

Bishops Frome Neighbourhood Plan

Consultation Statement

April 2017

Bishops Frome Parish Council

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A. Introduction

This Consultation Statement supports the Neighbourhood Plan Submission in accordance with Regulation 14 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) regulations 2012. It contains the following:

- a) Details of people and organisations consulted about the proposed Neighbourhood Plan
- b) Details of how they were consulted
- c) A summary of the main issues and concerns raised through the consultation process
- d) Descriptions of how these issues and concerns have been considered and addressed in the proposed Neighbourhood Plan.

The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (Localism Act 2011) require a Consultation Statement to set out the consultations undertaken for the Neighbourhood Plan. In accordance with these Regulations and the local planning authority's guidance on consultation, the preparation of the Bishops Frome Neighbourhood Plan has involved residents, and other organisations with an interest in the parish in the preparatory stages for the Neighbourhood Plan.

Recent guidance from Department for Communities and Local Government (10 Sept 2013) states that: *'the consultation statement submitted with the draft Neighbourhood Plan should reveal the quality and effectiveness of the consultation that has informed the Plan proposals.'*

This Statement sets out details of events and consultations. It lists the activities in which the local community has been involved and the on going work of volunteers. The aim of the consultations in Bishop's Frome and Fromes Hill has been to ensure that there is as widespread as possible understanding of the reasons for and content of the Bishop's Frome Neighbourhood Plan.

This Statement demonstrates that there has been extensive community engagement which has informed the community of the progress and content of the Bishops Frome Neighbourhood Plan. Also the Neighbourhood Plan has been included as an agenda item at all Parish Council meetings and minutes of these are publically available on request of the Bishops Frome and Fromes Hill Parish Clerk.

B. Initiating Neighbourhood Planning

At a meeting at Fromes Hill on Tuesday September 10th 2013 of the Parish Council, at which Jane Wormald a Herefordshire Council Planning Officer outlined the procedures of producing a Neighbourhood plan to the Parish Council members.

It was decided that a plan should be prepared and an expression of interest form would be submitted and then Councillor Pudge would form a Committee to produce a Plan for the Parish of Bishops Frome and Fromes Hill. Attachment 1 Extract of minutes 10 09 2013.

An application form to apply for the area of the plan was received from Herefordshire Council and filled in, submitted on 24th September 2013 and advertised throughout the Parish by the Parish Clerk (M Field). The Neighbourhood Plan area was designated on 8th November 2013 we received no comments during the consultation period.

The Parish Council has added as an agenda item "The Neighbourhood Plan" to each Parish Council meeting since then also advertised the need for volunteers to form a Committee to produce the plan. Attachment 2 Extracts from the Valley News and Initial Meeting Poster.

A meeting was arranged to be held at the Bishops Frome Village Centre on Tuesday April 15th 2014 to form a Committee fifteen people attended. A committee was formed. Meetings of the committee were scheduled for fortnightly on Tuesday evenings until the questionnaire was produced.

C. The Neighbourhood Planning Committee

Neighbourhood Planning has been led by Bishops Frome and Fromes Hill Parish Council with decision making powers delegated to its Neighbourhood Plan Committee. The Plan Committee is a working group formed to act as a key means of compiling the evidence base, engaging with the local community and testing the suitability and acceptability of its emerging policies and proposals; then drafting and submitting the Plan.

This working group consists of volunteers from the Parish Council and members of the public residing in the area, they also engaged with an independent planning consultant who resides in the area to help with the preparation of policies and the plan and when his health declined another planning consultant from Herefordshire who is taking the plan at this stage to Reg 16, overall, the whole process was supported significantly by Herefordshire Council Neighbourhood Planning Team.

Throughout the Summer this working group met formally on a fortnightly basis to progress the Plan activities, discuss issues, and liaise with Gemma Webster the Council Support officer.

D. The Plan preparation process

The process of preparing and seeking final adoption of the Neighbourhood Plan is in accordance with the Neighbourhood Plan (General) Regulations 2012 and has been agreed by Bishop's Frome Parish Council. The intention of the Parish Council is to submit the Neighbourhood Plan in 2017 with a view to the Plan being determined as being in general conformity with current legislation in force, and the emerging Herefordshire Core Strategy, and therefore ready for Examination.

The process up to Submission has comprised a number of stages:

1. Definition of the Neighbourhood Plan area

The Parish Council made an application for the Designation of the Neighbourhood Plan area on 24TH September 2013. The application contained a map which identified the area to which the area application related, a statement explaining why this area was considered appropriate to be designated as a neighbourhood plan area and a statement that the organisation making the application was a relevant body for the purposes of section 61G of the 1990 Town and Country Planning Act.

Designation of the Plan area was approved by Herefordshire Council on 8th November 2013, application and letter of confirmation received by Bishops Frome Parish Council. This document forms Appendix 2 of this Statement and can also be viewed via

https://myaccount.herefordshire.gov.uk/media/7395898/bishops_from_e_decision_document.pdf.

2. Formation of the Neighbourhood Plan Committee.

The Committee was formed April 2014 with decision making powers devolved from Bishops Frome Parish Council.

3. Raising awareness and initial Publicity

Posters were placed on every village noticeboard advertising all activities, and regular articles in the Valley News the local magazine for our Parish. A website for the Parish Council was prepared for information of this plan and other activities of the Parish Council could be widely received.

4. Collection of opinion on matters concerned with the plan.

The Neighbourhood Plan questionnaire was developed by the Committee over the summer of 2014 with the aim to collect and collate more detailed information about the priorities identified in the non-statutory Community Led Parish Plan (produced in April 2014) which formed the precursor to the Neighbourhood Plan. The Parish Plan is attached as Appendix 1.

The Questionnaires were distributed in the middle of August to every person of sixteen and above for their comments. A small section of Fromes Hill did not receive their questionnaires the first week end but copies were delivered to them and the deadline for receiving questionnaires back was moved to October 21st. The questionnaires were collated by Tim Hickling, Peter Wills and Paul Clarke and presented to the committee in December. We are very grateful for all their efforts. At this stage Gemma Webster left to have a baby and Karla Johnson took up the reins and has ably steered us along the path preparing the plan.

The key messages arising from the consultation were:

- Essential characteristics of the village - 54% rated 'a Country village and its listed buildings' as a 'Very important' characteristic. 66% thought that 'Open/green spaces inside the village' and 'Overall balance of population and facilities' were also very important.
- Residents enjoy - a 'Rural atmosphere' and 'Easy access to the countryside' are of critical importance to the residents
- How many new houses should be allowed - a clear majority rejected a development of more than 10 houses in total. Comments include Target has been met, so no more houses.
- 94% of respondents rejected the development of 'One large estate'
- 68% were in favour of 'A number of smaller developments'
- A very clear majority were in favour of both single (80%) and two-storey (94%) houses. Equally clearly, 85% were against any three-storey properties and 80% against 'Flats/apartments'
- Where should land for housing be allocated? - most respondents were clearly not in favour of building on farms or greenfield sites
- As for the type of future houses, the most popular selection for the type of house was firstly family homes, second houses for local people and third starter homes.
- One thing that was made clear by 69% of voters was that excessive speed of vehicles is a major concern.
- 56% of people thought parking was a major hazard in the village.
- 56% believed a good bus service deserved high priority
- Conservation of historic and/or listed buildings attracted 42% votes
- 71% categorised green spaces in the village as a high priority
- Protection of the natural environment attracted 82% of the vote in category 4 or 5.
- Protection of views and vista gained 84% of the vote categorising it as the two highest options.
- The most common comments were to 'keep the village rural in feel', 'maintain green spaces and the natural environment'.
- A minority of the population has experienced some flooding in the last 10 years. Comments centre mainly on improving the maintenance and upgrading of systems which fail to cope with the existing roads, housing and population.
- The most popular general comments across all questions mainly centre on maintenance of a rural village atmosphere with little or no further building beyond that currently with planning permission.

The Questionnaire is attached Appendix 3 and the results are summarised in Appendix 4.

5. Vision, Objectives and Housing Options consultation

The Herefordshire Core Strategic plan had been adopted in October 2015. David Preece used this Core Strategic plan with the information from the Bishops Frome and Fromes Hill Led Plan and the answers to the Neighbourhood Plan questionnaire and produced a questionnaire based on the facts we needed to produce the draft Neighbourhood Plan. He produced a Settlement Boundaries document and option plans for Bishops

Frome and Fromes Hill, a list of Objectives and a Vision statement for Bishops Frome and Fromes Hill. These were approved for consultation by the Parish Council at their meeting on 10th November 2015.

The Drop In Day was arranged for December 22nd 2015 at Bishops Frome Village Centre between 8.30am to 6pm. There was a very good turnout on the day and Villagers were invited to pin flags into large size printed maps of the village to identify the settlement boundary they preferred for Bishops Frome and Fromes Hill and answered the questionnaire. The material produced for the Drop in Day is attached as Appendix 5 and the results summarised in Appendix 6 and Appendix 7.

The responses to this consultation were broadly supportive of the draft proposals and were carried forward into the Regulation 14 Plan.

6. Regulation 14 Plan and consultation

In July 2016 a full initial draft plan was put together by David Preece based on all the opinion and feedback given during the previous three years, in particular there was significant help given by our allocated Neighbourhood Planning Officer Karla Johnson who also provided SEA and HRA reports and presented to the Members of the Parish Council.

The Regulation 14 Plan as well as HRA and SEA reports were sent to Herefordshire Council on 4th July to commence the consultation period. All comments to be received by Friday August 19th 2016.

Posters advertising the plan's availability were placed throughout the Parish.

The Regulation 14 Plan as well as HRA and SEA reports were available for inspection at the Community Shop Bishops Frome and The Hop Pocket Craft Centre. Full circulation by hand of the printed final draft plan was made to every household in the Parish inviting a 6 week initial consultation period.

The Draft Plan was also sent to the following persons/organisations by post or email:

Bill Wiggin MP

Ward Councillor: Cllr Morgan

Herefordshire Council Neighbourhood Planning Team

Herefordshire Council Planning Team

Welsh Water

Severn Trent

Highways Agency

Historic England

Natural England

National Trust

Environment Agency

Woodland Trust

Wye Valley NHS

Coal Authority

Network Rail

Homes and Communities Agency

Ledbury Civic Society

Hereford and Worcester Chamber of Commerce

Acton Beauchamp Group of Parish Councils

Avenbury Parish Council

Bosbury and Coddington Group of Parish Councils

Cradley Parish Council

Much Cowarne Group of Parish Councils

Stoke Lacy Parish Council

Stretton Grandison Group of Parish Councils

7. Preparation of the Submission Plan

The consultation responses to the Regulation 14 Plan are summarised in Appendix 8. Feedback was received from Herefordshire Council, Highways England, Historic England, Natural England, Eveson Trust, Stretton Grandison Group of Parish Councils, Mr Richard Booth Mrs Wendy Parry, Mr and Mrs Clayton and Mrs Victoria Pratt.

The responses and associated changes were considered by the Parish Council at their meeting on 11th April.

Appendix 8 shows that the consultation responses related to a range of issues but none of such significance to question the overall strategy and policy scope set out in the document. Indeed, the comment submitted by Herefordshire Council that ‘overall the document is well presented, structured and written’ was particularly welcomed.

In this context, the key issues raised in the consultation were:

- The Neighbourhood Plan housing target. Pages 20-21 of the Regulation 14 Plan set out how the Plan is accommodating the Core Strategy Housing target. Herefordshire Council sought clarification on the scale and status of the completions and ‘committed’ sites referred to and whether there is a ‘gap’ that the Plan needs to meet in terms of identifying additional sites. It was accepted that the Plan was not sufficiently clear on this matter and a new Policy (BF2) has been introduced. This establishes a minimum Housing target for the Neighbourhood Plan (55 homes) to be delivered through completions and commitments (50 homes) and an allowance for windfall sites – primarily within the defined settlement boundaries.
- The status of the Appendix at page 42 and the extent to which the Plan is allocating sites for development. Herefordshire Council questioned the status of the Appendix at page 42 of the document which listed the sites considered through the call for sites exercise on the basis that the status of these sites was unclear. It is accepted that this Appendix and the supporting text on page 21 are unclear and potentially misleading because some of these sites are outside the proposed settlement boundary and so would not be considered to be suitable for development. But this was not expressly stated in the document. Changes have been made to the Plan in reflection of the fact that the Core Strategy housing target has been met and there is no overriding reason to allocate further sites for development. Windfall sites can continue to come forward within the defined settlement boundary to meet the housing target established in new Policy BF2. The Appendix at page 42 of the Regulation 14 Plan has been deleted and the text on page 21 of the Regulation 14 Plan clarified.

It was also apparent that the discussion on the approach to defining the settlement boundary and site allocations on pages 21 to 25 of the Regulation 14 Plan was also misleading. The Plan is not allocating specific sites – either in Bishops Frome and Fromes Hill. But it is identifying a settlement boundary and within this boundary development proposals will be considered against the criteria based policies – in particular BF3.

- Open space status. Herefordshire Council questioned the status of the open spaces listed in Policy BF6 of the Regulation 14 Plan in terms of their compatibility with paragraph 77 of the NPPF. It was accepted that the terminology used in the Policy is confusing and status of these areas of open space is unclear. This Policy has been updated (Policy BF7 of the Submission Plan) to ensure consistency with the definition of Local Green Space set out in the NPPF.

A number of other, less significant amendments were made either in direct response to the consultation comments, or in the interests of improving the overall clarity and formatting of the Plan. All of these changes are detailed in Appendix 8.

E. Working with other Bodies

Herefordshire Council

The extensive support and advice provided by Herefordshire Council Neighbourhood Planning team has been instrumental in bringing our plan to fruition. Meetings have been held with our assigned planning officers (Gemma Webster and at present Karla Johnson) and they have offered guidance and support throughout.

Co-operation with neighbouring parishes

A good working relationship was established with our ward councillor Patricia Morgan who attends every Parish council meeting and many of the Committee meetings. She has been included in circulation of the draft plan so she could inform other parishes within the Ward on updates and progress. The Plan was sent to all our next door Parish Councils and has affected only one Parish Group as the draft plan moved over the Parish boundary by mistake at Fromes Hill this has been rectified.

Appendix 1 - Bishops Frome and Fromes Hill Community Led Parish Plan

Bishops Frome & Fromes Hill Community Led Parish Plan



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THE TWO VILLAGES

Bishops Frome

In 1870-72, John Marius Wilson's *Imperial Gazetteer of England and Wales* described **Bishops Frome** like this:

“BISHOPS-FROME, a township and a sub district in Bromyard district, and a parish in Bromyard and Ledbury districts, Hereford. The township lies on the river Frome, 4 miles S of Bromyard, and 5½ N of Ashperton r.

station; and has a post office under Worcester. Real property, £2,329. The parish includes also the townships of Halmonds-Frome, Leadon, Walton, Stanford Regis, and Eggleton. Acres, 4,550. Real property, £11,367. Pop., 1,014. Houses, 215. The property is much subdivided. The living is a vicarage in the diocese of Hereford. Value, £608.* Patron, the Rev. J Hopton. The church was built in 1862; is in the Norman style; and consists of nave, chancel, north aisle, and vestry, with a tower.-The subdistrict contains seven parishes and the greater part of another. Acres, 22,305. Pop., 4,439. Houses, 941”.

In 1086 the manor was in the hands of the Bishop of Hereford, hence the name Bishop's Frome. The village is on the eastern side of Herefordshire. It is 21 km (13 miles) northeast of the City of Hereford, 16 km (9.9 miles) west of Malvern and 8 km (5 miles) south of Bromyard. As the name indicates it lies in the Frome Valley on the River Frome. There are approximately 260 households in the village Bishops Frome.

Agriculture was and still is the mainstay of life in the village and includes the growing of hops, apples and the making of wine and cider. The village has a village centre where many activities are offered e.g. Line dancing, kick boxing, a luncheon club. Pilates and fund raising bingo to name but a few. There is also a community shop and part time post office. The village boasts three pubs, the Green Dragon (16th century) and the Chase Inn, built in the 19th century to cater for the Hop Pickers and The Majors Arms. There is a garage and a butchers shop. The latter is at the Hop Pocket Craft Centre which is described as a shopping centre with many outlets within converted hop drying barns sited just outside the village centre. Within the village is Bishops Frome Technology Park, the site was acquired by W.J. Holden and Associates in 1985 who since 2003 are the sole freehold owners of the entire site. The site houses many businesses including Euroheat Distributors (HBS) Ltd.

