/Plan amendment
			affordable housing has been identified in the area, and are delivered and managed by a Social Housing provider. An alternative delivery option could be a Community Land Trust, who would then own and manage the properties themselves. Para 7.18 - The adoption of Joint Local Plan Part 1 means that, until work on the Part 2 Plan is completed, there is no settlement hierarchy. The second sentence needs amending accordingly, and it may just be simpler to delete it.		
46	Policy EDW2: Housing Mix and Affordable Housing	Individual 8	Broadly in favour. B) Affordability in perpetuity – would attaching a legal agreement be able to enforce this? Or prevent development of property ?	Comments noted. This would be controlled through the imposition of a condition on any permission granted	No change
47	Policy EDW2: Housing Mix and Affordable Housing	BDC	**Policy EDW2: Housing Mix and Affordable Housing** This policy provides specific guidance on Rural Exception Site housing and not affordable housing in general. This should be reflected in the policy title and in the relevant sub-heading. In the second paragraph of the policy, there is a spelling error. We also suggest that there is no need to be specific about the existing population *'Otherwise acceptable development proposals which provide opportunities for down-sizing or would meet the needs of first time buyers wishing to access 1-bed, 2-bed, or 3-bed properties will be supported.'*	Comments noted	Amend accordingly ☑

Rep No	Paragraph or policy number	Respondent	Response	Suggested Steering Group response	Action/Plan amendment
			Under the present Affordable Housing sub-heading: • • There is a grammatical error in the second paragraph that needs addressing, • • In criterion a), does the reference to the '*location*' element of policy EDW1 give rise to a conflict, given that EDW1 states that development outside of the settlement boundary will only be permitted where it is in accordance with NPPF paragraph 80? Perhaps it would be better just to refer to 'scale, form and character'. As a supplementary question, did any of your survey work etc. identify a preferred percentage split between 1-bed, 2-bed and 3-bed properties? None is specified, and you are not required to set out an approximate split.		
48	Policy EDW2: Housing Mix and Affordable Housing	SCC	Adaptable homes and an ageing population SCC welcome the population data detailed in paragraph 2.7 and the observations made regarding housing needs, downsizing and entry level of young people in paragraph 7.16. Office for National Statistics4 shows 2021 population data for Edwardstone with a population of 380. Of these 380, 25.9% of residents are aged 65+ which is above the England average of 18.4% and displays an ageing population.	Comments noted. Although review alongside BDC comments	Amend accordingly ☑

Rep No	Paragraph or policy number	Respondent	Response	Suggested Steering Group response	Action/Plan amendment
			It is important to ensure the needs of all residents are catered for, recognising the likely increase of co-morbidities as people get older. It is suggested that the plan show specific support for any residential development that provides homes that are adaptable to M4(2) standards. This can help meet the needs of elderly and frail residents, allowing them to maintain independence for longer, but also allowing for younger occupants and families. SCC recommended including additional wording to Policy EDW2. "Proposals which provide opportunities for down-sizing for the existing population or would meet the accommodation needs of ~~fist~~ first time buyers and smaller families are preferred e.g. 1-3 bedroomed properties. Support will be given to homes that are adaptable and accessible (meaning built to optional M4(2) standards) in order to meet the needs of the aging. population, without excluding the needs of other occupants."		
49	Para 8.15	SCC	SCC welcome paragraph 8.15 (on page 48) that recognises health and wellbeing, and the needs of the disabled and ageing population.	Support welcomed	No change

