



## Bledlow-cum-Saunderton Parish Council Neighbourhood Plan Survey

Survey Reference

# 1234

### THE PARISH

1. So we can identify issues relating to specific parts of the Parish, please give your postcode.

2. What do you like most about living in the Parish?

3. Are there things which you dislike about living in the Parish?

### HOUSING AND RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT

The Parish consists of villages, hamlets and scattered housing surrounded mainly by farms, woodland and other open spaces. It has approximately 2,500 people living in 1,000 houses spread over an area of about 10½ square miles. Over the last 10 years, the population has increased by around 10%, although population density remains very low, at about 15% of the average for Wycombe District.

About 70% of the Parish is in the Green Belt or the Chilterns Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and, as a result, most of the 35 development schemes since 2003 have been conversions (the Paper Mill and Bledlow Children's Home) or built on brownfield sites previously used for business (the Old Bledlow Ridge Garage, Wests Yard Saunderton and the current proposal for the former Molins site). However, it is unlikely that brownfield sites and conversions alone will be enough to meet future demand and we therefore need to consider other options too.

4. What type of land do you think should be used for the development of new housing?

*(Tick all that apply)*

- Brownfield/previously developed land
- Infill, within the existing villages, hamlets and identifiable ribbons of development, where surrounded by buildings
- Infill, outside the existing villages, hamlets and identifiable ribbons of development, where surrounded by buildings
- Backlands (typically gardens and other plots which could be sub-divided)
- Other land outside the Green Belt or Chilterns Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
- Other *(Please specify)*

5. For suitable sites, which of the following types of development would you prioritise?  
(Put a number in each box: 1 = High priority; 2 = Medium priority; 3 = Low priority)

- Affordable housing for letting or shared ownership only by those with a local connection
- 1 bedroom homes and apartments
- 2 bedroom smaller family homes
- 3 bedroom medium-sized family homes
- 4 bedroom plus larger family homes
- Properties designed for the elderly
- Sheltered accommodation for the elderly/care homes
- Other (Please specify)

6. What sort of development would you like to see at the former Molins site near Saunderton Vale?  
(Tick one)

- Housing                       Employment                       Mixed use

7. If you answered "Employment" or "Mixed use", which of the following would you like to see?  
(Tick all that apply)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Housing                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Sports facilities          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Light industrial                | <input type="checkbox"/> Visitor attraction/Tourism |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Offices/Service Offices         | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Please specify)     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Retirement village              |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community space (eg playground) |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Village hall                    |   |

8. Do you think the former Molins site should have a direct pedestrian link with Saunderton Station?  
(Tick one)

- Yes                       No

(Please explain your answer, and any other views you have on the future of the former Molins site):

9. Do you have any further comments on Housing and Residential Development?

**LOCAL ECONOMY**

The Parish has 3 pubs, 1 village shop, a car showroom/service centre, farms, equestrian facilities, the Clare Centre, Hearing Dogs for the Deaf and a few light industrial buildings. There are well over 200 businesses registered in the Parish, including numerous home-based operations.

Of the 40+ applications to redevelop non-residential sites since 2000, the majority has been for agricultural buildings or conversions to residential use. No new commercial or industrial buildings have been developed within the last 10 years. The net loss of commercial sites could impact both employment opportunities and services available to local residents.

10. How would you like to see the Neighbourhood Plan support economic activity within the Parish?  
(Tick all that apply)

- By supporting the use of brownfield land and/or existing buildings for business use
- By including policies to support working from home
- By encouraging more visitors to our Parish in order to support local shops and public houses
- By supporting the continued use of land for agricultural production
- By supporting farm diversification
- Other (Please specify)

11. Please give any further comments on Local Economy.

**LANDSCAPE AND THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

The majority of the Parish lies either within the Chilterns Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty or is classified as Green Belt, with the remainder consisting of open farmland running out into the Vale of Aylesbury. The Parish contains a range of different farm sizes and types, with a mixed pattern of stocking and cropping. Woodland cover is relatively modest and tends to be concentrated on the higher ground, with the mature beech woodlands on the edge of the Chiltern escarpment contributing to the visual appeal of the landscape. The built environment is one of small villages and hamlets connected by minor roads lined with hedgerows. Visitors to the Parish are attracted by the landscape, history and culture, with 42 Listed Buildings, the Bledlow Conservation Area and 14 Scheduled Ancient Monuments all of which make our Parish a desirable place to live.

12. What priorities should the Neighbourhood Plan have in protecting the natural environment?  
(Tick all that apply)

- Minimise light pollution by supporting a 'dark skies' policy
- Minimise the level of noise and other forms of pollution caused by development and transport infrastructure
- Protect the views of and from the Chilterns Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty from inappropriate development

- Promote the preservation and restoration of key local habitats and wildlife biodiversity
- Promote the protection of existing mature or important trees and hedgerows, groups of trees or woodland
- Manage the visual impact, scale and location of alternative energy installations
- Other (*Please specify*)

**13.** What priorities should the Neighbourhood Plan have in protecting the quality of the built environment?  
(*Tick all that apply*)

- Define and preserve the boundaries of our villages and hamlets
- Use designs which are in keeping with the scale, location and appearance of existing buildings
- Use traditional local building materials
- Promote a high level of energy conservation/environmental sustainability in new buildings
- Identify houses which are not currently listed but which should be protected by a local listing
- Include signage, advertising and street furniture which are in keeping with the rural character of our Parish, and maintain the Parish as an 'Area of Special Advert Control' (where advertising is more restricted)
- Ensure that business and residential development is in harmony with the rural character of the Parish and sits well in the landscape
- Improve flood prevention measures both within the design of new buildings and elsewhere
- Other (*Please specify*)

**14.** Are there any buildings, places or views which you believe are particularly important to protect?  
(*Please give details of the location and reasons in the space below*)

**15.** Are there any examples of buildings/developments carried out in the past 15 years that you feel demonstrate high quality design? These could be individual houses, conversions/extensions, public, commercial or educational buildings or landscaping on any scale and need not be within the Parish Boundary, but should be within the Chilterns area.

**16.** Do you have any further comments on Landscape and the Built Environment?



- Tourism, leisure and crafts
- Public House/Retail
- Office-based business
- Home-based business

- Light manufacturing
- Other (*Please specify*)

**22.** Does anyone in your household work from home?

(*Tick one*)

- Yes
- No

**23.** If "Yes", how many?

**24.** On average, how many days a week do they work from home?

(*Tick one*)

- Rarely/Never/Not applicable
- 1-2 days
- 3-4 days
- 5+

**25.** If you have any further comments please give these below or attach a continuation sheet.

Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey. Please return it in the Freepost envelope provided to;

**Engage Planning Ltd**

FREEPOST RSTG-HTYX-RAGK  
Warwick Innovation Centre  
Warwick Technology Park  
Warwick  
CV34 6UW

Or complete online at [www.bledlow-cum-saundertonparishcouncil-survey.co.uk](http://www.bledlow-cum-saundertonparishcouncil-survey.co.uk) and don't forget to include the survey number from the front page.

SAMPLE