The Parish Church of St. Mary is an architectural mix of Norman and Neo-Norman, the tower being fourteenth century, the chancel dating from 1847 and the nave and north chapel from 1861. The architect was F.R. Kempson of Hereford. It has a Norman chancel arch and main door way. The Norman font, which over 700 years old is a lead-lined, one of only twenty in England. In a recess is a stone effigy of a man in a suit of mail dating from the late 13th century. He holds a sword and shield and his crossed legs rest on a lion. His habit is that of a Knight Templar.

The village gives its name to the Bishops Frome Limestone which outcrops locally.



St Mary's Parish Church

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FROMES HILL

Fromes Hill is a small hamlet within the parish of Bishops Frome, it lies about 24 km (15 miles) east of Hereford, 11 km (7 miles) north of Ledbury and 29 km (18 miles) west of Worcester. There are approximately 86 households the majority are along the main A road or to the sides of it.

There is a pub, The Wheatsheaf, an Indian restaurant and take away, an ex-army store, a café, hairdressers/barbers and a motorcycle retailer..

Local agriculture includes apples, wheat, grains and hops, cider and wine making.

Fromes Hill also has a church, St Matthew's which was founded in 1877. It was designed also by F.R. Kempson, it is a Grade two listed building.



St Matthew's Church

Fromes Hill during the period of 1904 – 1907 was also the location of an international hill climb. [\[1\]](#)

References:

1. [Kolombus. Hill Climb Winners 1897–1949 by Hans Etzrodt](#)

The Community Led Parish Plan.

This Parish Plan for Bishops Frome and Fromes Hill is about the aspirations of the residents.

During 2011 the Parish Plan Steering Group was formed, made up of 1 Parish Councillor, 1 resident from Fromes Hill and 5 from Bishops Frome.

The process began with two 'Planning For Real' events, where everyone who attended had the chance to have their say and share ideas. The events were held at Bishops Frome Village Centre and at The Wheatsheaf Fromes Hill.

Following these events the steering group produced two questionnaires, one for young people and one for adults, based on the issues raised. The questionnaires were delivered to every household in the parish (Each property was provided with 1 for younger people and 2 for adults).

The questionnaires that were completed and returned were sent off to Herefordshire Council for analysis and from the results of the analysis the plan has been written.

So what's the point of this plan?

From the analysis of the questionnaires we have highlighted the main issues and from this have produced the basis of an action plan.

The plan is about what the residents want to see happen in the parish and where they need to happen.

This plan is full of ideas as well as basic facts. It's meant to get you thinking. All we ask is that you read it through, and if you can find just one thing you can do, then why not get involved in making it happen?

All of the issues included in the plan are things that concern people in the parish. It goes without saying that the Parish Council will do everything in its power to work in these areas.

Key themes:

Housing: The responses identified that major housing development would not be supported and that new housing should be within strict limits.

- Only 1% (1) had no opinion regarding additional house building in the parish. 60% (103) thought there should be some new housing but with strict limits, 25% (44) thought there should be some limit on new housing, 2% (3) thought there should be no limit on new house building, while only 13% (22) thought there should be no new housing.
- 51% (83) of respondents felt that any additional building should be affordable housing, 44% (72) Starter Homes & 62% (101) family homes.

Action Points:

- **When considering planning applications, Herefordshire County Council (HCC) and Bishops Frome Parish Council (BFPC) should only allow limited housing development.**

- Any development should be focused on Starter homes, affordable housing and family homes.

Facilities and Services: The village shop and village hall are key facilities, high speed broadband is an important need and activities such as a farmers market would find support. The Parish Magazine is highly valued but there is also a desire to have a parish website and this could improve communication by the Parish Council. Bus service usage would improve if timetables were changed.

- When asked what facilities & services they would like to see made available in the parish 73% (110) a Farmers Market, 42% (64) said a bulk-buy fuel club, 36% (55) said a community café, 23% (34) wanted a community garden/allotment.
- 53% of respondents when asked whether the Parish Council represented their interests well 53% (87) had no opinion, 32% (52) said yes.
- 45% (76) of respondents did not think the Parish Council publicised their decisions or activities sufficiently, 20% (34) had no opinion.
- 68% (114) said they were aware that the Parish Council contact details and details of meetings could be found on the parish notice board & in the Newsletter.
- 38% (64) said that a web site/email were the best way to keep them informed of news and events in the parish. 92% (137) said they would not be prepared to help maintain a web site.
- 63% (104) of respondents said they would support the introduction of high speed broadband if there was no extra cost.
- 33% (55) use the community shop in Bishops Frome daily, 38% (64) use it weekly.

Action Points:

- Parish Council to investigate the setting up of a Farmers Market.
- Parish Council to explore the possibility of setting up a bulk-buy fuel club.
- Parish Council to liaise with the Village Centre to develop a joint web-site.

Roads and Road Safety: Speeding is a major safety concern in the parish, particularly on the B road through Bishops Frome and the A road through Fromes Hill, and respondents supported the use of slow down signs, speed indicator devices and speed cameras.

- 86% (145) thought the maintenance & condition of the roads in the parish was very poor or fairly poor.
- 42% (70) of respondents felt that there is a problem with parking in the parish.
- 30% (52) of respondents felt there are serious traffic/road safety problems on entering Bishops Frome from the south (Ledbury).
- 19% (33) of respondents felt there is a problem when entering Bishops Frome from the North (Bromyard).
- 11% (19) respondents felt there are problems with the entrance to Uplands, Fromes Hill.
- 40% (66) of respondents thought that there is a problem for pedestrians crossing the roads in the parish.
- 82% (140) said they never use local bus services.
- 45% (79) respondents said they would use the service if routes/timetables are improved.
- 48% (81) of respondents are very concerned about speeding vehicles.
- When asked what they would like put into place to improve traffic & road safety problems 34% (59) said Slow Down signs, 35% (61) said Speed Indicator Devices and 33% (57) said Speed Cameras.

Action Points:

- Issues around speeding were of a major concern throughout the parish. Parish Council to investigate a more extensive use of Speed Indicator Devices.
- HCC and BFPC should consider implementing a 40 mph speed limit from the Hop Pocket to the southern boundary of Bishops Frome village, given the amount of traffic entering and exiting from the Hop Pocket and the small industrial units along this route and the narrowing of the road as it crosses the bridges.
- Parish Council to investigate the possibility of a village gateway scheme.
- Parish Council to investigate into the installation of 30 mph vehicle activated signs in specific areas highlighted by the parishioners.
- Safer pedestrian crossing points in both villages to be investigated by the Parish Council and put into place.
- Responses highlighted a major concern about the state of the roads in the parish, in particular

the minor roads. Parish Council to maintain pressure on Herefordshire Council to improve maintenance.

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Crime and Safety. Whilst generally a low crime environment there have been break-ins and thefts to the shop and local businesses.

- When asked if they would be prepared to help run the existing Neighbourhood Watch Scheme 85% (135) said no.

Action Points:

- Parish Council to liaise with West Mercia Constabulary with a view to improving the profile of the Community Support Officer responsible for the parish.

Work Training and Local economy: Whilst the provision of small business units is supported, large industrial developments are strongly opposed.

- 12 respondents would like to see a local growing and selling food scheme introduced into the parish.
- 81% (134) respondents felt large industrial developments should not be allowed in the parish, but 80% (135) felt small business units should be allowed.

Action Points:

- Parish Council to follow up those parishioners who are interested in setting up and running a 'grow and sell' scheme.

Education and Training. Activities for younger people emerged as the key requirement under this heading.

- 40% (70) of respondents felt that an activity club or youth club was needed in the parish. 20% (34) wanted to see a 'Starting Work' support work group, although there is an acute shortage of volunteers.

Leisure and Tourism. Playgrounds in the parish are greatly valued and such a facility is required in Fromes Hill

- When asked what activities they would like to see offered in the parish, 31% (53) said Keep Fit 13% (23) said Arts and crafts club.
- When asked what leisure facilities the parish needed 76% (133) wanted to see more playgrounds for children.
- 22% (38) wanted tennis courts.
- When asked would you be prepared to help run any activities in the parish, 92% (120) said no.
- When asked what would be the best use for the community field at Fromes Hill responses included, 27% (47) playground 6 to 12, 24% (42) playground under 5's, 22% (38) wild life meadow, 21% (37) said allotments.
- When asked if they would be prepared to run any of these activities, 93% (123) said no.
- When asked if they would be prepared to help with the maintenance or management of Bishops Frome Village Centre, 91% (134) said no.

Action Points:

- Parish Council to investigate the possibility of developing a playground for the children living in Fromes Hill.
- Parish Council to maintain a plan of action regarding the maintenance and development of playgrounds in the parish.

Environment and Sustainability. A clear majority were concerned to maintain the rural nature of the parish and this was reflected in the desire to not to extend street lighting beyond current arrangements and to exclude large industrial developments. A clear majority were against any further wind turbines being erected and wanted trees, hedges and ponds retained. Respondents were concerned about fly tipping, litter and the condition of rights of way.

- When asked how important they thought it was to protect the local environment 97% (162) felt it was very important/fairly important.
- When asked 58% (95) said they felt flooding was an issue around the parish.

- When asked how important they felt it was that the parish remained a rural area 98% (164) respondents said they thought it was very important/fairly important.
- When asked what facilities they would like to see offered in the parish, 66% (115) said recycling, 36% (63) said community composting and 16% (27) said allotments.
- When asked how the local environment could be improved 80% (138) wanted to see trees and hedges preserved and replaced, 71% (122) wanted to encourage farmers to reinstate hedges/ponds, 60% (104) wanted more wildlife friendly habitats created,
- 60% (104) wanted more flowering shrubs planted around the parish, 57% (99) wanted to see environmental activities such as woodland crafts, hedge laying promoted.
- When asked should further wind turbines be erected in the parish 56% (93) said no.
- When asked if they thought flooding was a problem in the parish, 58% (95) said yes.
- When asked about their environmental concerns 77% (120) were very/fairly concerned about fly tipping, 82% (133) were concerned about litter, 67% (105) concerned about the dumping of garden rubbish.
- 51% (83) wanted extra dog mess bins provided.
- 54% (88) people wanted to see more public seating in the parish.
- 49% (82) felt that street- lighting the parish was about right.
- 47% (80) of respondents use public footpaths or bridle-ways on a daily or weekly basis.
- When asked whether they thought footpath/bridle-way signs, stiles and gates were adequately repaired and maintained 37% (62) said no, 36% (60) said yes. 31% (54) wanted better maintenance, 23% (40) wanted dog friendly styles, 21% (37) want better signs, 21% (37) want kissing gates to replace stiles.

Action Points:

- **HCC and BFPC planning decisions should reflect the strong desire of the population to retain the rural nature of the parish.**
- **Parish Council to support the maintenance of the rural environment, e.g. ponds, hedgerows.**
- **Parish Council to investigate the possibility of a Lengthsman Scheme.**
- **Responses indicated a strong opposition to Wind Turbines and HCC and BFPC should reflect this when dealing with any planning applications.**
- **Parish Council to arrange for further Dog Bins to be distributed around the parish.**
- **Parish Council to support the maintenance of stiles and footpaths.**

Steering group members would like to thank Phil Heckling, Willow Tree Computers for help with the data input.

Steering group members: Liz Symonds – Chair - Ann Mann – Secretary

Richard Mann – Treasurer - Simon Badman - Mike Abbott - Kevin Gent - Richard Booth

Appendix 2 - Bishops Frome Neighbourhood Plan Questionnaire Fromes Hill

Bishops Frome and Fromes Hill Parish Neighbourhood Plan

Neighbourhood Plan Questionnaires - Guidance Notes

Dear Resident,

You may be aware that the Bishops Frome and Fromes Hill is developing a Neighbourhood Plan. This follows on from the 'Community Led Parish Plan' for Bishops Frome and Fromes Hill which was published in April 2014. The Community Led Parish Plan collected information about the aspirations of the residents of the two villages. The Neighbourhood Plan aims to collect and collate more detailed information about the priorities identified in the Community Led Parish Plan.

What is the Plan for?

If approved by the community and statutory authorities, the Plan will give our parish greater influence and control over future local planning and development. This is part of a national initiative to enable local communities to have a greater input into decisions that directly affect them.

Who is involved in the development of the Plan?

Your Parish Council set up a Steering Group of residents to run the project in May 2014.

Why do we need a Questionnaire?

The project is currently at the data-gathering stage. Last year we sent out a questionnaire for the Community Led Parish Plan and this forms the basis for this questionnaire which will further develop the ideas expressed in that plan. In order for the data to be reliable and representative, it is crucial that as many residents as possible express their needs and views on future development within the parish. This questionnaire is an effective way of achieving this. The responses to this questionnaire, combined with the Community Led Parish Plan completed earlier this year, will form the basis of the draft Neighbourhood plan, which will include local policies on where new houses are to be built, what they look like and what support services are required. The draft Neighbourhood plan will be available for all in the Parish to make comments on and will be presented to Herefordshire Council for their views and acceptance. Then the completed Neighbourhood plan will be presented to the Residents of Bishop's Frome and Fromes Hill in a referendum. If the plan is accepted by you, the members of the Parish, it will then become part of the planning process covering the years 2011 to 2031 and coincide with Herefordshire Council's Core Strategy Plan.

Who are the Questionnaires for?

Everyone in your household, from the age of 16 upwards can complete a copy of the questionnaire. Your Volunteer distributor will leave you with enough questionnaires for every eligible person in your household. There are different questionnaires for Bishop's Frome and Fromes Hill. However, there are dwellings situated throughout our Parish, so if you are offered a questionnaire for Bishops Frome and think you should have a Fromes Hill one instead, or vice versa, please ask your distributor. Each village questionnaire has a plan of the village in it

Things to remember when filling the Questionnaire

Most of the questions are answered simply by using ticks, but many give you the opportunity to add further comments. Please PRINT your comments or write legibly. Your views will not be included in the draft Plan if they cannot be read!

Confidentiality and Anonymity

We do not require your name. Though we ask for your postcode your age group and gender.

What other opportunities will I have to contribute to the Plan?

You will be invited to comment on the draft Plan at Drop-in days at Bishops Frome Village Centre and Fromes Hill Church. Once the Plan is finalised, you will be invited to vote for or against the Plan in a local referendum. A simple majority vote will determine the outcome. If accepted, the Plan will have the force of law and must be taken into account in any planning matters addressed at Parish level.

How do I contact my volunteer distributor?

A volunteer distributor will call to deliver your questionnaire(s). Your distributor will ask you for a date and time to collect the completed questionnaire from you. Please phone her or him if you want to change the date. If you need extra copies or have any questions about the distribution and collection process please contact your Volunteer distributor:

Name:..... Phone:.....

Email:.....

How do I get assistance to complete the Questionnaire?

If you need a large print version of the questionnaire or assistance to complete it please contact: John Pudge, The Hop Pocket Tel.: 01531 640323 e-mail john@thehoppocket.com

Thank you for taking the time to complete this questionnaire!

Bishops Frome and Fromes Hill Parish Neighbourhood Plan

Fromes Hill Residents' Questionnaire - August 2014

Introduction

The Bishops Frome and Fromes Hill Parish is developing a Neighbourhood Plan.

If the Plan is approved by the community and statutory authorities, it will give the parish greater influence and control over future local planning and development.

As part of this process, it is essential that as many local residents contribute to its development as is possible. This questionnaire is one such opportunity for you to get involved.

Filling in the Questionnaire

This questionnaire is for parishioners aged 16 or over.

Most of the questions are answered simply by using ticks, but many give you the opportunity to add further comments. Please PRINT your comments or write legibly. Your views will not be included in the draft Plan if they cannot be read!

Confidentiality and Anonymity

We do not require your name, though we do ask for your postcode, your age and gender for demographic analysis.

Section One – Village Statement

Q1: Which of the following describe the essential characteristics of Fromes Hill? (Tick one box in each row.)

