

BRADWELL WITH PATTISWICK PARISH COUNCIL

CONSULTATION STATEMENT

The Parish Council has consulted widely in the preparation of this Neighbourhood Plan:

The initial consultation took place in the Village Hall where demographic information about the Parish was displayed in November 2015 (see Annex 1 of the Parish Plan 2016). There was a coffee morning attended by 50 people in December 2015 and the display was available during the Christmas festivities when over 100 people attended the Village Hall.

Meanwhile in November 2015 sufficient Questionnaires (Exhibit 1) were distributed by hand to every dwelling in the Parish (204 households) for every person in the parish to respond. 44% response rate by household (140 completed questionnaires returned - multiple responses per household)

There was also a Questionnaire (Exhibit 2) for under 18s distributed in November 2015 to every person under 18 living in the Parish (59 young people) 41% response rate

The Questionnaire response was analysed and the results were published in the Parish Plan (June 2016) (available on the Parish Council web-site)

Key findings:

Housing – preference for no expansion as infrastructure was inadequate to support expansion, but recognition of possible need for houses for young adults in the village to start families and for elderly people to downsize

Roads – concern for road safety within the village and the need for a new A120 away from the Parish, but also significant improvements to the existing road network and pavements in the Parish.

Recreation and Leisure – need for adult gym equipment and improved facilities for teenagers on the Playing Field. Playing Field and Footpath Network were valued and well used. The Village Hall was much appreciated

Education – There is a need for pre-school provision within the Village for those who do not have access to transport to Coggeshall.

Action taken:

Housing – Use of the Parish Plan to guide planning decisions while the more formal Neighbourhood Plan is developed. Neighbourhood Plan Questionnaire to be used to quantify perceptions in Parish Plan.

Roads – Parish Council opened dialogue with Highways England and Essex County Highways. Road signs for Pattiswick agreed through Local Highways Panel. Highways England used Bradwell with Pattiswick as a Case Study on consultation for the feasibility study for the new A120. Essex County Highways repaired the broken drain at Tippetts Wade, which had caused local flooding. Following a meeting of the residents with the Parish Council, flooding in Chapel Rise miraculously ceased.

Recreation and Leisure – The Parish Council raised £14,000 for adult gym equipment, an outdoor table-tennis table and ancillary equipment for young people on the Playing Field. A celebration event was held and was well attended.

A summary of the Parish Plan and details of the proposal to develop a Neighbourhood Plan (Exhibit 3) were distributed to every household in the Parish in July 2016

A Questionnaire (Exhibit 4) was distributed to all businesses in the Parish in November 2016. Only people working in the Parish and not resident were eligible to complete this questionnaire (Residents working in the Parish had already responded to the original questionnaire).

Key findings:

The results were not statistically significant, but the views expressed were not dissimilar to those of the residents (Exhibit 5).

There was an awareness session at the Annual Parish Meeting on 8 May 2017.

The Neighbourhood Plan focuses on Planning Policy and was developed by a wider group of people supported by the Parish Council. The involvement of a wider group of people at Parish Council meetings provided the required level of detail for areas of concern or where the Parish Plan, and subsequent Business questionnaires, had not provided clear answers.

Key findings:

There are more houses in hamlets outside the Village Envelope than there are houses within the Village Envelope and there used to be even more houses in the hamlets

In early December 2017, the Parish Council distributed a questionnaire (Exhibit 6) to every household (220 dwellings) covering the draft Planning Policy Direction for Bradwell with Pattiswick. The response (25%) to this questionnaire gave a better than 90% approval to five of the eight draft policy statements and over 85% approval for two more and 73% for the last one. There were many consistent comments, which supported the draft policy statements and which have allowed the Parish Council to modify the least popular policy statement. The response has provided data, which substantiated assumptions

made in the draft policy statements. The detailed responses were constructive and provided a clear steer on the way forward.

Following detailed analysis of the response to the draft Planning Policy Direction Questionnaire (published on the Council's web-site on 2 January 2018) and an Open Meeting on 8 January 2018, the Parish Council engaged DAC Planning Limited to help prepare the Regulation 14 draft Neighbourhood Plan.

Key findings:

There is little evidence of need for social housing

There is a need for family / starter homes (quantified)

There is a need for homes to enable downsizing (quantified)

There is no space within the Village Envelope to provide homes to meet these needs

Allowing some small-scale housing will enhance the sustainability of the hamlets. (one or two houses per hamlet)

The Parish Council provided DAC Planning with a discussion draft Neighbourhood Plan and the associated evidence base. Councillors and residents answered questions for clarification at the Parish Council meeting (attended by residents interested in the Neighbourhood Plan) on 12 February.

DAC Planning provided a first draft Regulation 14 Neighbourhood Plan on 23 February and met with the Parish Council on 27 February.

DAC Planning and the Parish Council met with Alan Massow of Braintree District Council Planning Department on 8 March.

The Bradwell with Pattiswick Parish Consultation Draft Regulation 14 Neighbourhood Plan was approved towards the end of March 2018.

Posters (Exhibit 7) were placed around the Parish by 1 April 2018 advising residents that a copy of the Draft Plan would be delivered to their home shortly and encouraging them to respond to the Questionnaire.

A Poster was placed in the Village Hall alongside a Display Copy of the Draft Plan for the Easter Egg Hunt on 1 April 2018, which was attended by 75 children plus their parents and friends. Cllr Evans made a short speech to all present emphasising the need to read and respond to the Draft Plan.

A copy of the Draft Plan was sent to all of the 123 statutory consultees (as advised by Braintree District Council) who provided an e-mail address by 31 March 2018.

A letter was sent to statutory consultees, who did not provide an e-mail address, advising them of the URL at which they could view / download the Draft Plan.

A copy of the Draft Plan, a copy of the Questionnaire and a reply-paid envelope were delivered by hand to every household and business in the Parish.

A copy of the Draft Plan and a copy of the Questionnaire were placed on the web-site for the duration of the consultation period.

The consultation period started on 5 April 2018 and concluded on 18 May 2018.

The Annual Parish Meeting was held in the Village Hall on 14 May 2018 – the public were invited. Highways England and Essex County Highways attended and feedback relevant to Highways had been extracted from the BPNP questionnaire responses and both organisations took away actions as a result.

The Draft Plan referenced a Village Design Statement –this was published on the Parish Council web-site on 7 May 2018. It was compiled from the residents' response to the Parish Plan and the draft Planning Policy Direction Questionnaire as well as the discussion draft Neighbourhood Plan. In addition, a visual survey of the housing stock throughout the Parish was made from which the character of the Parish was deduced and this is included in the Village Design Statement and is used to inform the Design Guidance. The Village Design Statement (VDS) will form an Annex to the draft Plan at Regulation 15/16.

Feedback from the Regulation 14 Questionnaire and comments from statutory consultees were collated and minor amendments were made to both the Plan and the VDS to accommodate the comments made.

Key findings:

63 people from 47 households/businesses completed the questionnaire. Over 94% of respondents approved every one of the policy proposals. All bar two said they would vote and would vote YES in the referendum. The remaining two were undecided.

Speed bumps are not an acceptable means of slowing traffic

Additional areas of woodland and non-designated historic sites were identified for protection and the environment policy was enhanced to include Green Infrastructure

Suggestions to clarify some of the criteria for the planning exception policy were made

Reference should be made to the Waste and Minerals Local Plans and Broadband deployment

There remain a number of highways related issues

The Regulation 15/16 draft Plan was submitted to Braintree District Council on 2 July 2018.