Chapter 8 – Environment

Rep No	Paragraph or policy number	Respondent	Response	Suggested Steering Group response	Action/Plan amendment
50	Environment General	Individual 3	I support any plans and aspirations to maintain, enhance, improve and extend the network of public rights of way, in particular to link the byway from Priory Green with the byway from Lower Milden, It is clear these were once a continuous route and it is desirable it is restored to provide a safe through route.	Support noted	No change
51	Environment General	Individual	Open views and small woods characterise the parish and should be protected	Comments noted.	No change
52	Environment General	SCC	Natural Environment Overall, Landscape and Natural Environment are well anchored within this plan.	Comments noted.	No change
53	Policy EDW3; Design	Individual 7	Ensure enough space in hew housing for both parking and front gardens	Comments noted. This can be reinforced in Policy EDW criterion t	Amend accordingly ☑
54	Policy EDW3: Design	Anglian Water	Thank you for inviting comments on the Edwardstone Neighbourhood Plan Pre-submission (Reg 14) consultation. Anglian Water is the statutory water and sewerage undertaker for the neighbourhood plan area and is identified as a consultation body under the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012. Anglian Water wants to proactively engage with the neighbourhood plan process to ensure the plan delivers sustainable development for residents and visitors to the area, and in doing so protect the environment and water resources. The comments and observations for the Neighbourhood Plan, are as follows:	Support noted	No change

Rep No	Paragraph or policy number	Respondent	Response	Suggested Steering Group response	Action/Plan amendment
			Policy EDW3 Design: Whilst Anglian Water infrastructure or assets would not be utilised to support growth, renewable energy or environmental gains it is encouraging to see a Neighbourhood Plan that addresses: Tackling climate change through addressing sustainability through design including water saving measures such as rainwater capture Supporting sustainable drainage systems (SuDS) manage surface water and provide gains for biodiversity. Rainwater harvesting and SuDS ensure surface water is managed on site rather than via the public sewer network. This is a lower carbon solution which introduces blue and green infrastructure into development with benefits for public realm and health and wellbeing of residents. These measures are supported by policies in the recently adopted Babergh and Mid Suffolk Local Plan Part 1. We support the policy reference to having regard to the Edwardstone Design Codes and Guidance to ensure development proposals take account of the appropriate measures included in this document.		

Rep No	Paragraph or policy number	Respondent	Response	Suggested Steering Group response	Action/Plan amendment
55	Policy EDW3: Design	SCC as LLFA	It is suggested that the Sustainable Drainage section of Policy EDW3 Design, is amended as follows: r) Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) should be integrated into development to manage drainage and the volume of water being discharged from the proposed development for all events up to and including the 1:100 plus climate change allowances. The SuDS shall mitigate pollution but and also to provide gains for biodiversity and amenity.	Comments noted. Amend accordingly	Amend accordingly .☑
56	Policy EDW3: Design	BDC	Design Para 8.1 – Amend the NPPF date to September 2023. Policy EDW3: Design This is a very comprehensive policy which feels repetitive in places. For example, criterion a) reads as a repeat of the second paragraph as both refer to development proposals respecting the distinctive characteristics of each hamlet in the parish. Could these therefore be combined? Joint Local Plan Policy LP24 (Design & Residential Amenity) now provides up to date guidance on many design principles, so any unintended repetition in EDW3 could be avoided. We also note for now that: • If retained, criterion b) could be expand to say: ' … the architectural diversity of the individual hamlets and other dwelling clusters that have developed over time.' • In criterion i), suggest replacing the semi-colon with a full-stop and start a new last sentence with 'In residential development, where appropriate, …. '	Comments noted . However the policy is locally distinctive to Edwardstone. It can be reviewed for repetition and amend in some areas as suggested	Amend accordingly ☑

