Neighbourhood Plan Consultation Responses 7th December 2023 Event

1. **What do you want the Neighbourhood Plan to do? Put the following in order of priority/preference, with the highest priority at the top.**

A.   Conserve the local character and history of the area

B.   Allow for new development in particular areas

C.   Boost the opportunity for employment in the area

D.   Support and encourage existing local businesses and commercial operations

E.   Recognise buildings and spaces of importance

F.   Protect the ecology and biodiversity of the area

G.   Provide affordable housing for local people with a local connection

H.   Provide suitable housing for downsizing to enable local young people and families as well as local older people to remain in the area

I.   To promote and support alternative sustainable transport initiatives to the use of the private car

J.   Maintain and enhance existing local community facilities.

Rank	Responses												
Highest	A	A	A	E	A	A	A	A	J/A/D/E/F	B	A	A/F	A
	F	F	D	A	E	F	F	F	I/C	I	F	E/H/J	F
	I	J	F	F	J	J	C	H	B/G/H	A	H	D/G	E
	J		E	G	F	E	E	D		C	E	B/C	I
	G		J	H	G	H	D	C		E	D	I	J
	E		I	D	H	G	B	J		D	G		G
	C		G	J	D	D	G	B		H	C		H
	B		H	C	I	I	H	G		G	B		C
	D		C	B	C	C	J	I		J	J		B

Lowest	H		B	I	B	B	I	E			I		D

Summary analysis;

- *"A" appears most often at the top of people's priorities (Conserve the local character and history);*
- *"F" appears in most people's second choice priority (Protect the ecology and biodiversity of the area);*
- *"B" and "C" appear near to the bottom of most people's priorities (Allow for new development in particular areas and Boost the opportunity for employment in the area);*
- *The other priorities are more evenly spread through the list of respondents.*

2. Environment and heritage

a. What are the main issues relating to the environment of the Parish?
   Responses;
   - *Wetter weather and climate change causes more flooding*

b. Why is it important to protect the area's valuable heritage and historic assets?
   Responses;
   - *Network of historic hedgerows and veteran trees present in our community*
   - *Huge number of Listed Buildings*
   - *There are a lot of listed buildings in Plaistow that contribute to the heritage of the area. They are bound by a lot of red tape. The "situation" of such houses must be respected*

c. Is it important to discourage loss of tree cover, hedges and natural vegetation, particularly within the settlement areas?
   Responses;
   - *Yes but woodland needs to be managed! Projects to encourage certain species e.g. swifts, owls, slow worm*
   - *All these are important to protect, preserve or provide adequate utilities and other services*
   - *Tree management is lacking*
   - *Absolutely*

d. What local green spaces do you know of that are important to protect?
   Responses;
   - *The field opposite The Green should be a protected green space due to its elevated position and the amount of water that already runs down the hill*
   - *Green Belt opposite The Green*

e. Is it important to ensure sustainable drainage for surface and foul water for all developments?
   Responses;
   - *Yes- critical in Ifold with Dunsfold Aerodrome 3,500 homes discharging into River Lox*
   - *Yes*
   - *Yes- currently there are problems in Ifold and Dunsfold Wood*
   - *Absolutely*
   - *Yes*

f. How can biodiversity be protected, recovered or enhanced?
   Responses;
   - *Do not pick a site that is close to or part of woodland, hedgerows etc*
   - *No streetlights- keep those dark skies please!*
   - *We have rare wildlife in the area, nightingales, Red Listed bull finches, rare bats etc. We must retain the woodland and hedges to protect*
   - *Encourage pollinators: community orchard?*
   - *No development id biodiversity threatened*
   - *Management of hedgerows and creation of wildlife corridors*
   - *Never having streetlights*
   - *Maintain dark skies areas*
   - *Restrict building of large sites*
   - *Keep roads unlit*

g. Any other comments?