	1	2	3	4	5
	Not important				Very important
Country village and its listed buildings					
Open/green spaces inside the village					
Working farms around the village					
Separation from other villages by countryside					
Overall balance of population and facilities					
Varied building styles in the village					
Comments, if any:					

Q2: What do you enjoy about living in Fromes Hill? (Tick one box in each row.)

	1 Not important	2	3	4	5 Very important
Village identity / feeling part of a community					
Village activities / community groups					
Quiet village					
Easy access to the countryside					
Familiar service in local shops and businesses					
Rural atmosphere					
Comments, if any:					

Section Two - Housing in Fromes Hill

In the Community Led Parish Plan, the responses identified that major housing development would not be supported and that new housing should be within strict limits. The action points stated that, when considering planning applications, Herefordshire Council and Bishops Frome and Fromes Hill parish council should only allow limited housing development. Furthermore, any development should be focussed on starter homes, affordable housing and family homes.

At present, within the Herefordshire Core Strategy Plan, both of our villages have been allocated a minimum of 14% increase in dwellings in the period 2011 to 2031. This is approx. 22 for Bishop's Frome and 11 for Fromes Hill. The Core Strategy plan states, that within the villages carefully considered development which is proportionate to the size of the community and its needs, will be permitted only where residential proposals are locally appropriate to ensure villages retain their separate, distinctive and varied characters.

Our Plan has to show the type of housing, the number of houses per development and where in the village this development is acceptable. On the village plans we have indicated the general area in which developments could take place. In the questions in this section we ask you to please put these locations in order of preference and indicate the number and type of housing you would consider acceptable.

Q3. If additional new homes are to be built in the village, how many in total should be permitted by 2031? (Tick one box in each row.)

	Yes	No
None		
No more than 2 Houses		
No more than 10 Houses		
No more than 20 Houses		
No more than 30 Houses		
No more than 50 Houses		
Comments, if any:		

Q4. When land is allocated for housing, what are your views on the size of each housing development that should be allowed? (Tick one box in each row.)

	Yes	No
One large estate		
A number of smaller developments (e.g. <10 houses)		
Individual released plots		
Garden infill development		
Comments, if any:		

Q5. When land is allocated for housing, what are your views on the style of housing development that should be allowed? (Tick one box in each row.)

	Yes	No
Single storey		
Two-storey		
Three-storey		
Flats / apartments		
Period style, with use of traditional local building materials		
Modern style		
Design that respects the scale and styles of existing buildings		
Smaller style houses		
Smaller gardens		
Larger gardens		
Houses with off street parking		
Houses with a high level of energy conservation		
Comments, if any:		

Q6. When land is allocated for housing, where in the village should it be located? (Tick one box in each row.)

	1 Not important	2	3	4	5 Very important
Within the village					
On the edge of the village					
On 'Greenfield' sites (undeveloped)					
On farms					
Comments, if any:					

Q7. The enclosed map of Fromes Hill has several areas marked with letters where houses could potentially be built. Please consider it carefully and then list the areas in the order you believe they are suitable for development. **You must give a reason for your first and last choices.** You may give a reason for the other choices if you wish.

Suitability for development	Area (letter)	Reason
1st (most suitable)		
2nd		
3rd		
4th (least suitable)		
Comments, if any:		

Key to Letters on map

- A Land East of Uplands
- B Land North of Uplands
- C Roadside Field next to the West of the Church
- D Land East of the Chapel

Q8. When additional houses are to be built, which size or type should they be? (Tick one box in each row.)

	Yes	No	No Opinion
Starter homes (2 bedrooms)			
Family homes (3 or more bedrooms)			
Executive homes (4 or more bedrooms)			
Adapted/easy access homes, e.g. bungalows			
Flats/apartments (one or more bedrooms)			
Supported housing/retirement homes			
Living/working properties (small scale enterprise located within or adjacent to the home)			
Homes for local people/people with local connections			
Comments, if any:			

Q9. The space below is for any other comments you want to make on housing:

Section Three - Traffic, Transport and Access

The Community Led Parish Plan revealed that speeding is a major safety concern in the parish and respondents supported the use of 'Slow Down' signs, speed indicator devices and speed cameras. Your opinion on the future of road transport in your Village is very important. The topics below will help the Parish Council to prioritize the future structure of the village.

Q10. In your opinion are any changes needed with regard to the following transport issues? (Tick one box in each row.)

	1 Not important	2	3	4	5 Very important
Speed of vehicles through Fromes Hill					
Parking in Fromes Hill					
Road maintenance					
Footpaths					
Bus service					
Comments, if any:					

Section Four – Protecting our environment

Q11. Which of the following ways of protecting and enhancing local heritage and the natural environment are important to you? (Tick one box in each row.)

	1 Not important	2	3	4	5 Very important
Improved measures for the conservation of historic or listed buildings and features					
Green/open spaces in the village					
Enhanced protection of the natural environment					
Protection of views and vistas in and around the village and parish					
Comments, if any:					

Q12. Has your property suffered from flooding in the last 10 years because of:

(Tick one box in each row)

	Yes	No
River / stream overflow?		
Field run-off?		
Sewers overflowing?		
Road run-off (drains / ditches unable to cope)?		
Comments, if any:		

Section Five – Creating a sustainable community

Q13. What aspects of community living do you think we need to address to ensure that our parish thrives as a place in which to live, work and play over the next 20 years and beyond? (Tick one box in each row)

	Yes	No	No Opinion
Producing local renewable energy by sun, water or biomass			
Producing local renewable energy by developing wind power			
Building homes that exceed government energy-efficiency standards			
Allocating land to enable residents to grow their own food			
Walking, cycling, and going by bus more - driving less			
Attracting younger people to live in our villages (and providing homes, employment, so they can)			
Increasing the number and type of community facilities (e.g. Play areas, clubs)			
Comments, if any:			

Section Six – About you

Q14. Please enter the following information about yourself:

Your age group? (tick one box)	16-20	21-30	31-40	41-50	51-60	61-70	71-80	81+
Your gender?								
Your postcode?								

Bishops Frome Parish Neighbourhood Plan

Bishops Frome Residents' Questionnaire - August 2014

Introduction

The Bishops Frome and Fromes Hill Parish Council is developing a Neighbourhood Plan.

If the Plan is approved by the community and statutory authorities, it will give the parish greater influence and control over future local planning and development.

As part of this process, it is essential that as many local residents contribute to its development as is possible. This questionnaire is one such opportunity for you to get involved.

Filling in the Questionnaire

This questionnaire is for parishioners aged 16 or over.

Most of the questions are answered simply by using ticks, but many give you the opportunity to add further comments. Please PRINT your comments or write legibly. Your views will not be included in the draft Plan if they cannot be read!

Confidentiality and Anonymity

We do not require your name, though we do ask for your postcode, your age and gender for demographic analysis.

Section One – Village Statement

Q1: Which of the following describe the essential characteristics of Bishops Frome? (Tick one box in each row.)

	1	2	3	4	5
	Not important				Very important
Country village and its listed buildings					
Open/green spaces inside the village					
Working farms around the village					
Separation from other villages by countryside					
Overall balance of population and facilities					
Varied building styles in the village					
Comments, if any:					

Q2: What do you enjoy about living in Bishops Frome? (Tick one box in each row.)

	1	2	3	4	5
	Not				Very

	important				important
Village identity / feeling part of a community					
Village activities / community groups					
Quiet village					
Easy access to the countryside					
Familiar service in local shops and businesses					
Rural atmosphere					
Comments, if any:					

Section Two - Housing in Bishops Frome

In the Community Led Parish Plan, the responses identified that major housing development would not be supported and that new housing should be within strict limits. The action points stated that, when considering planning applications, Herefordshire Council and Bishops Frome parish council should only allow limited housing development. Furthermore, any development should be focussed on starter homes, affordable housing and family homes.

At present, within the Herefordshire Core Strategy Plan, both of our villages have been allocated a minimum of 14% increase in dwellings in the period 2011 to 2031. This is approx. 22 for Bishop's Frome and 11 for Fromes Hill. The Core Strategy plan states, that within the villages carefully considered development which is proportionate to the size of the community and its needs, will be permitted only where residential proposals are locally appropriate to ensure villages retain their separate, distinctive and varied characters.

Our Plan has to show the type of housing, the number of houses per development and where in the village this development is acceptable. On the village plans we have indicated the general area in which developments could take place. In the questions in this section we ask you to please put these locations in order of preference and indicate the number and type of housing you would consider acceptable.

For Bishops Frome, Herefordshire Council has informed us that three developments are already approved and committed to for the period 2011 to 2031. They are the old Frome Valley Haulage Yard (17 dwellings - already under construction), the Dovehills (4) and the land adjacent to Broadfield Barn (2). This takes us to 23 homes, which is above the number of houses required in this period in Bishops Frome village. Please do not become complacent, still answer the questions as the Parish Council needs to know where, what size of development and which type of housing you would like to see in your village in the future. In fact there is a new application which is currently with Hereford Council for a large development of 30 houses on the land behind Broadfield Close. If approved, this

would take Bishops Frome up to 53 additional homes, above the 22 required in the Hereford Core Strategy plan.

Q3. If additional new homes (beyond the 23 already approved) are to be built in the village, how many in total should be permitted by 2031? (Tick one box in each row.)

	Yes	No
None		
No more than 2 Houses		
No more than 10 Houses		
No more than 20 Houses		
No more than 30 Houses		
No more than 50 Houses		
Comments, if any:		

Q4. When land is allocated for housing, what are your views on the size of each housing development that should be allowed? (Tick one box in each row.)

	Yes	No
One large estate		
A number of smaller developments (e.g. <10 houses)		
Individual released plots		
Garden infill development		
Comments, if any:		

Q5. When land is allocated for housing, what are your views on the style of housing development that should be allowed? (Tick one box in each row.)

	Yes	No
Single storey		
Two-storey		
Three-storey		

Flats / apartments		
Period style, with use of traditional local building materials		
Modern style		
Design that respects the scale and styles of existing buildings		
Smaller style houses		
Smaller gardens		
Larger gardens		
Houses with off street parking		
Houses with a high level of energy conservation		
Comments, if any:		

Q6. When land is allocated for housing, where in the village should it be located? (Tick one box in each row.)

	1 Not important	2	3	4	5 Very important
Within the village					
On the edge of the village					
On ‘Greenfield’ sites (undeveloped)					
On farms					
Comments, if any:					

Q7. The enclosed **Map 1** has several areas marked with letters where houses could potentially be built. Please consider it carefully and then list the areas in the order you believe they are suitable for development. **You must give a reason for your first and last choices.** You may give a reason for the other choices if you wish.

Suitability for development	Area (letter)	Reason
1st (most suitable)		
2nd		
3rd		
4th		
5th		
6th		
7th		
8th		
9th (least suitable)		
Comments, if any:		

Key to Letters on map

- A Next to Summerpool
- B The transport yard (Trevor's yard) next to the Old Post Office
- C Upper House (Eveson trust) land West of Upper House
- D Land and farm buildings West of Broadfield Court / Mudwalls
- E Land between Wellington Farm Drive and Filly brook
- F Land area South of building plot for 2 houses (near Broadfield Barn)
- G Land (Eveson Trust) South of Broadfield Court
- H Land West of Partridge's garage
- I Land South of Partridge's garage (Christmas tree field)

Q8. When additional houses are to be built, which size or type should they be? (Tick one box in each row.)

	Yes	No	No Opinion
Starter homes (2 bedrooms)			
Family homes (3 or more bedrooms)			
Executive homes (4 or more bedrooms)			
Adapted/easy access homes, e.g. bungalows			
Flats/apartments (one or more bedrooms)			
Supported housing/retirement homes			
Living/working properties (small scale enterprise located within or adjacent to the home)			
Homes for local people/people with local connections			
Comments, if any:			

Q9. The space below is for any other comments you want to make on housing:

Section Three - Traffic. Transport and Access

The Community Led Parish Plan revealed that speeding is a major safety concern in the parish and respondents supported the use of 'Slow Down' signs, speed indicator devices and speed cameras. Your opinion on the future of road transport in your Village is very important. The topics below will help the Parish Council to prioritize the future structure of the village.

Q10. In your opinion are any changes needed with regard to the following transport issues? (Tick one box in each row.)

	1	2	3	4	5
	Not important				Very important
Speed of vehicles through Bishops Frome					
Parking in Bishops Frome					
Road maintenance					
Road developments (see note below)					
Footpaths					
Bus service					
Comments, if any:					

Road developments: Future housing developments may require road development in the village. The attached **Map 2** shows one example of a possible road development. The example shows a new road going from between the front of Upper House and the Green Dragon car park which re- joins the Burley Gate road on the village side of Wellington Farm drive. You can comment on this in the 'Comments' box above. Or if you have any other ideas for road developments then please add it to the 'Comments' box and mark it on **Map 2** and return the map with your completed questionnaire. Payment for some road developments could be borne by the developers as part of conditions for any new housing developments.

Section Four – Protecting our environment

Q11. Which of the following ways of protecting and enhancing local heritage and the natural environment are important to you? (Tick one box in each row.)

	1 Not important	2	3	4	5 Very important
Improved measures for the conservation of historic or listed buildings and features					
Green/open spaces in the village					
Enhanced protection of the natural environment					
Protection of views and vistas in and around the village and parish					
Comments, if any:					

Q12. Has your property suffered from flooding in the last 10 years because of:

(Tick one box in each row)

	Yes	No
River / stream overflow?		
Field run-off?		
Sewers overflowing?		
Road run-off (drains / ditches unable to cope)?		
Comments, if any:		

Section Five – Creating a sustainable community

Q13. What aspects of community living do you think we need to address to ensure that our parish thrives as a place in which to live, work and play over the next 20 years and beyond? (Tick one box in each row)

	Yes	No	No Opinion
Producing local renewable energy by sun, water or biomass			
Producing local renewable energy by developing wind power			
Building homes that exceed government energy-efficiency standards			
Allocating land to enable residents to grow their own food			
Walking, cycling, and going by bus more - driving less			
Attracting younger people to live in our villages (and providing homes, employment, so they can)			
Increasing the number and type of community facilities (e.g. Play areas, clubs)			
Comments, if any:			

Section Six – About you

Q14. Please enter the following information about yourself:

Your age group? (tick one box)	16-20	21-30	31-40	41-50	51-60	61-70	71-80	81+
Your gender?								
Your postcode?								