Rep No	Paragraph or policy number	Respondent	Response	Suggested Steering Group response	Action/Plan amendment
			• criterion n), which sits under the 'Boundary treatments and Gardens' sub-heading, appears to be more relevant to the section on 'Layout'.		
57	Policy EDW3: Design	SCC	Transport SCC, as the Local Highway Authority, has a duty to ensure that roads are maintained and safe as well as providing and managing flood risk for highway drainage and roadside ditches. Policy EDW3 Design In part s), the reference to Suffolk Guidance for Parking noted and supported, however it should refer to 2023, rather than 2019 as this has been recently updated. SCC welcome part w) of Policy EDW3 regarding cycle parking, however recommend the following additional text: "w) Cycle parking should be integrated into all new housing, in accordance with the Suffolk Guidance for Parking Document (2023, or any successor document)." Part x) could note that waste bins should not be stored/ presented on the highway.	Comments noted.	Amend accordingly ☑
58	Policy EDW3: Design	Individual 15	Too restrictive	Noted. However, good design is a key element of the overall objectives of the Plan.	No change
59	Policy EDW4: Pollution	Individual 7	Lighting (exterior) on private properties should be low level. Additional bins on the road to prevent littering could be added.	Comments noted. This is not a Neighbourhood Plan	No change

Rep No	Paragraph or policy number	Respondent	Response	Suggested Steering Group response	Action/Plan amendment
	and Amenity			matter but one for the Parish Council.	
60	Policy EDW4: Pollution and Amenity	SCC	Policy EDW4: Pollution and Amenity In regard to dark skies, SCC would highlight that light pollution is not solely tied to street lighting. Light pollution can further be omitted from windows, residents illuminating their houses and gardens with upward-facing lighting, courtyard lighting, and car parks for instance. Therefore, SCC suggests that there could be benefit from these being captured by the policy.	Comments noted. Agree all sources of light pollution should be addressed and the supporting text can be amended.	Amend accordingly ☑
61	Policy EDW5: Energy Sustainability and Climate Change	SCC	Policy EDW5: Energy Sustainability and Climate Change Part b. could be strengthened in line with wording in the Environment Act 2021 which sets out that development will result in "measurable net gains in biodiversity" rather than "no adverse impacts". Therefore, SCC suggests the following wording: "b~~. will not have an adverse impact upon~~ result in a measurable net gain in biodiversity interest by supporting habitats, species and natural features."	Comments noted	Amend accordingly ☑
62	Paras 8.22-8.27	BDC	Energy Sustainability and Climate Change (paragraphs 8.22 to 8.27) We suggest that you should lead this section with what is currently set out in para 8.23. This will help set the national context. Paragraphs 8.24 to 8.26 could then follow. Following the adoption of JLP Part 1, we also recommend that paragraph 8.26 be amended to read as follows: 'The adopted BMSJLP (Nov 2023) contains policy guidance on renewable	Comments noted	Amend accordingly ☑

Rep No	Paragraph or policy number	Respondent	Response	Suggested Steering Group response	Action/Plan amendment
			energy initiatives.' What is currently set out in para 8.22 and in para 8.27 could be combined to avoid repetition: With the ever increasing need for energy security and the impacts of climate change, it is likely that more and more applications for renewable based energy developments will occur during the plan period. Solar is the most likely to arise within the Parish and therefore Policy EDW5 has been prepared which seeks to manage such potential developments and safeguard the important environmental assets of the Parish.		
63	Paras 8.29 and 8.31	BDC	Biodiversity To ensure that supporting text is up to date, we recommend the following changes: In para 8.29, amend the penultimate sentence to read: 'BNG will become mandatory in 2024. How it will be implemented on small sites is to be confirmed, however, its importance in planning process has already been elevated within Schedule 14 of the Environment Act.' [* Note for Andrea: As information on the implementation of BNG continues to be published, please check our suggested wording and amend if necessary prior to submission of this neighbourhood plan.] Amend para 8.13 (pg 56) to read as follows: Many Districts have begun to embed BNG as a policy requirement in their Local Plans, which is the level at which a consistent and district wide policy will apply. Neighbourhood Plans therefore need not repeat or duplicate such matters unless there is clear, robust local evidence for doing so. Policy LP16 in the	Comments noted – see also SCC comments and check for consistency.	Amend accordingly ☑

