



Parish Survey

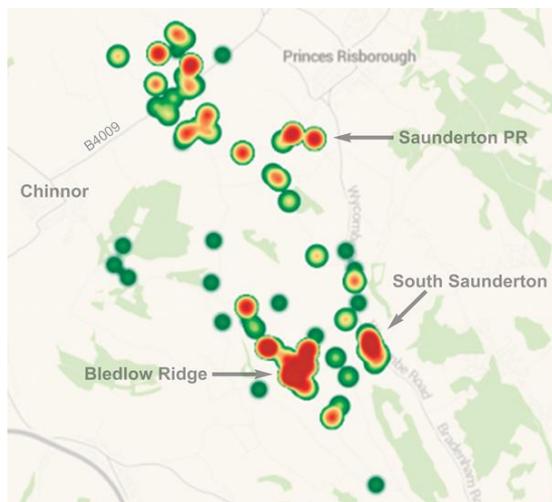
Many thanks for your responses!

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

How did it go?

- ❖ The survey arrived by mail during the week of 11th January 2016 and all responses received by 31st January were included in the survey analysis.
- ❖ We had a very encouraging 39% response rate (360 responses were returned out of 921 surveys sent), which indicates how concerned residents are about some of the planning choices our parish faces.
- ❖ The Survey Report (prepared by Engage Planning Ltd, an independent provider) will be posted on the Parish Council website during the first week of March (www.bledlow-cum-saundertonparishcouncil.org.uk).

How were the responses spread across the parish?



This “heat map” shows the postcodes the responses came from. This represents a good spread with a larger concentration around Bledlow Ridge and South Saunderton.

Living in the parish ... what is good



- ❖ Open space, wildlife and countryside.
- ❖ Good, friendly community spirit.
- ❖ Convenient, well-connected location.
- ❖ Good network of footpaths, cycling tracks and bridleways.

“Village atmosphere”

“The tranquillity and beauty of the Chiltern countryside”

“The Internet speed is terrible”

... and not so good!

- ❖ Poor broadband speed in many parts of the parish.
- ❖ Volume & speed of traffic; poor maintenance of highways & footpaths.
- ❖ Lack of regular public transport.
- ❖ High cost of housing and lack of affordable housing.

“Ever growing traffic, quantity, speeding and noise”

“High price of housing for the next generation”

Do you want to see the full Survey Report? It is on the table!

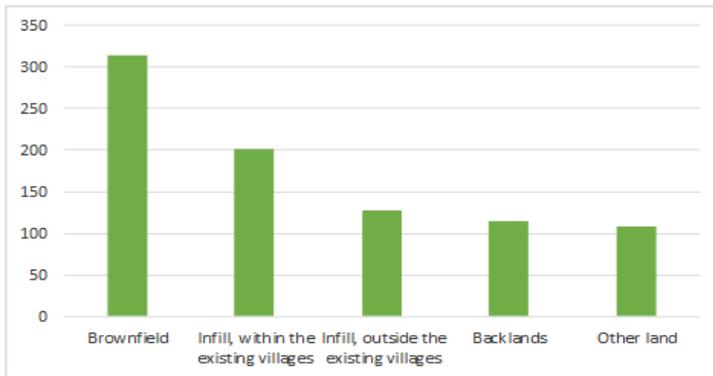


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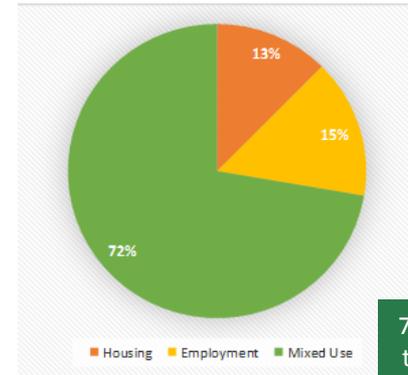
Residential development

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Housing and residential development should be built on brownfield sites and within existing settlements...

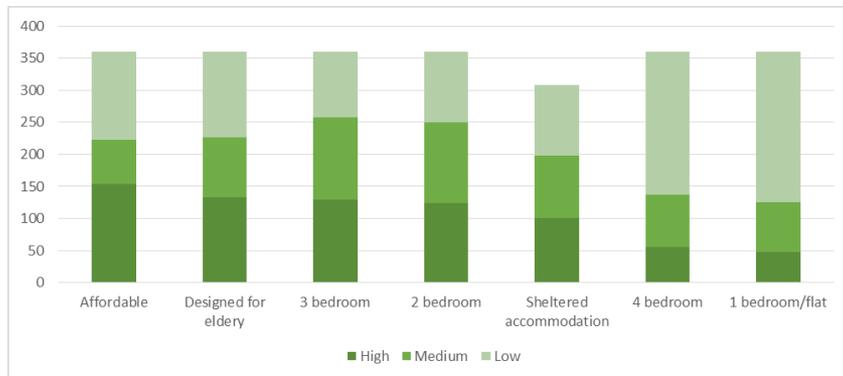


Mixed use is preferred for the development at the former Molins site



79% of those who responded think that the site should have a direct pedestrian link with Saunderton Station

...with a preference for smaller affordable homes over larger houses



Other comments on housing and residential development

SUGGESTIONS

- "Villages must be allowed to develop & grow in a well-planned way to enable families to find housing in their local community"
- "Development must come hand-in-hand with community facilities"
- "The existing housing in this area is very individual – any new housing should be in keeping with this character"
- "Chilterns AONB should be treasured and preserved for future generations."