Appendix 4 – Summary of responses to the Neighbourhood Plan Community questionnaire

2 November 2014

Extract from the Bishops Frome Neighbourhood Plan

November 2014

Section One

Questionnaire and Village Statement

First Draft



Synopsis of the results from the Bishops Frome Neighbourhood Plan questionnaire

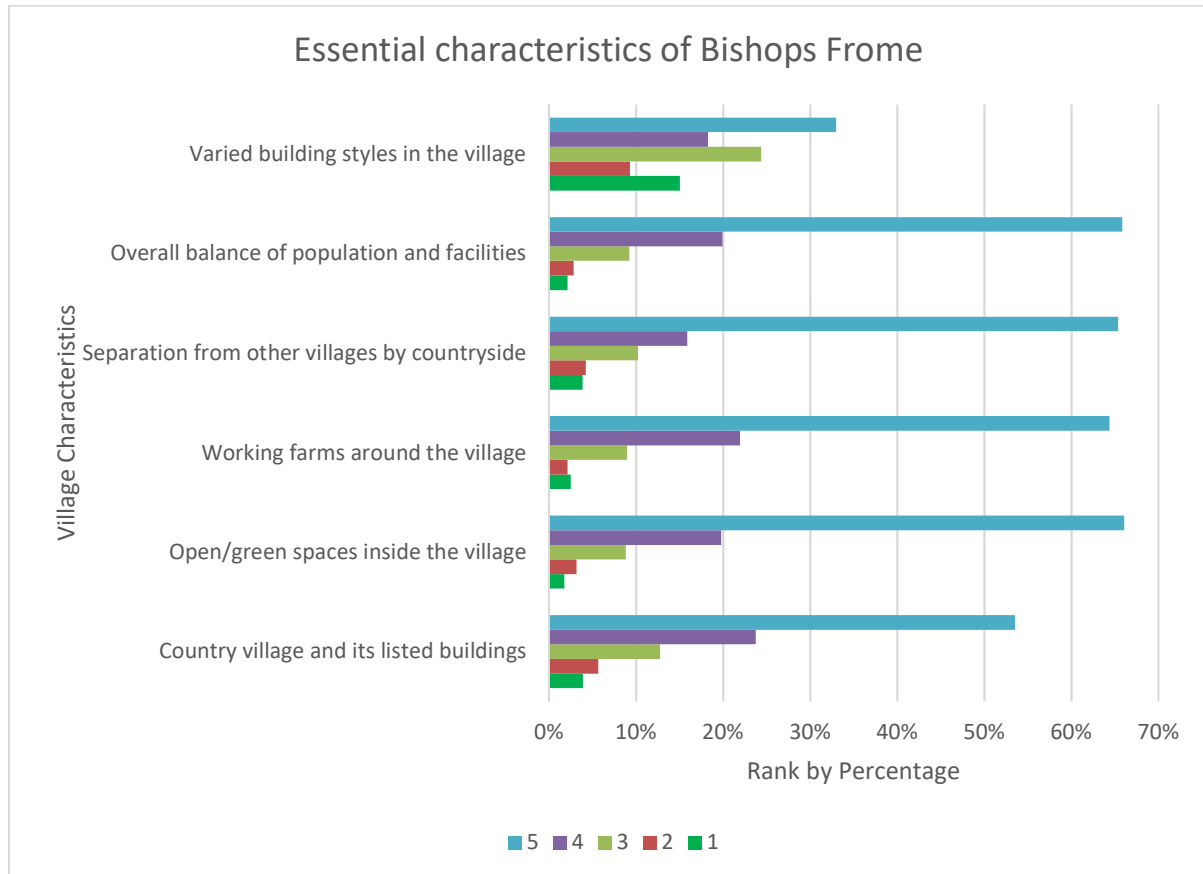
Statistics:

- In July 2014, 465 questionnaires were delivered by hand to the residents of the Parish of Bishops Frome. There are 157 houses in the Parish and 120 houses considered to be in the village itself.
- 299 questionnaires (a 64% hit rate) were completed and handed back to the organising committee.

Key comments and results from the 13 questions asked:

- Essential characteristics of the village - 54% rated '*a Country village and its listed buildings*' as a 'Very important' characteristic. 66% thought that '*Open/green spaces inside the village*' and '*Overall balance of population and facilities*' were also very important.
- Residents enjoy - a '*Rural atmosphere*' and '*Easy access to the countryside*' are of critical importance to the residents
- How many new houses should be allowed - a clear majority rejected a development of more than 10 houses in total. Comments include *Target has been met, so no more houses / No more building please.*
- 94% of respondents rejected the development of '*One large estate*'
- 68% were in favour of '*A number of smaller developments*'
- A very clear majority were in favour of both single (80%) and two-storey (94%) houses. Equally clearly, 85% were against any three-storey properties and 80% against '*Flats/apartments*'
- Where should land for housing be allocated? - most respondents were clearly not in favour of building on farms or greenfield sites
- As for the type of future houses, the most popular selection for the type of house was firstly family homes, second houses for local people and third starter homes.
- One thing that was made clear by 69% of voters was that excessive speed of vehicles is a major concern.
- 56% of people thought parking was a major hazard in the village.
- 56% believed a good bus service deserved high priority
- Conservation of historic and/or listed buildings attracted 42% votes
- 71% categorised green spaces in the village as a high priority
- Protection of the natural environment attracted 82% of the vote in category 4 or 5.
- Protection of views and vista gained 84% of the vote categorising it as the two highest options.
- The most common comments were to '*keep the village rural in feel*', '*maintain green spaces and the natural environment*'.
- A minority of the population has experienced some flooding in the last 10 years. Comments centre mainly on improving the maintenance and upgrading of systems which fail to cope with the existing roads, housing and population.
- The most popular general comments across all questions mainly centre on maintenance of a rural village atmosphere with little or no further building beyond that currently with planning permission.

Q1: Which of the following describe the essential characteristics of Bishops Frome?

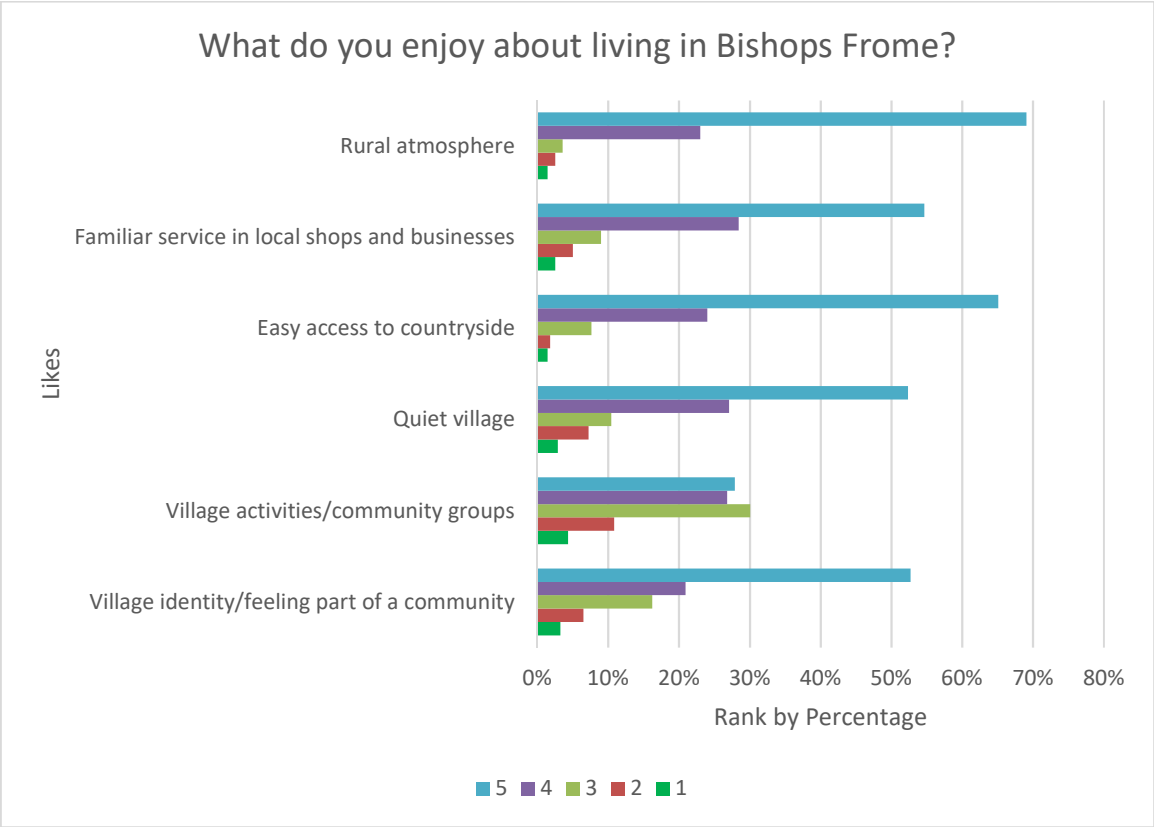


There was a clear consensus on this question with five of the six categories receiving a mark of 'Very important' by more than 50% of respondents. On the village itself, 54% rated *'Country village and its listed buildings'* as a 'Very important' characteristic of Bishops Frome and 66% thought that *'Open/green spaces inside the village'* and *'Overall balance of population and facilities'* were also very important. On the surrounding area, *'Working farms around the village'* and *'Separation from other villages by countryside'* were seen as very important by over 64%. For all of these categories, only 4% or less thought they were 'Unimportant'.

On the final point about varied building styles the feedback was more spread with 33% seeing it as very important but 15% seeing it as unimportant.

There were several individual comments, such as *'No suburban style estates - avoid cul-de-sacs '*, but three people commented that *'Improvement needed in balance of population and facilities / services are poor'*

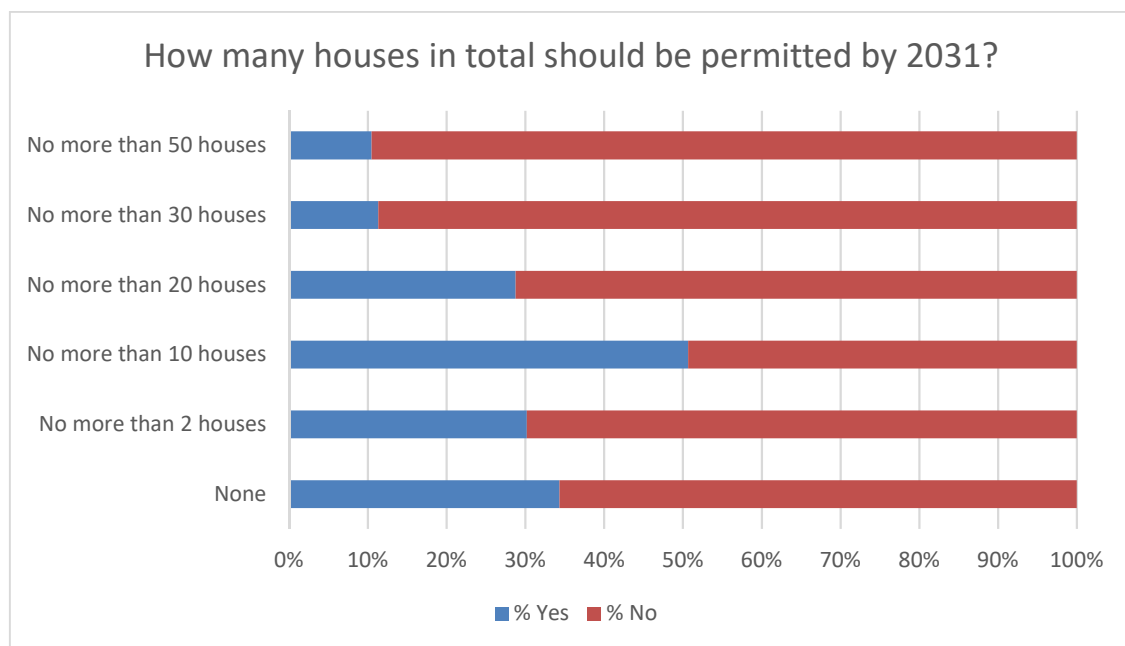
Q2: What do you enjoy about living in Bishops Frome?



It is clear from the responses that a ‘*Rural atmosphere*’ and ‘*Easy access to the countryside*’ are of critical importance to the residents that responded with over 65% placing them in the ‘very important category’. Over 50% also placed ‘*Village identity/feeling part of a community*’, ‘*Quiet village*’ and ‘*Familiar service in local shops and businesses*’ as very important. Only the area of ‘*Village activities/community groups*’

Section two - Housing in Bishops Frome

Q3. If additional new homes (beyond the 23 already approved) are to be built in the village, how many houses in total should be permitted by 2031?

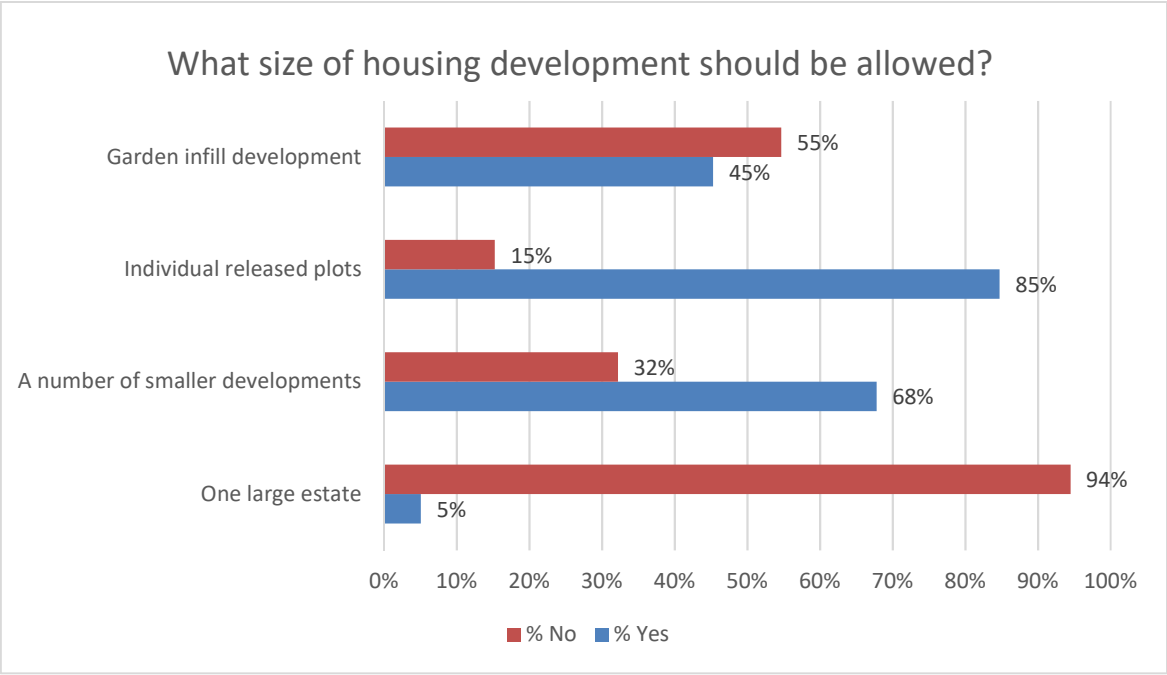


In the community led plan from 2011 the responses clearly identified that major housing development would not be supported and that new housing should be within strict limits. A majority thought there should be some new housing but with strict limits with only 2% saying there should be no limit on new house building.

The questionnaire feedback supports this fully with a clear majority rejecting development of more than 10 houses in total. Indeed, 70% of respondents said 'No' to adding more than two houses and 71% rejecting more than 20 houses in total. That opposition increases to 89% against 30 houses or more.

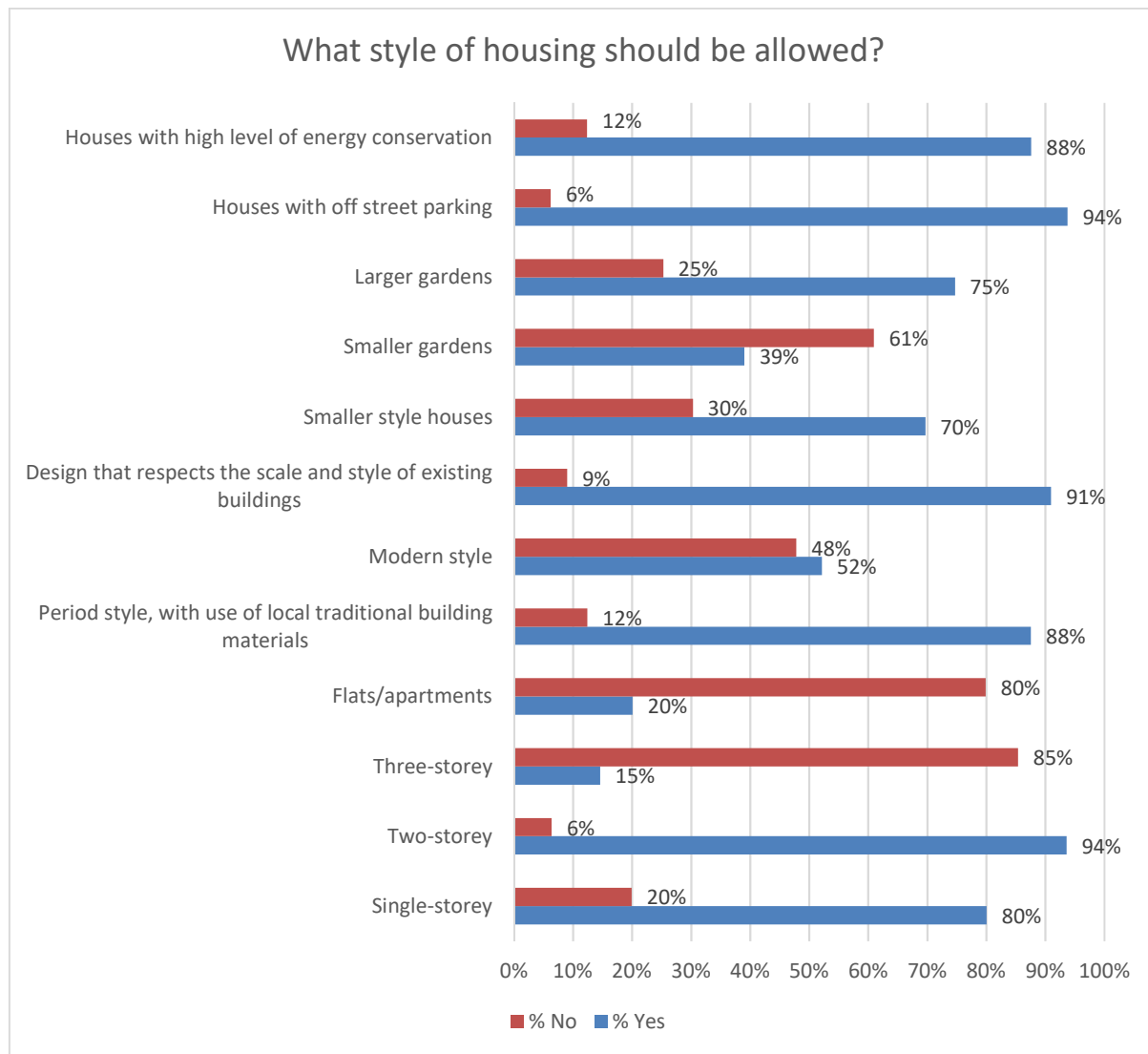
A total of 37 individual comments were made about this question but 7 respondents made the same comment – *'Target has been met, so no more houses / No more building'*

Q4. When land is allocated for housing, what are your views on the size of each housing development that should be allowed?