Rep No	Paragraph or policy number	Respondent	Response	Suggested Steering Group response	Action/Plan amendment
			BMSJLP (Nov 2023) requires that development proposals create, protect, and enhance ecological networks, and seek to ensure that all new development secures high standards of design and green infrastructure which creates attractive and sustainable places where people want to live and spend time. Networks of green infrastructure …[etc.]…'		
64	Policy EDW6:Protecting and enhancing biodiversity	Individual 7	Clearer marking of wildflower areas. Preventing children running over wildflower areas e.g. Millennium Green	Comments noted. This is outside of the scope of the Neighbourhood Plan .	No change
65	Policy EDW6:Protecting and enhancing biodiversity	Suffolk Wildlife Trust	This policy includes background information identifying protected sites with the Parish and puts forward the importance of their protection; Suffolk Wildlife Trust are pleased to see this has been included alongside great consideration for wildlife corridors and greenspace. The plan aligns itself with the national level of minimum Biodiversity Net Gain, 10%. However, the Wildlife Trusts, as well as other organisations, are advocating for 20% Biodiversity Net Gain where possible. Setting an aspiration for achieving a higher percentage of net gain within the Neighbourhood Plan could help to ensure that the biodiversity assets of Edwardstone are conserved and enhanced for future generations. Suffolk County Council's commitment to 'deliver a further 10% biodiversity net gain in aggregate across the housing programme, in addition to the	Comments noted. See also SCC and BDC comments on this subject. Whilst it is appreciated an aspiration for BNG above 10% is desirable, there is currently no justification for it as a requirement. BNG will be delivered in accordance with national policy.	No change

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			10% biodiversity net gain that will be required on each site.'1, suggests that it is reasonable to include this aspiration within the Edwardstone Neighbourhood Plan. In the wider county, West Suffolk also consider a greater than 10% requirement for BNG in their recent preferred options consultation on their Local Plan. There are further examples of district councils outside of Suffolk requiring more ambitious BNG requirements within their Local Plans and these have been evidenced with viability studies. For example, Swale Borough Council completed a viability study and found that doubling the percentage of biodiversity net gain from 10% to 20% increased the cost of delivery by just 19%, so then included a minimum 20% BNG requirement in their local plan2. The Greater Cambridge Draft Local Plan also includes a requirement for a minimum 20% BNG3. Therefore, we believe that Policy EDW6 could include a statement in support of development where 20% BNG can be demonstrated in the Parish. Delivering 20% BNG ensures there is more certainty that a significant and meaningful uplift in biodiversity will be achieved, which will help protect the high-quality biodiversity assets and ecological networks within Edwardstone and surrounding parishes. Given the Policy Ideas Exhibition revealed considerable support from attendees for the protection of natural assets within Edwardstone, as well as creation of new habitats and Biodiversity Net Gain, we believe that the Neighbourhood		

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			Plan should take this as support to do more for wildlife and nature recovery, putting forward an ambition to deliver above the minimum requirement for Biodiversity Net Gain. Policy EDW6 also proposes species specific mitigation, compensation, and enhancement such as bird and bat boxes as well as providing access for hedgehog passage though new fences. We believe that this can be further improved by putting forward that each new dwelling should include a bird and bat box (suitably installed and where possible integrated into the building following BS 42021:2022), any impermeable boundary fences installed include access for hedgehogs (with hedgerows a preferred boundary where appropriate), and that further enhancement options such as hedgehog houses, invertebrate boxes, and bee bricks should be widely considered. We welcome the clear identification of natural and semi-natural habitat and ecological connectivity within the parish. The importance of this is also clearly stated. Possible improvement could be to consider further community action seeking to consider new ways of working with neighbouring parishes to improve cross-boundary wildlife corridors, connecting Edwardstone with the wider landscape.		
66	Para 8.29	Suffolk Wildlife Trust	We also note that Paragraph 8.12 states that Biodiversity Net Gain is not mandatory until Autumn 2023; this has now been delayed until January 2024. This section should be updated at	Comments noted. Para to be updated	Amend accordingly ☑