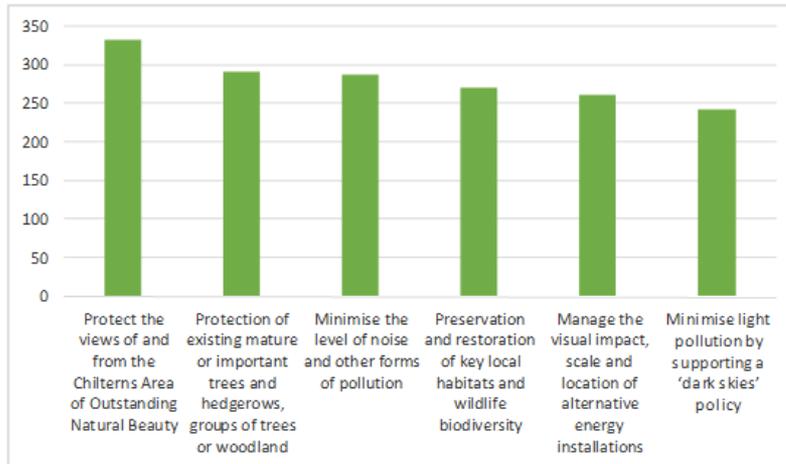


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Parish Survey

Landscape & built environment

Residents place a high premium on the natural environment



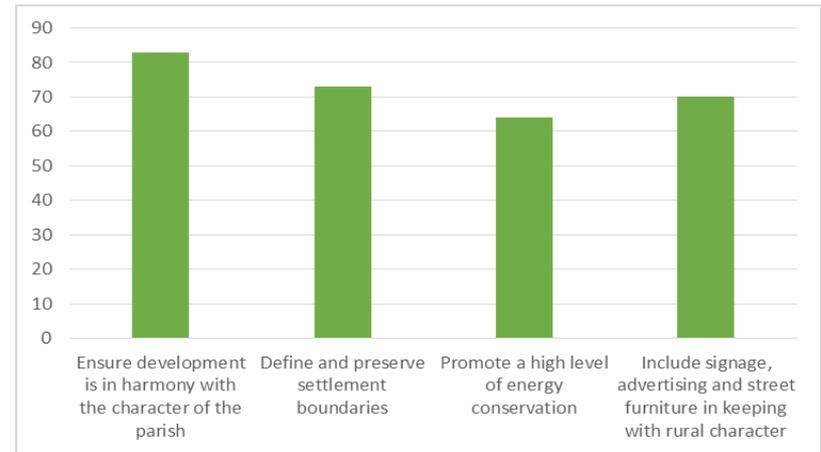
Priorities for the Neighbourhood Plan

"The landmark views from Lodge Hill"

"Protect our nature reserves, SSSIs, woodlands."

"The Chiltern Hills – the rise and fall of wooded slopes which make the Chilterns a unique place."

And wish to ensure that new development is in harmony with the character of the parish



Priorities for the Neighbourhood Plan

"Development should reflect modern design as well as traditional."

Guidance on driveway surfacing and access gates to ensure they are in-keeping with village character.

"Why do planning/building control/design issues look backwards? We must look forwards!"

Any development should be low impact and no more than 2-storeys.

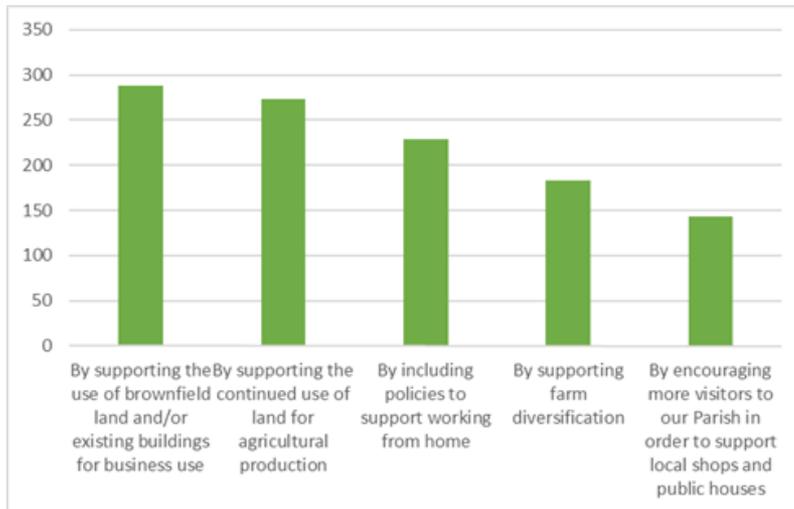


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Local economy

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Residents wish to retain employment sites within the parish