Responses;

– *Sustainable future for our community includes the need to protect our local habitats and species- and good design needs to respect the surrounding environment*

3. Infrastructure

a. What buildings/land should be identified as community assets?

Responses;

– *Village green/pub/shop/church/village hall*
– *Football field/tennis courts/shop/pub*
– *"Cricket green"/football field/church/shop/pub*
– *Pub/school/church/tennis court/playground/village hall/field opposite The Green should be protected*
– *Pub (?opening times)*
– *Village green/playground/tennis court/village hall/shop/pub/church*
– *Community assets are those assets which encourage the community to rest- and which encourage "healthy" lifestyles- village green/tennis court/football pitch/playground*
– *Winterton Hall/football field/preschool grounds/pub*

b. Should community assets be protected?

– *Responses;*
– *Yes*
– *Yes*
– *Yes*
– *Yes*
– *Public houses*

c. What additional infrastructure should be provided in the Parish (cycle routes, footpaths, open/play space etc)?

– *Responses;*
– *Cycleways between the village centres*
– *Footpath improvements*
– *Pavements only in village areas*
– *Cycleways perhaps using bridleways*

d. Any other comments?

– *Responses;*
– *Dark skies should be maintained in any development of route and footpaths*
– *Safety of the community using the local roads- without over engineering safety features*
– *Better speed controls- humps, lights*

Other comments

– *How do we better leverage and support community assets like the village shops, the pub etc*
– *Cyclepaths- is there any way of linking the villages safely.*
– *Footpaths- making it easier for children to move around safely e.g. along Plaistow Road in Ifold*

4. Housing

a. What are the main issues relating to the provision of housing within the Parish?

– *Responses;*
– *Not enough "affordable" homes or homes for elderly people to move to a smaller property. This area will never have "affordable" homes due to it being too highly priced.*
– *Affordability to ensure that younger generation are encouraged to move and stay in the village*

b. Should affordable housing be a priority for provision within the Parish?

– *Responses;*
– *Only if there is local employment and transport*
– *Affordability but not allowing sub standard design homes for elderly*
– *Affordable housing must be a key part of the mix- but it should ensure that there is a mix- perhaps 60%*
– *Too expensive still, local people can't afford them.*

    c.   What should the tenure of affordable housing be?

– **No comments**

    d.   What size of dwelling should be provided?

– ***Responses;***

– *State housing- 2/3 bedrooms to be a key element*

– *New housing smaller in size, potential covenants against extensions to maintain smaller housing stock*

      – *2-3 bedroom*

    e.   Should the existing housing stock be protected?

– ***Responses;***

– *Definitely. The parish has specific unique housing stock that is sympathetic to the area*

– *Smaller housing needed for downsizing*

– *If listed*

    f.   Any other comments?

– ***Responses;***

– *Modern estates never have enough parking*

– *Maybe consider a row of traditionally design "alms houses" for elderly people- less maintenance and can downsize to.*

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5. Economy and Employment

    a.   What are the main issues relating to jobs and employment in the Parish?

– ***Responses;***

– *Poor transport links*

– *Lack of transport- need a car*

– *Not enough businesses to employ people, most home workers are sole individuals.*

– *No transport into the area so dependent on own transport*

– *Broadband infrastructure to enable efficient home working*

– *Transport to get into the area*

– *Poor transport/lack of local industry*

    b.   How should new opportunities be provided for new/start up businesses?

– ***Responses;***

– *Grants/tax incentives*

– *Not easy*

– *Encouragement should be given to traditional business activities for the area e.g. farming, forestry, fruit growing etc*

– *No need for office accommodation most work from home*

– *Rural community- can't see this*

    c.   Should existing employment floorspace be protected?

– ***Responses;***

– *Existing floorspace should be developed with better broadband connectivity and transport*

    d.   Should the expansion and development of existing employment be encouraged?