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			the next opportunity to reflect the most recent Biodiversity Net Gain timeline.		
67	Policy EDW6: Protecting and Enhancing biodiversity	SCC	Policy EDW6: Protecting and Enhancing Biodiversity SCC note that biodiversity features widely throughout the rest of the Plan, such as within the vision statement and Objective 3, and is anchored in Policy EDW3 (Design) Part r) and Policy EDW5 (Energy Sustainability and Climate Change Part b), which is welcomed. SCC would suggest a minor amendment to the second paragraph of Policy EDW6 to align it with national policy: "[…] Development proposals should provide overall a measurable increase in biodiversity net gain in biodiversity, in accordance with the Environment Act 2021." In the fourth paragraph, Part ii) would benefit from a minor amendment to note that Biodiversity Net Gain requires clear improvement rather than simply equivalent replacement, therefore, SCC would suggest: "Where a proposal will result in the unavoidable loss or harm to biodiversity: i) the benefits of the development must be demonstrated to clearly outweigh any impacts; and	See SWT and BDC comments	Amend policy☑

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			ii) suitable mitigation measures which deliver the required level of net gain for the development that include equivalent or better replacement of the lost features will be required secured."		
68	Para 8.22 and Policy EDW 7: Heritage Assets	SCC	The significance of below-ground heritage (archaeology) has been well integrated alongside built heritage in the chapter Edwardstone's Heritage Assets (in chapter 8) and is covered in policy EDW7. SCC would encourage the addition of a note within this chapter, as follows: "Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service (SCCAS) would advise that there should be early consultations of the Historic Environment Record (HER) and assessment of the archaeological potential of any potential development site at an appropriate stage in the design stage, in order that the requirements of NPPF and Babergh Local Plan are met. SCCAS as advisors to Babergh Mid Suffolk District Council would be happy to advise on the level of archaeological assessment and appropriate stages to be undertaken." Inclusion of the above suggested text would provide clarity to developers for any future development sites and, would ensure that Policy EDW7 of the plan is met with regards to any below-ground heritage. In addition to this, the plan could also highlight any level of public outreach and public	Noted. Can include text in chapter 2	Amend accordingly ☑

Rep No	Paragraph or policy number	Respondent	Response	Suggested Steering Group response	Action/Plan amendment
			engagement that might be aspired from archaeology undertaken as part of a development project, as increased public understanding of heritage sites is an aspiration of the NPPF.		
69	Policy EDW7: Heritage Assets	SCC	Policy EDW7 could benefit by also recommending that a Heritage Statement is prepared where proposals involve designated and non-designated heritage assets. SCC welcomes that the plan has identified The Ice House as a Non-Designated Heritage Asset and the assessment of its significance has been included in Appendix B. SCC Archaeological Service have been reviewing Farmsteads throughout Suffolk, as part of an ongoing project funded by Historic England, and the Neighbourhood Planning group may wish to consider whether the information from the Suffolk Farmsteads Project would add any details or information to the Non-Designated Heritage Assets within the area. Entries from the project can be seen via the Suffolk Heritage Explorer Farmsteads.	Comments noted. A heritage statement is a local validation requirement for applications involving heritage assets and therefore does not need to be mentioned here. Further information on The Ice House to be added to the appendix.	No change
70	Policy EDW7: Heritage Assets	BDC	Policy EDW7 refers to both designated and non-designated heritage assets, you could helpful be reflected in the policy title. There is repetition within the first line of the second paragraph ('new development') and could the second and third paragraphs be combined / re-written so that they also avoid repeating themselves? In the last paragraph, the Ice House reference should be to Figure 26 (not Figure 25)	Noted	Amend accordingly ☑

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	Policy EDW7: Heritage Assets	NDHA owner Individual 16	Apologise for late response We do not wont the ice house included in the neighbourhood plan as a non designated heritage asset.	Comments noted. However, it is considered that the Ice House is a very worthy Non Designated heritage asset and should be identified in the Neighbourhood Plan . It is acknowledged that the landowner has concerns however the proximity of the building to the Church which is a Listed Building , would give it some protection in any event.	No change