On this question the results were also stark with 94% of respondents rejecting the development of ‘*One large estate*’. In contrast, 68% were in favour of ‘*A number of smaller developments*’ and 85% in favour of ‘*Individual released plots*’. This demonstrates a clear preference in Bishops Frome for small scale developments.

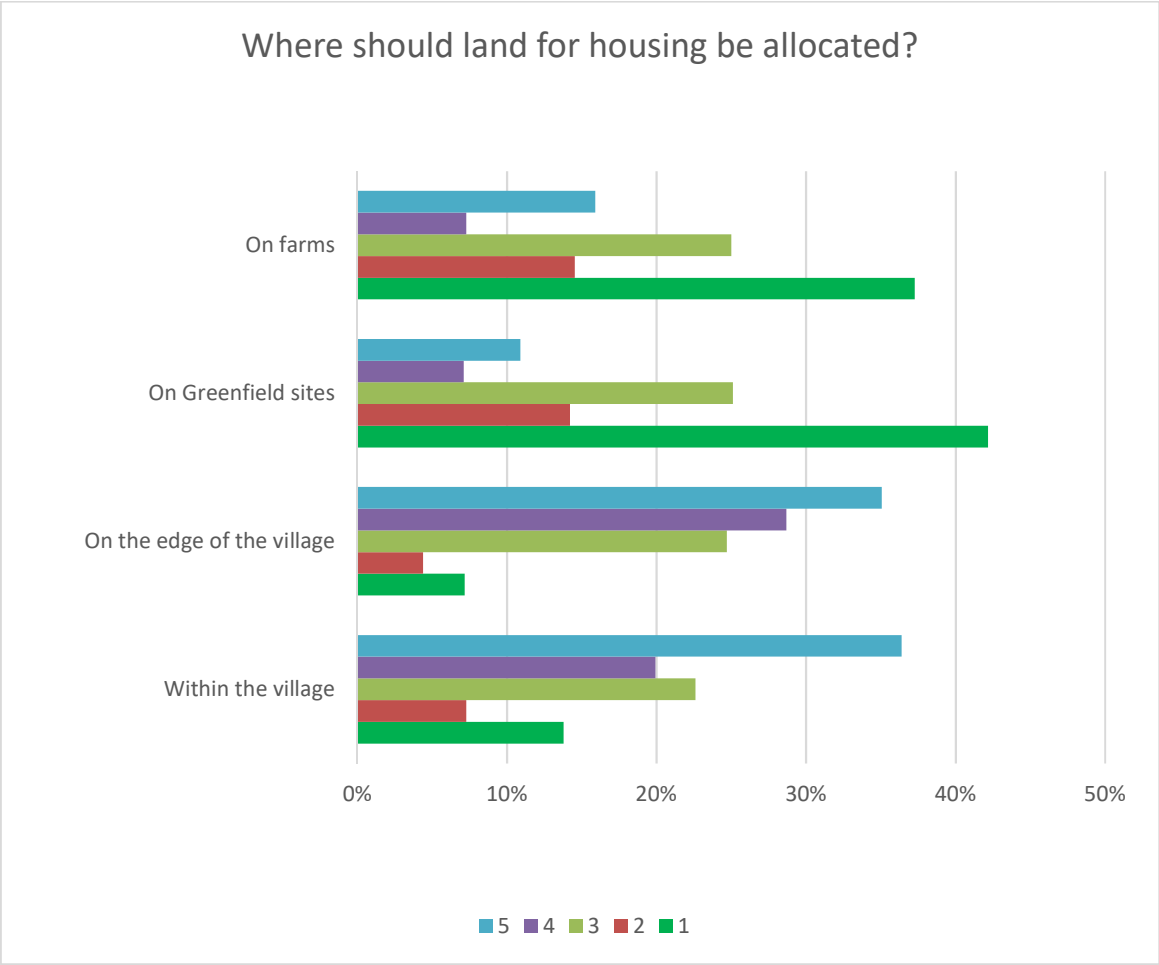
Q5. When land is allocated for housing, what are your views on the style of housing development that should be allowed?



A very clear majority were in favour of both single (80%) and two-storey (94%) houses. Equally clearly, 85% were against any three-storey properties and 80% against 'Flats/apartments'. This aligns completely with 91% wanting 'Design that respects the scale and style of existing buildings', 70% saying they prefer 'Smaller style houses' and 88% preferring 'Period style, with use of local traditional building materials'.

It was also clear that people preferred larger gardens 75% over smaller gardens (39%) and

Q6. When land is allocated for housing, where in the village should it be located?



The options of *‘On the edge of the village’* and *‘Within the village’* were clearly the preferred choices of most respondents for the location of new housing. Similarly, most respondents were clearly not in favour of building on farms or Greenfield sites. Indeed, there were 22 specific comments about this question stating that development should not be on Greenfield sites and eight comments against any developments on farms.

Q7. The enclosed **Map 1** has several areas marked with letters where houses could potentially be built. Please consider it carefully and then list the areas in the order you believe they are suitable for development. **You must give a reason for your first and last choices.** You may give a reason for the other choices if you wish.

League table of results

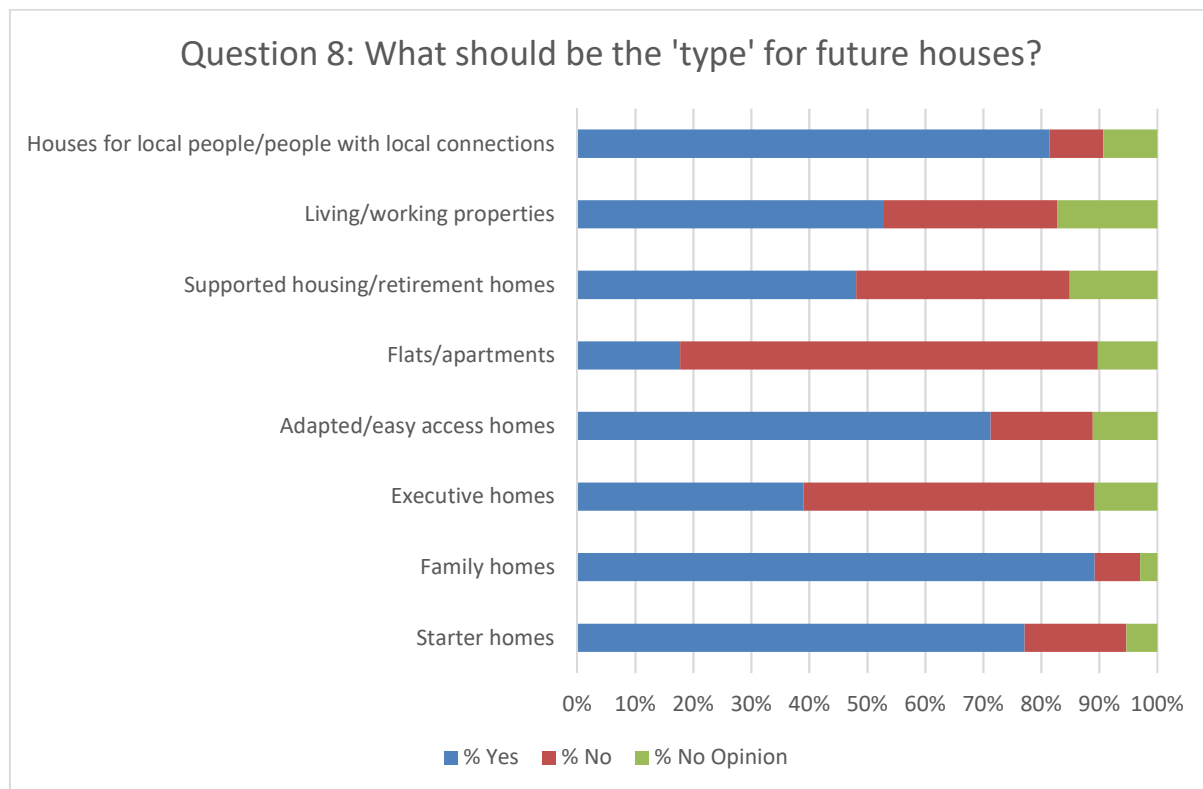
<i>Rank</i>	<i>Area</i>	<i>Potential areas for development</i>
1	B	The transport yard (Trevor's yard) next to the Old Post Office
2	D	Land and farm buildings West of Broadfield Court / Mudwalls
3	A	Next to Summerpool
4	C	Upper House (Eveson trust) land West of Upper House
5	F	Land area South of building plot for 2 houses (near Broadfield Barn)
6	H	Land West of Partridge's garage
7	G	Land (Eveson Trust) South of Broadfield Court
8	E	Land between Wellington Farm Drive and Filly brook
9	I	Land South of Partridge's garage (Christmas tree field)

By weighted score and using points to rank the 9 options offered, the highest number of people considered area B to be most suitable for development; in fact more than twice as many people selected this over the second most popular area. Reasons cited were fairly consistent in that is 'close to village centre' and provides 'infill development' whilst transforming what a large number of people considered be 'less than tidy'. Those objecting to Area B cited mainly traffic and parking as the main concern. Area D was considered second preference with the highest number of comments in favour stating that it was good 'infill' development. Area A was voted third preferred area for development although the votes for this area were highly polarised.

The least favoured areas for development were I (9th), E, and G (7th) with the most common objection being that these areas are particularly Greenfield and rural in character.

25% of those who made comments, made the point that they did not want any further development in the village.

Q8. When additional houses are to be built, which size or type should they be? (Tick one box in each row.)



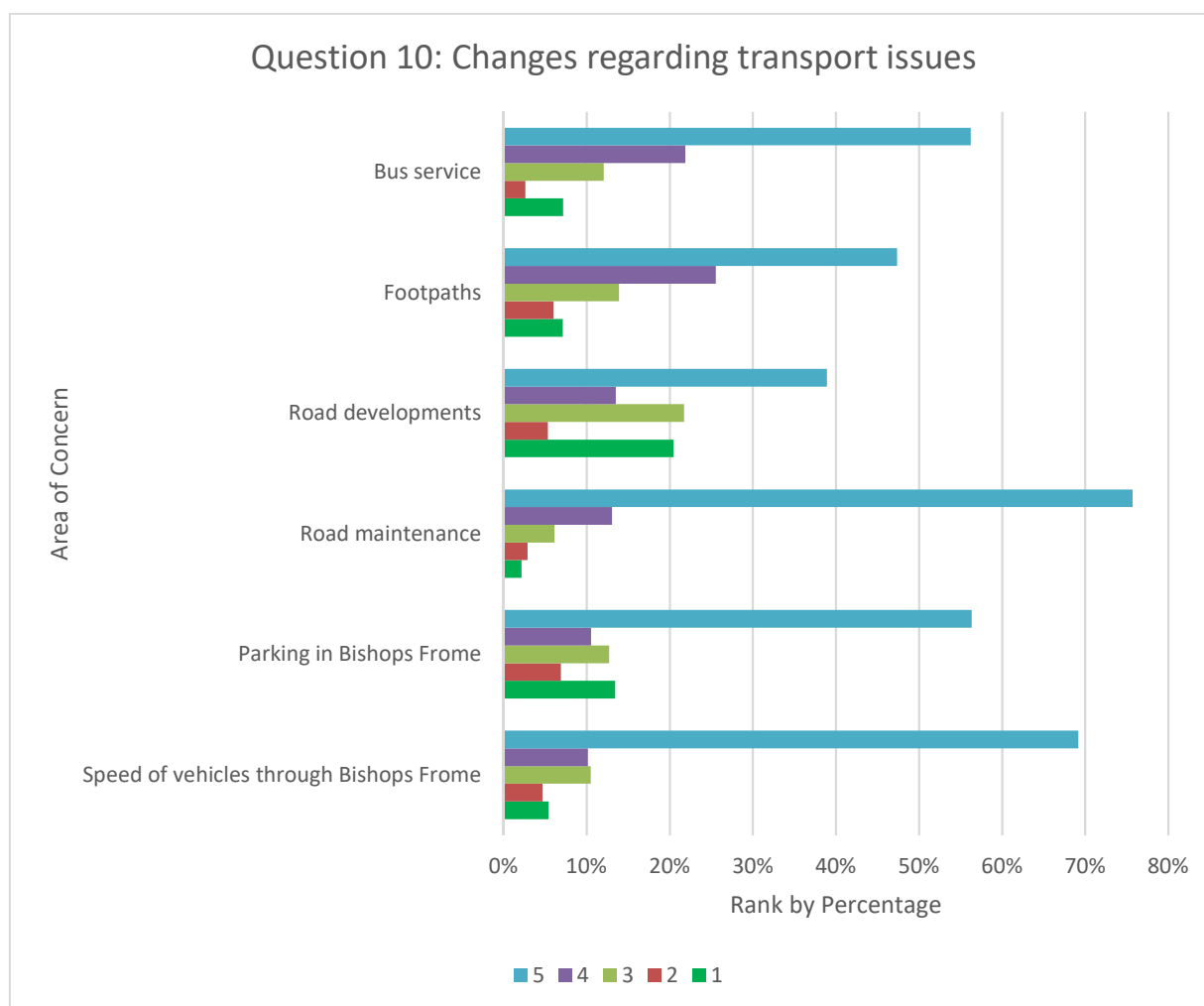
The most popular selection for the type of house was firstly family homes, second houses for local people and thirdly starter homes. The least popular homes would be flats or apartments by a high percentage and the second most unpopular was executive homes.