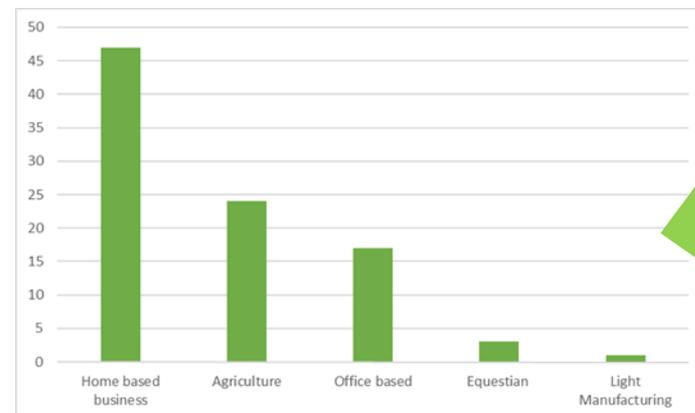
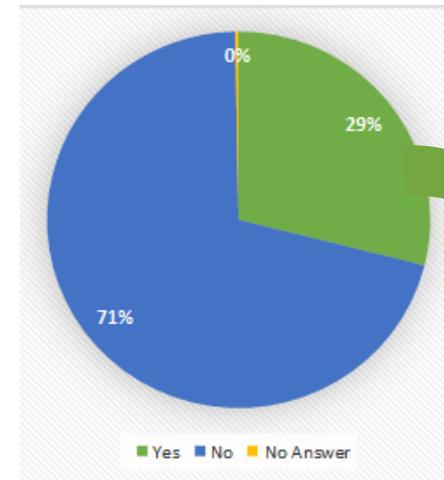
Lack of high speed broadband and poor Internet connection is a consistent and important issue raised by a large number of respondents.

Many also cite poor mobile phone reception as a barrier.

Address the improvement of transport infrastructure and public transport and support the upkeep of public footpaths and bridleways (rural/tourism economy.)

Encourage community initiatives (for instance pop-up or village shop run by community).

The parish has a surprisingly large number of local businesses



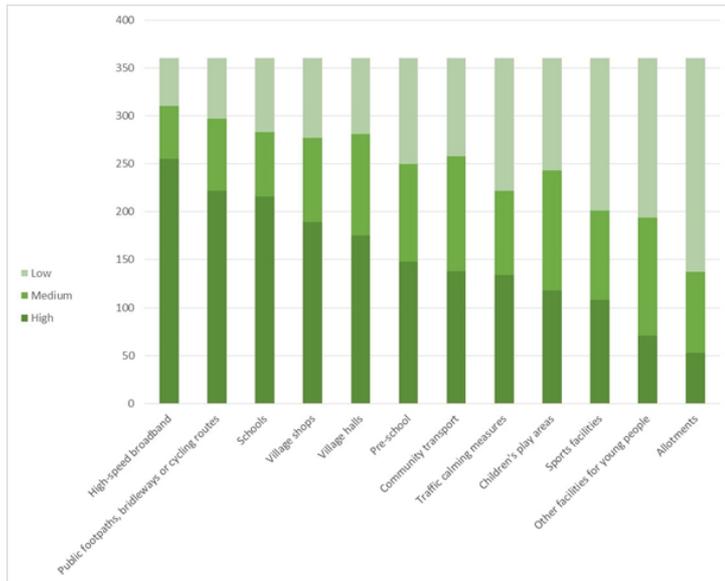


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Community infrastructure

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Broadband, footpaths/cycleways and schools are viewed as the most important local facilities ...



... and people are keen to protect the local infrastructure

Local pubs and the local shop.

Village halls, sports and the Meadow Styles playground.

Green spaces and allotments.

The school and churches.

CONCLUSIONS

- ❖ The 39% response rate demonstrates that residents care for their parish and community.
- ❖ Residents value the rural character of the parish within the Chilterns AONB.
- ❖ Residents are keen to ensure that the Neighbourhood Plan helps the parish be a place which can support wide demographics both in terms of age and income.
- ❖ Residents would also like to see well-planned and well-designed housing.
- ❖ Whilst site specific allocations were not part of the survey, 87% of respondents support the priority of housing development on brownfield land.
- ❖ Poor broadband speed was seen as one of the most frustrating aspects of living in the parish, one which had a negative effect on businesses, for those working from home and for students/school children.
- ❖ Respondents expressed support for development within existing settlements and discouraged it in the countryside.
- ❖ Road infrastructure, including the proper maintenance of footpaths and bridleways, was a key concern, with residents saying that any new development must take account of this and the wider community infrastructure.