Chapter 9 – Landscape

Rep No	Paragraph or policy number	Respondent	Response	Suggested Steering Group response	Action/Plan amendment
71	General	Individual 8	Whilst I would not advocate of the visual clutter of 'street furniture' given the emphasis on the tranquil; rural feel of narrow lanes and winding nature some speed limits through the hamlets and the village would be an enhancement. Also there is	Comments noted. Speed limits are not within the scope of the Neighbourhood Plan	No change

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			an absence of designated Quiet Lanes – could these be considerations?		
72	Policy EDW8: Landscape	SCC	Policy EDW8: Landscape SCC suggests that the position to development outside settlement boundaries, in Policy EDW8, could benefit from clarification and be strengthened with the following amendments: "Development proposals outside of the defined settlement boundary should have consideration for the visual scenic value of the landscape and countryside ~~within the parish outside of the defined settlement boundaries~~, <u>which</u> will be protected from development that may adversely affect this character." The third paragraph of Policy EDW8 refers to 'landscape breaks'. SCC would propose that 'settlement gaps' is the preferred term, and could also be used as a sub heading similar to ALLS further down in the policy, as follows: "Settlement Gaps The existing clear ~~landscape breaks~~ <u>settlement gaps</u> that physically separates the distinct areas of built settlement within the parish shall be maintained in order to prevent coalescence	Comments noted, amend text accordingly. However, it would be difficult to map these areas without creating a further designation and therefore the gaps are those between the edges of the built up areas.	Amend accordingly ☑

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			and loss of individual settlement identity and distinctiveness." SCC would recommend that the settlement gaps were clearly spatially defined, for example on the Policies Map and ideally on their own individual map.		
73	Policy EDW8:Landscape	SCC	Area of Local Landscape Sensitivity SCC proposes that the brackets in Policy EDW8 Part c. should instead read "(including lighting design)" as landscaping consists of more than lighting. Please note that the ALLS is not a landscape character type, it is an area, and therefore SCC propose the following minor amendment: "Natural features associated with this ~~landscape character type~~ area such as trees, ancient woodlands and existing hedge lines should be retained by development proposals."	Comments noted. Amend accordingly	Amend accordingly ☑
74	Para 9.14-9.17	BDC	Para 9.14 - This paragraph would benefit from additional explanation re the SLA designation no longer forming part of the development plan. We suggest: 'The Babergh Local Plan 2006 identified a significant portion of land along the entire valley of the River Box as a 'Special Landscape Area' (SLA). The SLA was designated because of its landscape sensitivity and scenic quality. The original SLA was	Comments noted. Amend accordingly	Amend accordingly ☑

Rep No	Paragraph or policy number	Respondent	Response	Suggested Steering Group response	Action/Plan amendment
			non-statutory and these have not been carried through into the Joint Local Plan. However, it can be seen from the above that a degree of extra protection is still required for the whole of the Box Valley, including that within Edwardstone. This Neighbourhood Plan therefore proposes to continue the designation but replaces the term SLA with a new term - Area of Local Landscape Sensitivity (ALLS). This approach is consistent with that applied by other adopted neighbourhood plans across Babergh, including in policy BOX11 of the adopted Boxford Neighbourhood Plan (Oct 2022). Para 9.17 - This paragraph ends with a statement that over twelve different views were suggested by attendees of the policy ideas exhibition. These views have clearly not been carried through into the draft plan but no explanation is given as to why. Figure 27 – You should consider redrafting this map to only show the ALLS designation area within the parish of Edwardstone, or otherwise indicate that the designation does not apply in the adjacent parishes of Great Waldingfield or Newton, In both case, neither parish council chose to carry forward the former SLA designation into their now adopted neighbourhood plans. The situation in		

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			Boxford is, of course, different and you provide the reason for this in para 9.14. If help is needed in creating a suitable map, please let us know.		