Q9. The space below is for any other comments you want to make on housing:

A number of people expressed comments and everyone was different therefore making it difficult to draw any clear conclusion from this question. However there were some similarities and the following is a selection:

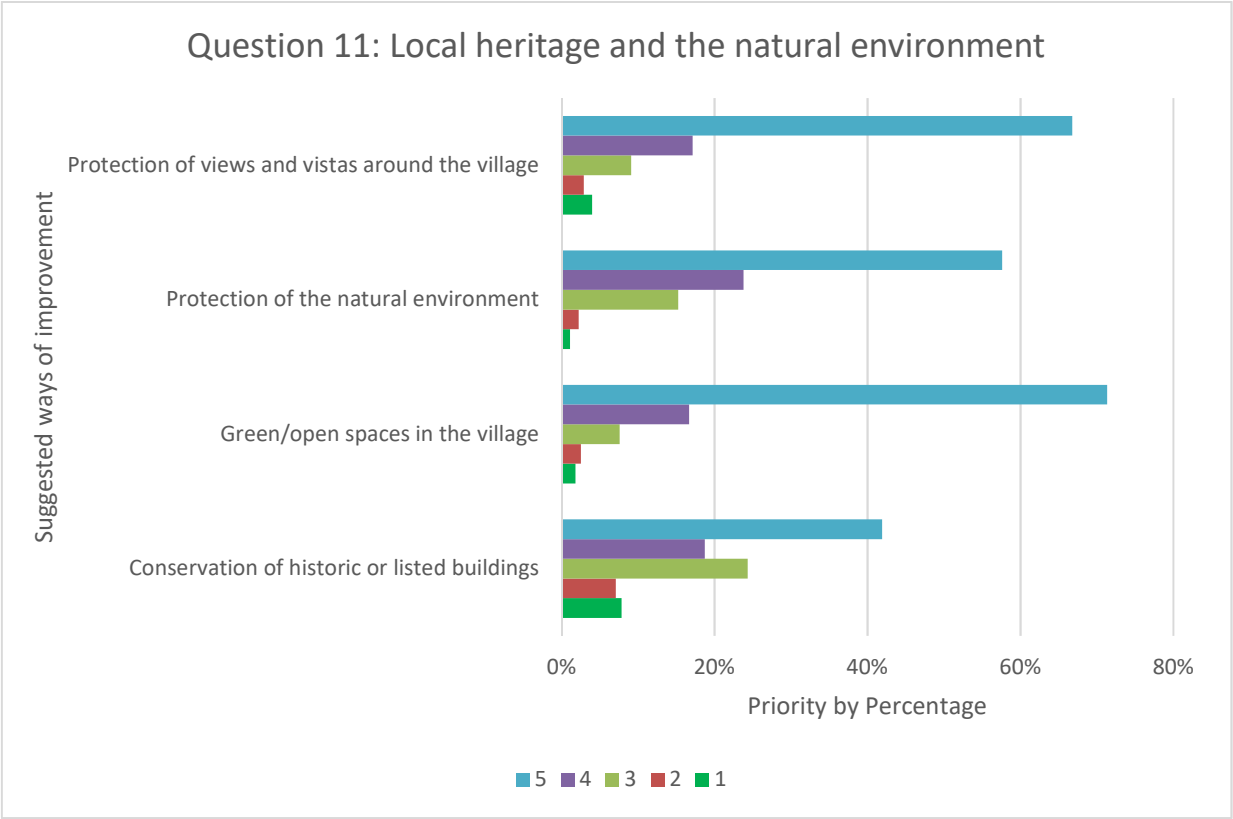
- Not social housing, as sometimes causes a problem
- New development must target young/families to keep village alive
- Development must fit in with village style and feel
- Energy efficiency very important
- No more housing please
- Development must take heed of existing poor services and transport connections
- Additional houses have already been planned and are under construction

Q10. In your opinion are any changes needed with regard to the following transport issues? (Tick one box in each row.)



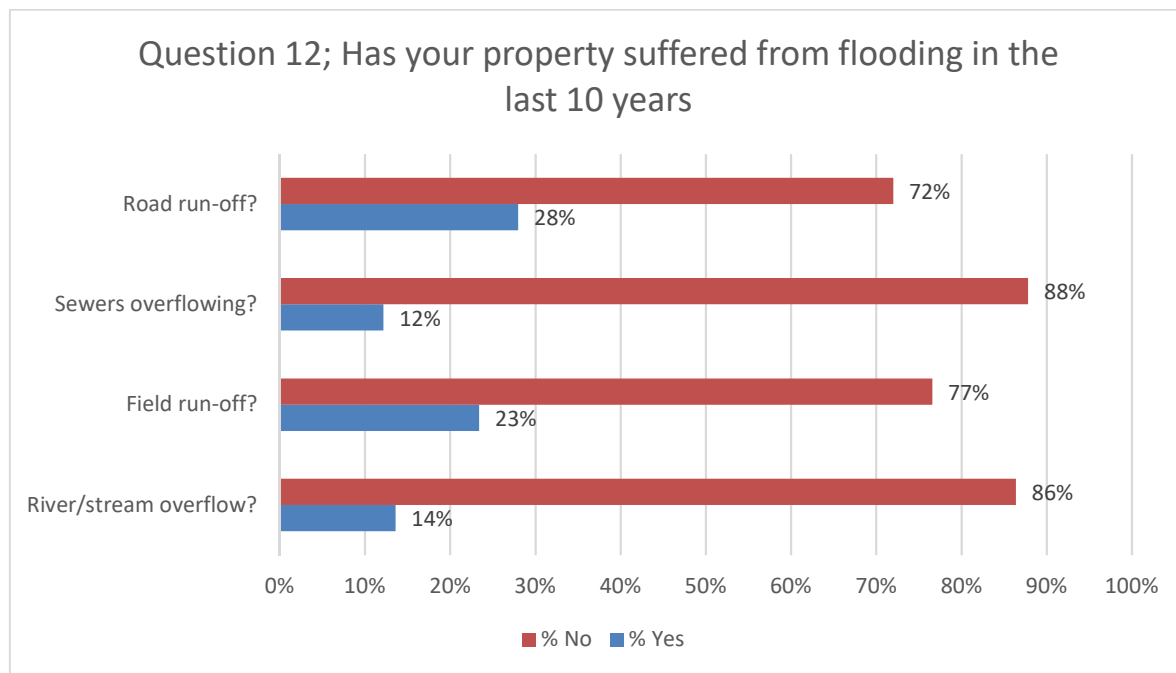
One thing that was made clear by 69% of voters was that excessive speed of vehicles is a major concern. As for parking, 56% of people thought parking was a major hazard in the village and has been raised against other questions as a concern wherever development may take place. Poor road maintenance attracted the highest concern of all; 76% rated this in the highest category. Road development opinion is more evenly spread but the highest score of 39% is in category 5 indicating that a significant proportion of Villagers think that maintenance and repair is most necessary not necessarily new roads. This is supported by a noteworthy number of comments stating that new road as shown on the Map 2 would be unwelcome. Nearly three quarters considered Footpaths to be their first or second highest priority. 56% believed a good bus service deserved high priority. Once again terms of comments are diverse, however concerns about new roads, parking and speed through the village were high on the list of major concerns.

Q11. Which of the following ways of protecting and enhancing local heritage and the natural environment are important to you? (Tick one box in each row.)



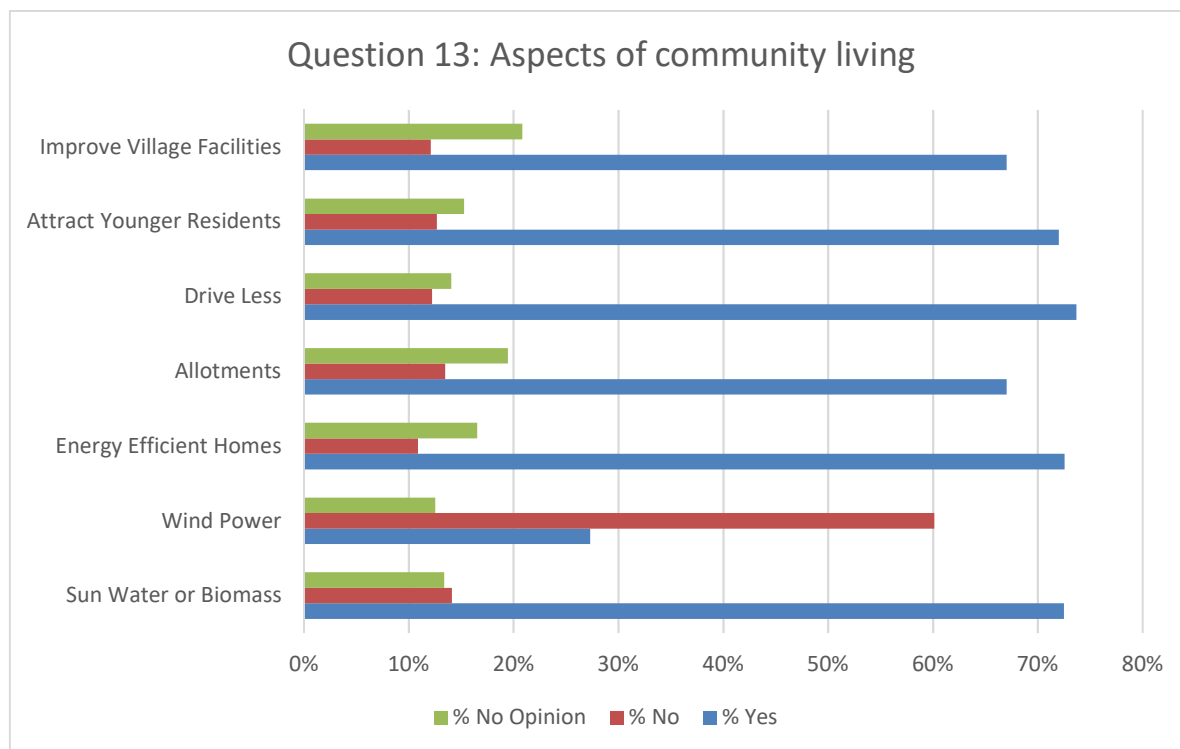
All four of the suggested ways of protecting or improving local heritage or rural environment attracted a high percentage of the votes. Conservation of historic and/or listed buildings attracted 42% votes who believed that improvement was a high priority. In fact 85% voted this between a 3 and a five on the priority scale. As for Green spaces in the village, an overwhelming 71% categorised this as a high priority with 88% scoring this a 4 or a 5. Protection of the natural environment attracted 82% of the vote in category 4 or 5. And protection of views and vista gained 84% of the vote categorising it as the two highest options. The most common comments were to ‘keep the village rural in in feel’, ‘maintain green spaces and the natural environment’.

Q12. Has your property suffered from flooding in the last 10 years because of: (Tick one box in each row)



A proportion of the village has suffered from some sort of flooding in the last 10 years. 14% have suffered from river overflow. 23% of those questioned had suffered from Field run-off. 12% have experienced sewers overflowing and 28% had suffered surface water run-off from roads. Comments centre mainly on improved maintenance and upgrading of existing systems which fail to cope with the current roads, housing and population.

Q13. What aspects of community living do you think we need to address to ensure that our parish thrives as a place in which to live, work and play over the next 20 years and beyond? (Tick one box in each row)



According to comments the most popular barriers to future development of the parish as a place to thrive include ‘a lack of school’ and ‘poor bus services’, however there were a couple of comments that expansion of the village would lead to better services such as schools and transport. From the options offered the following scores were recorded.

- **Renewable energy by sun, water or biomass** attracted a high 72% of those questioned to vote Yes.
- **Energy from local wind** - Of those polled, 60% voted No to this method of generation locally.
- **Building new homes to exceed current energy standards** attracted a 73% Yes vote.
- **Allocating land to enable residents to grow their own food** attracted a 67% Yes vote. **Walking/cycling/bus travel and driving** was a significant 74% in favour.
- **Attracting younger people to live in our village** was also a resounding win for the yes vote at 72%. 67% of the people favoured
- **Increasing the number and type of community facilities** with a 67% Yes vote.

Appendix 5 – Vision, Objectives and settlement boundary consultation material

David Preece used all our collected information to produce the statements on The Vision, Objectives and Housing Policy and a questionnaire. Boards with information and maps were available for the public to come in and give their views.

The Poster

BISHOPS FROME AND FROMES HILL PARISH COUNCIL

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

BISHOPS FROME VILLAGE CENTRE

DROP IN DAY

TUESDAY DECEMBER 22nd 2015 8.30 am to 6 pm

IF YOU LIVE IN THE PARISH

The Vision Statement - The Objectives 8 of them

Do you agree with our statement and Objectives? Have your say

NEW HOUSING DEVELOPMENT POLICY

Do you agree with the New Housing Development policy?

We need your help to decide where future houses are built.

Two options for each Village

Which Settlement Boundary do you prefer? Have your say

PLEASE DROP IN YOUR VIEWS ARE IMPORTANT

Literature on display and questionnaire

What is the purpose of this consultation and how can you contribute?

- A lot of work has been done in earlier consultation exercises through the community plan and a comprehensive questionnaire to obtain the community views on a range of issues.
- This information has been translated into a draft set of objectives and policies which will form the basis of a formal draft plan which will be put before residents of the parish in January 2016.
- Before that can happen we need to be sure that everybody has had the chance to comment on the vision, objectives and policies being suggested and to choose from a number of options for future action.

- You are being asked look at the boards displayed and to make comments on the forms provided. Your comments will then be analysed and any changes made to the draft plan where necessary.

A NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN FOR BISHOPS FROME AND FROMES HILL

What is it and why are we doing it?

- The Localism Act of 2011 introduced Neighbourhood Plans to give local communities the opportunity to decide the future of the local area where they live and work.
- It allows the community to say what they think makes their area special and to set out a vision of how the Plan can influence the development of land for houses, employment, leisure and community activities and what new development should look like.
- It brings together residents, businesses, local groups and landowners to create a shared vision that comes from the whole community rather than being imposed by an outside body that cannot match the local knowledge available.
- The Neighbourhood Plan has to be prepared by the Parish Council but will only be accepted if it can demonstrate the involvement of the local community throughout the preparation and decision making process.
- The Neighbourhood Plan must accept the minimum amount of new homes allocated for the parish in the County Core Strategy, which for the period 2011-2031 is 34 homes. But it can decide the best place for new development to go and its appearance.
- The Plan cannot conflict with National Planning Policy or the policies in the newly adopted Core Strategy for Herefordshire or be used to prevent development.
- The parish does not have to prepare a Neighbourhood Plan. However if nothing is done the County will prepare a Development Plan for those areas of the County without their own Neighbourhood Plan which will impose settlement boundaries and housing sites over which the community would have much less influence.

The Vision

By 2031 Bishop's Frome and Fromes Hill will have retained their character and identity as a thriving, caring and healthy community still with a rural atmosphere. New development will have contributed to an improvement in the built environment by the provision of affordable, well designed and sustainable lifetime housing to suit a range of needs, sensitively located and of a scale compatible with the ability of the environment and services to absorb them. New development will also have presented the opportunity to address long standing issues of parking, access and poor drainage.

There will be a choice of local job opportunities in small scale businesses that have a low impact on the environment and energy consumption, taking advantage of high capacity broadband speeds.

Existing community, retail and leisure facilities will have been maintained and enhanced to cater for all age groups and to strengthen the cohesiveness of the community. Long standing and new residents will have been encouraged to become involved in community activity and development.

There will be an increase in renewable energy initiatives through community power rather than large scale intrusive installations of wind turbines or solar panel farms.

Road safety will have been improved by reduction in traffic speeds through the villages, by improved maintenance of roads and footpaths and by improved car parking measures.

Green and open areas will have been protected and enhanced and new recreation space provided.

The areas heritage in buildings and the rural environment of trees and hedgerows will be preserved and appreciated.

- **Do you agree with the vision statement above? Does it properly reflect the community views gained from previous consultations?**

Do you have any alternative wording for the vision or any suggested wording that hasn't been considered? If you suggest changes explain wh

The Objectives

These objectives have been put together from the views expressed in the questionnaire that was sent to all households in the parish. They inform the policies put forward in the draft plan

Overall Objective

To ensure a sustainable future through the implementation of Core Strategy policies which encourage appropriate growth of rural businesses and housing, facilities and services and access to sustainable transport.

Specific Objectives

Objective 1

To protect and enhance the special character of the landscape, natural and built environment of the villages and the surrounding countryside.

Objective 2

To develop policies to identify the criteria for small scale housing developments of three to four houses to meet the requirement for growth identified in the core strategy in Bishops Frome and Fromes Hill up to 2031 to meet local needs. The preferred sites will be appropriate in terms of size, scale, design and sustainability and the ability of services and facilities to support them.

Objective 3

To encourage the development of small scale businesses that will contribute to local employment opportunities and promote the introduction of faster broadband and other technological aids for rural businesses.

Objective 4

To support existing and promote new community facilities

Objective 5

To protect and enhance open spaces, recreational facilities and areas of informal green space and create new recreational facilities where a need is expressed.