– ***Responses;***

– *It has to be dependant on the business- supporting "financially" old/failing businesses is <u>not</u> a solution. Providing <u>grants</u> for expansion must be dependant on proper business rationale*

– *Yes*

    e.   Any other comments?

– ***No comments made***

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6. Transport

    a.   What are the main issues to do with transport and accessibility in the Parish?

– ***Responses;***

– *Speeding through the village*

- *Poor/narrow/unlit roads. Hard enough to travel already. Many dog walkers/riders- dangerous*
- *Accessibility is very difficult due to narrow lanes with no pavement. Transport is a problem with speeding cars.*
- *A car is required for flexibility. The quality of roads and potholes make car usage very difficult*
- *Small roads and overgrown means many roads are single track. Solving these are expensive.*
- *Cars speeding through villages dangerous for pedestrians dog walkers etc. No pedestrian walkways along roads*
- *Inadequate speed controls; no humps or other lights to show excessive speed.*
- *Road safety- safety measures without overengineering on rural roads*

b. How should alternative modes of transport other than the private car be encouraged?
- ***Responses;***
- *The roads are not safe enough due to narrow lanes/speeding cars to encourage more cyclists or horseriders. Even walking on the lanes is hazardous*
- *Truth is the car is essential living here but LA should consider minibus type services operating more frequently than current poor (large) bus services.*
- *Improved public services- buses. Cycleways.*
- *The idea of community bus/regular services to ?????? etc is a good idea- but realistically people wish to be personally flexible. Car share systems for local trips via online booking?*

c. How would the provision of cycle routes encourage less use of the car as a mode of transport?
- ***Responses;***
- *The roads are not safe enough due to narrow lanes/speeding cars to encourage more cyclists or horse riders even walking on the lanes is hazardous.*
- *Not realistic in this area on any scale- at least not without widening roads which would only encourage more traffic.*
- *Cycle routes would need to be created that are separate to small and crowded roads. It is too dangerous otherwise for ??????? increased usage*

d. Where should cycle routes be proposed?

   Responses;
   The roads are not safe enough due to narrow lanes/speeding cars to encourage more cyclists or horse riders even walking on the lanes is hazardous
   Along existing roads, reducing them for cars to single track (alternate one way)
   The roads in the parish are narrow and will not be able to adequately separate cyclists from two way cars/commercial vehicles and may give cyclists a false perspective of their safety.

e. Any other comments?
- ***Responses;***
- *Whatever happens keep the roads <u>dark</u>. Agreed*
- *The roads are dark- we do not want overhead lighting because the character of the village is natural light and dark skies. However this makes cycling at night dangerous.*
- *Mark the edge of the roads, <u>not</u> the centre. Lack of centre white lines slows traffic*

7. Climate change

a. What issues arise from development that are related to climate change?
- ***Responses;***
- *High rainfall and inadequate drainage*
- *Increased transport congestion and traffic. Increased demands on power/water/energy. Removal of biodiversity/trees/"lungs of the community"*
- *Flooding*

b. What features should the Neighbourhood Plan promote on developments to mitigate the impact of climate change?
- ***Responses;***
- *Resilience- many modern houses are not built well- they're built "on the cheap"*
- *Future Fit*

- *Mitigation- lighting/solar/ASHP/water concerns*
- *No street lights*
- *Keep garden intact*

c. How can the effects of climate change be addressed through the management of development?

- ***Responses;***
- *Invest in local created power- solar/heat pump.*
- *Encourage electric vehicle delivery/useage/charging potential*
- *"Planting"(ideally natural) when removing tree cover*
- *Offsetting of energy/carbon footprint. ensuring highest levels of energy saving/insulation/low energy usage of all development*

d. Any other comments?

- ***Responses;***
- *Structural resistance to heave/subsidence (more clay)*
- *Guidance on types of trees to survive for warmer climate*
- *Drainage/ditches (need to be better maintained)*
- *Realistic*
- *Making it easier/safer to walk/bike between areas*
- *Adaptation*

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