Chapter 10 – Access and Community

Rep No	Paragraph or policy number	Respondent	Response	Suggested Steering Group response	Action/Plan amendment
75	Policy EDW9: Community facilities	Individual 6	I would like to see a round spinning thing in the park (not a roundabout)	Comments noted. This can be added to any future project to enhance the play area	No change
76	Policy EDW9: Community facilities	BDC	Policy EDW9 - This policy seeks to protect the existing and valued community facilities, while also setting out guidance on how any loss should be assessed. We now have a similar, adopted policy at the district level. This is Joint Local Plan Policy LP28 - Services & Facilities within the Community. Going forward, you should consider whether it is now necessary to replicate this guidance within your neighbourhood plan. If you choose to delete EDW9, you could amend para 10.1 to draw attention to LP28. If you choose to retain EDW9, please note that the district level requirement calls for evidence of a sustained marketing period of	Comments noted. However after review it has been decided to retain the existing wording.	No change

Rep No	Paragraph or policy number	Respondent	Response	Suggested Steering Group response	Action/Plan amendment
			normally 6 months (LP28 – 3.a.) whereas EDW9(i) calls for a 12 month marketing period, i.e., you should amend EDW9 accordingly.		
77	Policy EDW10: Local Green Spaces	SCC	Policy EDW10 Local Green Space SCC welcomes the designation of the five Local Green Spaces, shown on Figure 29, and the reference to the NPPF paragraph 102, as this supports the ongoing work to make Suffolk the Greenest County. The Local Green Space Assessment provides written evidence, and all sites proposed for Local Green Space designation appear to fulfil the NPPF criteria.	Support noted	No change
78	Policy EDW10: Local Green Spaces	BDC	Local Green Spaces We are satisfied that all five proposed Local Green Spaces meet the relevant criteria. You should consider including a larger scale map of each of these (on an Ordnance Survey base) which should, as appropriate, exclude any built structures etc.. These maps could be included in Appendix C. In Para 10.7, insert the correct reference to Figure 29 (not Figure X), and update the last sentence to refer to Appendix C (not Appendix B).	Comments noted. Mapping to be reviewed. Errors to be corrected	Amend accordingly☑
79	Policy EDW11: Accessibility	Individual 3	I support any plans and aspirations to maintain, enhance, improve and extend the network of public rights of way, in particular to link the byway from Priory Green with the byway from Lower Milden, It is clear these were once a continuous	Comments note	No change

Rep No	Paragraph or policy number	Respondent	Response	Suggested Steering Group response	Action/Plan amendment
			route and it is desirable it is restored to provide a safe through route.		
80	Policy EDW11 and paras 10.8-10.12	SCC	Active Travel and Air Quality The references in the plan to active travel through walking and cycling are supported. SCC particularly supports the statement in paragraph 10.8 that where new routes connect to the existing network, they should "be suitable for use by people with disabilities and reduced mobility". SCC particularly welcome paragraph 10.12 and Policy EDW11 that supports connecting pedestrian and cycle links (that are accessible and attractive) with adjoining parishes. The following wording may be a useful addition to the end of paragraph 10.11, as a new paragraph: "[…] positively impact on people's physical and mental health. 10.12 It is important to improve air quality and mitigate any risk to human health due to manmade emissions such as nitrogen oxides and particulate matter. Encouraging and facilitating active and sustainable travel can reduce vehicles on the road and therefore pollution and poor air quality, as well as improve people's mental and physical health."	Comments noted amend accordingly	Amend accordingly☑
81	Para 10.13	Little Waldingfield	The aspirations outlined here are wholly appropriate.	Support welcomed	No change