Objective 6

To ensure that adequate provision is made for the necessary highway, footway and public transport improvements required for any new development and that necessary traffic and road safety provision is made.

Objective 7

To ensure that essential infrastructure and services are adequate to cope with future growth

Objective 8

To promote initiatives for renewable energy to reduce carbon emissions.

- **Do these objectives properly reflect the wishes of the community?**
- **Are there any objectives that have been missed out? If you suggest changes explain why.**
- **Could the wording be expressed differently or more simply?**

Settlement Boundaries

- We need to draw boundary lines around Bishops Frome and Fromes Hill within which new development can take place.
- It follows that outside these boundaries development can be resisted.
- The boundaries should allow for some flexibility to enable some development to take place.
- Note that the Core Strategy calls for at least 34 homes to be built in the combined villages up to 2013. This is a minimum figure and there is no maximum limit. However to date with houses built since 2011, houses under construction or with planning permission, there are commitments for 42 houses, and a further 30 currently being considered.
- Bear in mind also that historically new homes have been created from conversions of farm buildings or in large gardens (so-called windfall development) and that this type of development has accounted for roughly 1 in 5 of all new houses built.
- With this in mind you are asked to choose a preferred boundary line from the options presented on the maps provided.

Are these acceptable options for the boundaries?

Do you have any alternatives and why?

Bishops Frome and Fromes Hill Parish Council

Questionnaire

(Please use a comments note to put your view on any of the questions below)

(Please put the Question number when you make your comment)

1) The Policy for New Housing Development

- | | | |
|--|------------|-----------|
| a) Do you agree with the wording? | YES | NO |
| b) Is the proposed type and mix of Development correct? | YES | NO |
| c) Is there a need for affordable Housing? | YES | NO |

2) The Objectives

- | | | |
|---|------------|-----------|
| a) Do these Objectives properly reflect the wishes of the Community? | YES | NO |
| b) Are there any objectives that have been missed out? | YES | NO |
| c) Could the wording be expressed differently or more simply? | YES | NO |

3) The Vision

- | | | |
|---|------------|-----------|
| a) Do you agree with the Vision Statement above? | YES | NO |
| b) Does it properly reflect the Community views? | YES | NO |
| c) Do you have any alternative wording for the Vision? | YES | NO |
| d) Do you have any suggested wording that has not been considered? | YES | NO |

Bishops Frome and Fromes Hill Parish Council

Questionnaire

(Please use a comments note to put your view on any of the questions below)

(Please put the Question number when you make your comment)

1) The Policy for New Housing Development

- | | | |
|--|------------|-----------|
| a) Do you agree with the wording? | YES | NO |
| b) Is the proposed type and mix of Development correct? | YES | NO |
| c) Is there a need for affordable Housing? | YES | NO |

2) The Objectives

- | | | |
|---|------------|-----------|
| a) Do these Objectives properly reflect the wishes of the Community? | YES | NO |
| b) Are there any objectives that have been missed out? | YES | NO |
| c) Could the wording be expressed differently or more simply? | YES | NO |

3) The Vision

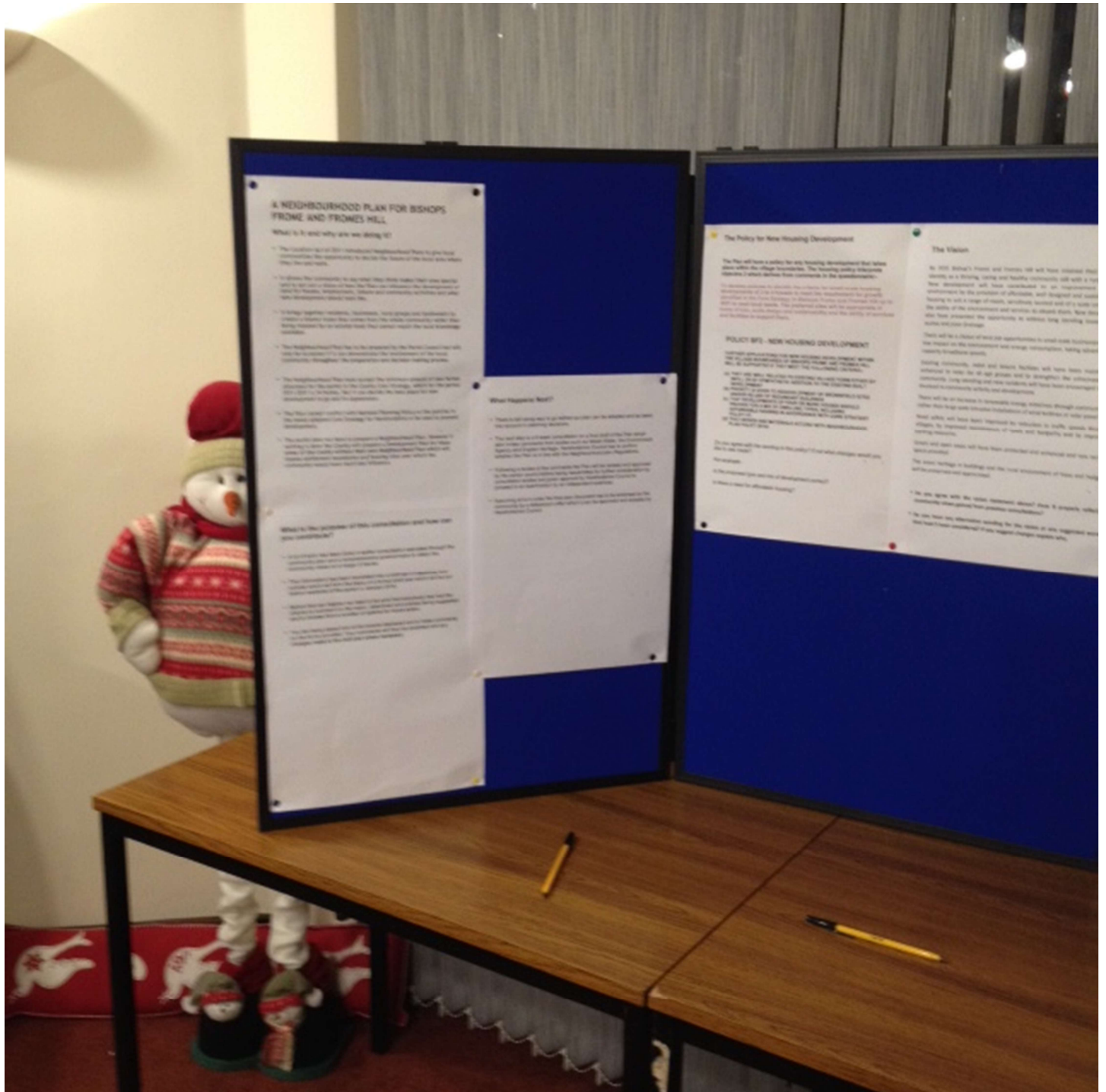
- | | | |
|---|------------|-----------|
| a) Do you agree with the Vision Statement above? | YES | NO |
| b) Does it properly reflect the Community views? | YES | NO |

c) Do you have any alternative wording for the Vision?	YES	NO
d) Do you have any suggested wording that has not been considered?	YES	NO

What Happens Next?

- There is still a long way to go before our plan can be adopted and be taken into account in planning decisions.
- The next step is a 6 week consultation on a final draft of the Plan which also invites comments from bodies such as Welsh Water, the Environment Agency and English Heritage. Herefordshire Council has to confirm whether the Plan is in line with the Neighbourhood plan Regulations.
- Following a review of the comments the Plan will be revised and approved by the parish council before being resubmitted for further consideration by consultation bodies and given approval by Herefordshire Council to proceed to an examination by an independent examiner.
- Assuming all is in order the final plan document has to be endorsed by the community by a referendum after which it can be approved and adopted by Herefordshire Council.

Information gathered for the final draft Plan DROP IN DAY Photos:



Free Visits

• 2022: Walco's Future and Present will have retained their character and unity as a thinking, acting and feeling community, all with a rural atmosphere. New development will have contributed to an improvement in the built environment by the provision of affordable, well designed and sustainable housing meeting a wide range of needs, secondary schools and of a main shopping will be able to of the environment and located to attract them. New development will have preserved the opportunity to address long standing issues of parking, access and poor drainage.

There will be a choice of social job opportunities in small scale businesses that have a low impact on the environment and energy consumption, taking advantage of high elasticity broad-based assets.

Existing community, social and leisure facilities will have been maintained and enhanced to cater for all age groups and to strengthen the collectiveness of the community. Long standing and new residents will have been encouraged to become involved in community activity and development.

There will be an increase in renewable energy initiatives through community assets rather than large scale intrusive installations of wind turbines or solar panel farms.

Road safety will have been improved by reduction in traffic speeds through the villages, by improved maintenance of roads and footpaths and by improved car parking facilities.

Green and open areas will have been protected and enhanced and new recreation areas provided.

The great heritage is buildings and the rural environment of trees and hedgerows will be preserved and appreciated.

- ² Do you have any alternative wording for the stated or any suggested wording that hasn't been considered? If you suggest changes explain why.

- * Do you have any alternative wording for the stated or any suggested wording that hasn't been considered? If you suggest changes explain why.

1000

Two objectives have been put together from the views expressed in the questionnaire that we sent to all respondents in the period. They inform the policies put forward in the draft plan.

Long-term

These results also suggest the importance of an ongoing pilot and ongoing adaptation of the program, allowing for an iterative and iterative approach.

1

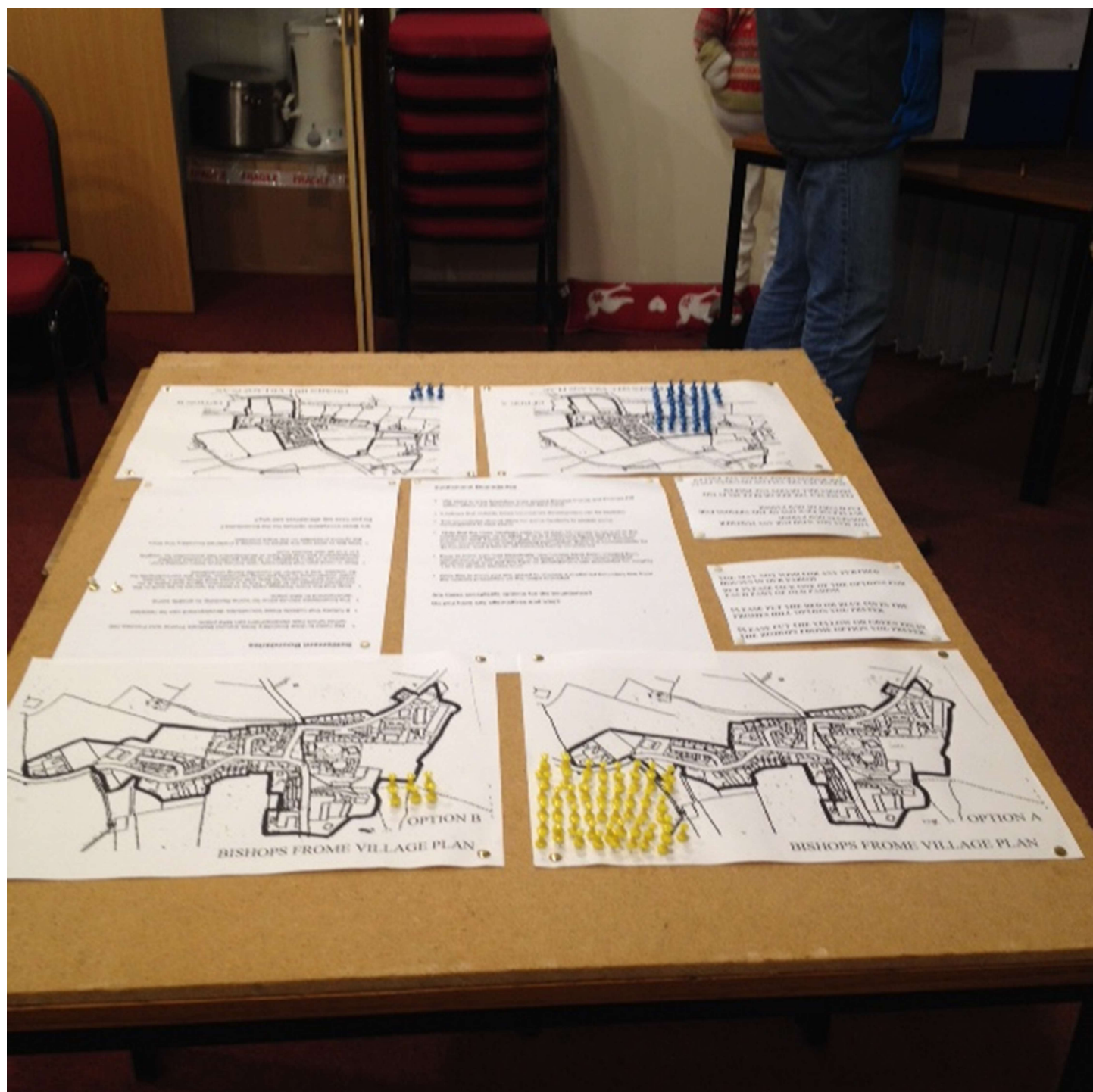
Explain the relationship between the general character of the thinking, nature and the movement of the subject and the surrounding world.

[illegible]

1. arrange to interview a real estate broker who will
help determine appropriate bid prices.

...the ... of the ...





Appendix 6 – Feedback from the Vision, Objectives and settlement boundary consultation

Bishops Frome and Fromes Hill Parish Council

Comments

(Please put the Question number when you make your comment)

Question Number

My Comment:

Leave Bishops Frome alone
Enough houses are already built
or in the pipeline

Bishops Frome and Fromes Hill Parish Council

Comments

(Please put the Question number when you make your comment)

Question Number

My Comment:

why doesn't the planning office allow the
building of houses with only 1.5 carparking places
per unit? In this village most people will drive to work
and in this day and age with the lack of bus transport
all houses will need more than this 1.5

Bishops Frome and Fromes Hill Parish Council

Comments

(Please put the Question number when you make your comment)

Question Number

My Comment:

FUTURE DEVELOPMENT SHOULD TAKE PLACE AT A RATE
THAT THE MARKET CAN ABSORB. IT WOULD BE NICE IF
ANY FUTURE DEVELOPMENT USED SOFTEN AND MORE SYMPATHETIC
BUILDING MATERIALS RATHER THAN STANDARD DEVELOPER BRICK
AND TILE. ATTENTION SHOULD BE GIVEN TO DRAINAGE
B. TO PARKING

Bishops Frome and Fromes Hill Parish Council

Comments

(Please put the Question number when you make your comment)

Question Number 0133136711 7

My Comment:

SHOULD BE FIRST
DO YOUR HOMEWORK!!

Bishops Frome and Fromes Hill Parish Council

Comments

(Please put the Question number when you make your comment)

Question Number 2 (a)

My Comment:

This question should reflect the fact that the objectives should note the huge opposition to wind farm development.

Bishops Frome and Fromes Hill Parish Council

Comments

(Please put the Question number when you make your comment)

Question Number 1c, 2a, d.

My Comment:

Bishops Frome and Fromes Hill Parish Council

Comments

(Please put the Question number when you make your comment)

Question Number Settlement Boundary Fromes Hill

My Comment: Settlement boundary at Fromes Hill
to include lands west of bridge to
include north

Bishops Frome and Fromes Hill Parish Council

Comments

(Please put the Question number when you make your comment)

Question Number _____

My Comment: I think better lighting at
the junction of Fromes Hill (bottom)
would be much appreciated.
It is a very dark junction in the winter.

Responses by question from drop-in day

		Neighbourhood Plan Drop In Day					
		Question Collation					
Question	No of answers	YES	NO		Yes %	No %	
1A	19	14	5		73.68	26.32	
1B	19	14	5		73.68	26.32	
1C	21	14	7		66.67	33.33	
2A	19	13	6		68.42	31.58	
2B	16	7	9		43.75	56.25	
2C	17	6	11		35.29	64.71	
3A	19	18	1		94.74	5.26	
3B	19	18	1		94.74	5.26	
3C	19	4	15		21.05	78.95	
3D	19	4	15		21.05	78.95	
Settlement Boundary							
	No of people	Option A	Option B		%	%	
Bishops Frome	61	55	6		90.16	9.84	
Fromes Hill	61	54	7		88.52	11.48	

Appendix 7 - Summary of Vision, Objectives and Settlement boundary consultation

Bishop's Frome Neighbourhood Plan

Consultation on Vision, Objectives and Options December 2015

Background

The Parish Council has prepared a Draft Plan in a form ready for Regulation 14 consultation with the public but prior to the publication of the Draft Plan it has been necessary to confirm that the direction of the Plan is accepted by residents in the parish. This was tested at an open day on 22nd December in the Bishops Frome Village Centre which presented the following areas for comment:-

The Plan Vision
Objectives
Settlement boundaries and preferred housing site options
Options for key policy areas.

Information boards gave an expansion of the process and why a Neighbourhood Plan was being prepared, the purpose of the consultation and how residents were being asked to contribute and what happens following the consultation.

The Scope of the Consultation

600 leaflets were printed and delivered in Bishops Frome and surrounding areas and in Fromes Hill, advertising the drop in day and inviting comments on the Draft Plan.

Posters were displayed on notice boards, shops and pubs in both villages. Copies of the notices are at Appendix A.

The drop in day was also advertised on leaflets that were circulated in Bishops Frome and at the Hop Pocket shopping Centre asking for comments on the current planning application for 30 houses in Bishops Frome (Ref: 142176). The intention was to use the current interest in the application to boost numbers attending the drop in day and exhibition.

Content of the Exhibition

Information boards were displayed in the village hall inviting comment on the vision, objectives and housing policy. Residents were asked if they agreed that the vision and objectives properly reflected the community views, if they had any alternative wording or if anything had been missed out.

On housing they were asked if the option chosen was correct, if they were satisfied with the proposed type and mix of development and whether there was a need for affordable housing.

Residents were also asked to choose between options for a new settlement boundary for Bishops Frome and Fromes Hill.

Copies of the information boards are at Appendix B.

Attendance

A total of 61 people attended the drop in day and gave their views on a questionnaire and comments on a separate form. The results are collated at Appendix C.

Nearly 95% agreed with the stated vision and 68% with the objectives. However, 64% expressed the view that the objectives could have been expressed differently or more simply and 56% that a potential objective had been missed. These views are being collated and revisions will be made.

Two options for new settlement boundaries were presented and residents given the opportunity to choose the preferred option by placing pins in the preferred map. Residents overwhelmingly chose option A for Bishops Frome (90%) and for Fromes Hill (88%).

Analysis of comment

Comments received concerned mainly the rate of development and the capacity of the village services to cope:-

e.g. Development should take place at a rate the market can absorb. Current recently completed housing is not selling, especially affordable homes.

Enough development has already taken place - the community cannot cope with significant new growth - there is no school in the villages little work and a poor bus service.

There are concerns about surface water drainage and flooding, inadequate amenity space and parking space in new developments.

There is significant opposition to new wind farm developments.

Conclusion

Attendance at the drop in consultation was approximately 10% of the population which gives a representative sample of opinion, particularly given the clear endorsement of the approach so far. The Parish Council believes that following minor changes the Draft Plan can now proceed to consultation under Regulation 14.

Appendix 8 - Summary of Regulation 14 Consultation Responses and Consideration of Responses

The table below sets out the responses submitted to the Draft Neighbourhood Plan, together with information about how these responses have been considered by the Plan Committee and have informed the amendments to the Submission Neighbourhood Plan.

Historic England

Comment	Requested Change	Parish Council Response
We are supportive of the content of the document and particularly welcome the focus on the conservation of the historic built environment of the area.	No change.	Welcome comments. No change
Historic England's only detailed comment is in relation to policy BF2 on new housing development. We note that the accompanying environmental report states that the likely impact of new housing development on the sites identified in the plan remains 'uncertain' in relation to the historic environment	We suggest that they policy includes wording to the effect that any new development should also ensure that it does not have an adverse impact on designated heritage assets or their setting.	Agree to amend Plan as requested and include additional wording in former Policy BF2 (now Policy BF3)..

Mr & Mrs Clayton

Comment	Requested Change	Parish Council Response
We are in general supportive of the Vision and Objectives especially in relation to the intentions to preserve the rural nature of the area, the natural beauty and developments for farming, wildlife and small local businesses.	No change.	Welcome comments. No change
Future new housing must be limited as set out in Objective 2 with the purpose of responding to local needs only.	Limit new housing to local needs only.	Include new Policy BF2 to establish Neighbourhood Plan housing target consistent with meeting local needs and how the Plan will deliver the target set out in the Core Strategy.
More must be done to control traffic to promote road safety.	Ensure that traffic conforms to existing measures and promote greater traffic control.	Former Policy BF8 (now Policy BF9) makes a strong commitment to improve safety for pedestrians and cyclists and to reduce traffic speeds on the B4214 and A4103. No further changes required.

Mr R Booth

Comment	Requested Change	Parish Council Response
I've read it and feel it's an excellent piece of work which will benefit all the community over the near future, congratulations!	No change.	Welcome comments. No change
Fromes Hill. As the proposed Fromes Hill Settlement Boundary Plan stands at the moment it bisects both mine and my neighbours properties. I know that it takes the county authorities a long time to catch up with small changes on the ground. Please would you make the	Amend settlement boundary as requested.	Agree and settlement boundary map to be amended as requested.

Comment	Requested Change	Parish Council Response
appropriate correction as per the attached pdf. Basically the boundary extends in a line from Robert Partridges Field boundary through New Cottage to the easterly line of my property at Croft House.		

Victoria Pratt

Comment	Requested Change	Parish Council Response
You mention the lack of a primary school and whilst this is true I was rather surprised that you missed off Ashperton from your list of nearby schools.	Include reference to Ashperton School.	Agree to include reference to Ashperton School.
I am encouraged that the Plan is future focused and is positive about the need for family housing. Whilst I appreciate that there are many people in the village who have lived here for many years it would be a shame if the needs of the young families and potential young residents of the village were not fully supported in the implementation of this Plan and any future one.	No change.	Welcome comments. No change.

Wendy Parry

Comment	Requested Change	Parish Council Response
On page 44, Fromes Hill housing sites, the sketch and text marks area D as next to the Chapel and area A as land east of Uplands. However, in the table on page 45, it describes area D as land east of Uplands and area A as land east of the chapel. Will this be corrected, as it affects which piece of land is ranked 3rd or 4th choice by residents	Clarify the status of area A and D in the Plan to correspond to the results of the residents survey.	The status of the sites listed in Appendix 1 is confusing as the Plan does not propose any new development outside the defined settlement boundary, and seeks to limit new development within the settlement boundary to small infill sites. It is considered that Appendix 1 is deleted from the Plan and is published as a separate piece of evidence that has been used to inform the Plan preparation process.

Natural England

Comment	Requested Change	Parish Council Response
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 - Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) Having reviewed the Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) Report we agree with the conclusion that the Bishops Frome Draft Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) is unlikely to have significant effects on the River Wye SAC. This conclusion is reached on the basis that the NDP is in line with the Herefordshire Local Plan and the NDP can rely on the policies within the local plan to ensure	No change	Welcome comments. No change

Comment	Requested Change	Parish Council Response
no likely significant effects.		
SEA Environmental Report Natural England welcomes the production of an Environmental Report. Having reviewed the report Natural England confirms that it meets the requirements of the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) European Directive and national regulations, and that we concur with its conclusions.	No change	Welcome comments. No change

Eveson Trust

Comment	Requested Change	Parish Council Response
I note that the proposed new settlement boundary is tightly drawn but you will be aware of planning application P/142176/F which extends to area C as marked on Appendix 1 of the Plan and which has had the full support of the Council. The plan was so drawn, for the perceived benefit of the village generally, without another exit onto the Burley Gate road from the farm buildings, other than appropriate access to the sports field, to avoid a vehicle 'rat run' and to encourage walking to the village centre by way of the Green Dragon car park (thereby being safer than the lane with no pavement). On that basis I encourage you to amend the boundary in this respect.	Eveson Trust would like the settlement boundary enlarged to include extra houses in their planning proposal	The proposed change would unnecessarily result in the expansion of the village into the open countryside contrary to the settlement boundary consultation responses. No change.

Herefordshire Council

Comment	Requested Change	Parish Council Response
Overall the documents is well presented, structured and written document	No change.	Comment is welcomed.
Bishops Frome p20-23. It would be good to demonstrate where the 32 houses outside the settlement boundary are and you should add this to the map in a different colour..	Show the location of the permitted/proposed dwellings located outside the settlement boundary.	Identifying the sites with planning permission will date the Plan very quickly and so it is not appropriate to show them on the map. However, it is accepted that the Plan could be improved to establish a housing target and how the Core Strategy minimum target is being achieved. Amend Plan to include new Policy (BF2) to establish the housing target of 55 new homes 2011-31 based on completions, commitments and an allowance for windfall sites.
P23 Bishops Frome Village map-Provide a better quality map with some form of scale, key and a north point		Agree that the Plan would benefit from a better

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		quality map and a revised version will be produced on an OS base.
Bishops Frome map - The UDP maps - it may be best to put the original in the appendix and reference them	Remove UDP maps from the document and put as an Appendix instead	Agree that the UDP maps should not be included within the main body of the Plan as they are superseded by the Neighbourhood Plan. Delete them entirely.
Bishops Frome map - Need to indicate areas for potential growth this could be highlighted.	Show the potential growth areas on the proposals map.	The potential development sites are small in scale and will be determined through thematic policies negating the need for specific allocations. The Plan follows standard practise of not identifying development sites of ten homes or more. No change.
Fromes Hill p24-25. The settlement boundary of Fromes Hill includes areas of Stretton Grandison Parish, which is not in the neighbourhood area. You can only plan for the areas that fall within your designated area. The section of houses inside the purple line in the map.	Amend map to correspond to Parish boundary	Agree to amend the map to exclude areas outside the Parish boundary.
A better quality plan is need for Fromes Hill.	Replace map	Agree that the Plan would benefit from a better quality map and a revised version will be produced on an OS base.
Fromes Hill. Here you have mentioned a site chosen for the most suitable for up to ten dwellings - but where is this/ this needs to be identified.	Identify the development site referred to in	The potential development sites are small in scale and will be determined through thematic policies negating the need for specific allocations. The Plan follows standard practise of not identifying development sites of ten homes or more. No change.
Policy BF2-Typo (a) Bishops not Biishops.	Correct typo	Agree to amend Plan as requested.
Policy BF2. Environmental Health comments reference to the potential impact on the amenity – in terms of noise, dust, odours or general nuisance to residential occupants that might arise as a result of any new residential development and also the impact of existing activities that might have a potential impact on the amenity of new residential properties.	Amend policy BF2 – after c) to say That all new development does not adversely affect the amenity in terms of noise, dust or other nuisance of existing residents and that the amenity of all new residential development is not adversely affected by existing industrial or commercial uses’	Agree to amend Plan as requested.
Policy BF3- This policy may read as too prescriptive : (a) height restriction.	Amend Plan to enhance flexibility.	Agree that the Plan would benefit from greater flexibility but in most

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		cases development of over two storey would be incompatible with the character of the area. Amend former Policy BF3(a) (now Policy BF4) to explain that development of over two storeys is unlikely to be appropriate.
Policy BF3- This policy may read as too prescriptive: (d)- Could add to the start of sentence -‘Where possible’	Amend Plan to enhance flexibility.	The reference to ‘appropriate alternatives’ already provides sufficient flexibility. No change.
Policy BF4 - I would remove the use class restriction of B1, it reads to be too prescriptive. There may be other opportunities for business growth more than 1 use class	Amend Plan to enhance flexibility.	Agree. Amend former Policy BF4 (now Policy BF5) to delete reference to B1 only.
Policy BF4. There is a lack of a specific objective for tourism and leisure despite it being mentioned in the development section.	Include objective in relation to tourism.	The supporting text on pages 28 and 29 contains a number of references to tourist facilities in the area. No change.
BF5. The CIL charging schedule has not been implemented as yet and is at a draft stage. The way that the policy is currently worded implies that 25% CIL will be collected from eligible developments. This would not be factually correct, the Parish will be entitled to at least 25% of any CIL contributions received.	At this stage, it is suggested that the wording of the opening sentence is simplified: ...through the use of Section 106 contributions, Community Infrastructure Levy at 25% , and other funding sources.	Agree. Amend Policy as requested.
Policy BF6 – The quality of the map should be improved, it is hard to see.	Improve quality of the map.	Agree. Replace map.
Policy BF6. Green space designation would have to adhere to paragraph 77 of the NPPF as stated below. 77. The Local Green Space designation will not be appropriate for most green areas or open space. The designation should only be used: • where the green space is in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves; • where the green area is demonstrably special to a local community and holds a particular local significance, for example because of its beauty, historic significance, recreational value (including as a playing field), tranquillity or richness of its wildlife; and • where the green area concerned is local in character and is not an extensive tract of land	Clarify the status of the open spaces in terms of the definition set out in the NPPF	Agree that the terminology used in former Policy BF6 is confusing and inconsistent with the NPPF. There are five areas which meet the definition of Local Green Spaces in Bishops Frome village: 1. the green space in the centre of the village surrounding the Village Centre, 2. the community garden in Summerpool which showcases organic gardening and biodiversity 3. the two small green areas at Mudwalls on the

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		Burley Gate Road. 4. The Old Cricket Ground 5. The Sports Field Amend former Policy BF6 (now Policy BF7) to list these as Local Green Spaces and identify them on the associated map.
Policies BF6 and BF7 could include the wording “provision of measures that encourage access by active travel”	Include the wording “provision of measures that encourage access by active travel”	Amend former Policy BF7 (now Policy BF8) to include reference to Active Travel.
Policy BF7-This section may need further justification. Further clarification is needed to distinguish what is ‘informal green space’ and ‘safeguarded open space’.	Clarify what you mean by ‘informal green space’ is this just not local greenspace you wish to designate?	See response above. Amend Plan to identify Local Green Spaces in former Policy BF6 (now Policy BF7) and delete references to open space in former Policy BF7 (now Policy BF8).
Policy BF7. Reference could be made to the National Byway which runs through the parish and is a long distance cycle route. The route runs Tewkesbury to Chester and runs across the north eastern corner of the county passing through Ledbury and Leominster. Being on a river valley in a relatively hilly area, there are a number of lanes which offer quieter alternatives to the main roads routes suitable for cycling in the vicinity too, linking the village not only SE to Ledbury and NW to Leominster as indicated above, but NE to Bromyard/Whitbourne; SW to Canon Frome / Yarkhill; W to Moreton Jeffries.	Include reference to the National Byway in the Plan.	Agree. Include reference as requested.
Policy BF8-Add in to the to the second paragraph something along these lines as- ‘and where necessary mitigation measures will be used to offset detrimental impact caused from new development’.	Add in to the to the second paragraph something along these lines as- ‘and where necessary mitigation measures will be used to offset detrimental impact caused from new development’.	Agree. Amend Policy as requested.
BF9. Development in flood zones 2 and 3 should be subject to the sequential and (where appropriate) exception tests in accordance with national guidance. Proposals must also have regard to the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) 2009 for Herefordshire.	Amend Plan to require that Development in flood zones 2 and 3 should be subject to the sequential and (where appropriate) exception tests in accordance with national guidance. Proposals must also have regard to the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) 2009 for Herefordshire.	Agree. Amend Policy as suggested.

The following organisations responded to the consultation explaining that they had no comments to make on the Draft Plan:

- Highways England

The following individuals and organisations were consulted but made no comments:

Bill Wiggin MP
Ward Councillor: Cllr Morgan
National Trust
Environment Agency
Woodland Trust
Wye Valley NHS
Coal Authority
Network Rail
Homes and Communities Agency
Ledbury Civic Society
Hereford and Worcester Chamber of Commerce
Acton Beauchamp Group of Parish Councils
Avenbury Parish Council
Bosbury and Coddington Group of Parish Councils
Cradley Parish Council
Much Cowarne Group of Parish Councils
Stoke Lacy Parish Council