Rep No	Paragraph or policy number	Respondent	Response	Suggested Steering Group response	Action/Plan amendment
		Parish Council	10.13 Little Waldingfield Parish Council and Little Waldingfield Footpaths Group, which is affiliated to the Parish Council, express full support for these two footpath extension/links. In the case of the one linking Priory Green to Lower Milden, this route can be seen from maps to have been clearly a continuous route, which at some point lost its middle part as a Public Right of Way. Its western end starts at Priory Green along the parish boundary of Edwardstone and Little Waldingfield, as Little Waldingfield Public Fright of Way 10 (Byway) and Edwardstone Public Right of Way 17 (Byway). The missing link would have followed the parish boundary, then continued along this shared parish boundary, south of Waldingfield Wood to connect with its continuation in the form of the Milden Public Right of Way (Byway) 1, and which, from this direction, finishes close to Lower Farm. It is highly desirable that this link is restored.		
82	Policy EDW11: Accessibility	SCC	Public Rights of Way SCC welcome the reference to the Suffolk Green Access Strategy in paragraph 10.11. SCC notes the desire for new footpath connections, as indicated on Figure 30 and the supporting paragraphs. Policy EDW11 Accessibility	Comments noted	Amend accordingly ☑

Rep No	Paragraph or policy number	Respondent	Response	Suggested Steering Group response	Action/Plan amendment
			The second section of Policy EDW11 regarding Public Rights of way is noted, and supported by SCC. The following very minor deletion of "including bridleways and footpaths" is proposed, as it is an unnecessary duplication, as bridleways and footpaths are part of the classification of PROW: "Existing Public Rights of Way which are incorporated into new developments, ~~including bridleways and footpath~~s, should be protected and enhanced."		
83	Policy EDW11: Accessibility	SCC	Policy EDW11: Accessibility SCC supports the desire to improve pedestrian and cycle infrastructure in Policy EDW11 and paragraph 10.8. SCC will look to procure financial contributions to fund sustainable travel improvements from development, wherever possible. SCC consider that reference could be made to LTN1/20 regarding cycle infrastructure. It is recommended that Policy EDW11: Accessibility should also make reference to the Suffolk Design Streets Guide.	Comments noted	Amend accordingly ☑
84	Paras 10.9 and 10.10, 10.13	BDC	Accessibility for pedestrians and cyclists The Public Rights of Way ambitions are noted and welcomed. Could the last sentence in para 10.9 and all of para 10.10 be combined / re-worded so that they don't repeat themselves? Para 10.13 – For context,	Comments noted	Amend accordingly ☑

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			please note that the Great Waldingfield Neighbourhood Plan was 'made' (adopted) by Babergh District Council as part of its development plan on the 28 November 2023.		

Supporting Documents

Rep No	Paragraph or policy number	Respondent	Response	Suggested Steering Group response	Action/Plan amendment
85	Design Code	SCC	Design Code SCC notes that the Design Code does not reference Suffolk Design Streets Guide,10 in the local policy and guidance section and lacks consideration throughout. This guidance provides significant weight in defining road widths and path layouts in the county and should not afford to be overlooked. In addition to adding reference in the policy and guidance section, section 3.7 Mobility and Parking of the Design Code MP.01. Pedestrian connectivity should also make reference to the Suffolk Design Streets Guide. SCC welcomes that MP.02. Off-street Parking of the Design Code references the Suffolk Guidance	Noted. AECOM to be asked to amend	Amended accordingly☑

			for Parking, however, notes that this also requires updating from 2019 to 2023.		
86	Design Code	SCC	SCC notes that MP.04. Cycle Parking generally accords with the Suffolk Guidance for Parking but could reference it specifically - ensuring that it is secure and covered and that the design ensures suitable accessibility to the cycle parking, particularly the driveway width, to ensure there are no barriers to cycling at source.	Noted	No change
87	SWT Report	Individual 10	Hello, I've just sent this to Suffolk Wildlife Trust. As I say the connectivity lines on our land are incorrect. I don't know if this needs to be changed. As I've spent a couple of years planting several little trees in our paddock I do not want to have to plant a hedge across the land to correspond to the map!	This comment has been forwarded to SWT for comment.	New map inserted.☑