

# TOPPESFIELD AND GAINSFORD END NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN CONSULTATION

Dear Resident

**We really need your feedback on this important document for our village!**

The Toppesfield and Gainsford End Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group has drawn up a Neighbourhood Plan which will help steer the future of the village between now and 2038. It gives the community the chance to have an influence over planning policy and gives us an opportunity to plan our own future. The Neighbourhood Plan works alongside Braintree District Council's Local Plan.

In 2019 it was decided that the process for a Neighbourhood Plan for Toppesfield and Gainsford End should begin. Since that time, we have consulted with the residents through workshops, questionnaires, exhibitions and various conversations and the results have been formed into a draft Neighbourhood Plan. The full document (see the Toppesfield and Gainsford End parish council website [www.e-voice.org.uk/toppesfield-parish-council/toppesfield-gainsford-end-ne/](http://www.e-voice.org.uk/toppesfield-parish-council/toppesfield-gainsford-end-ne/)) contains much detail and the history, landscape, environment, economy and village life. If you would like a hardcopy of the document, please email [clerk.toppesfieldparishcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:clerk.toppesfieldparishcouncil@gmail.com) or come along to the event detailed below to pick up a copy

This consultation on the draft plan lasts until midnight on Sunday 11 January 2026.

**You are welcome to complete this paper copy, and for additional members of your household, download copies from the website ([www.e-voice.org.uk/toppesfield-parish-council/toppesfield-gainsford-end-ne/](http://www.e-voice.org.uk/toppesfield-parish-council/toppesfield-gainsford-end-ne/)), or collect from Toppesfield Stores.**

Responses can be posted in the response box which will be located at Toppesfield Stores.

There will be an open, drop-in meeting for all residents to have a chance to find out more about the Neighbourhood Plan and ask any questions you may have. Come along to:

Venue: Village Hall

Date: Saturday 29 November 2025

Time: 10:00am – 2:00pm

We look forward to seeing you there!

Your feedback will be taken into account when drafting the final version of this Neighbourhood Plan. The comments received, and action taken, will be included in the Consultation Statement which will be published as part of the next stage. The Neighbourhood Plan process ends with a referendum where you will be invited to vote as to whether the plan should be adopted. Once adopted it has legal status and can be used in planning decisions.

**Please return completed questionnaires by the deadline of 12 January 2026**

**THE CONSULTATION IS ANONYMOUS AND CONFIDENTIAL.**

# Questionnaire

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**Q0. Do you agree with the vision statement outlined in Section 2.2 of the draft Neighbourhood Plan?**

Yes

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No

☐

If No, why do you disagree? How would you change the vision statement?

**Q1. Do you agree with Policy TOP1 “Spatial Strategy for Housing Development”?**

Yes

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No

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If No, why do you disagree? How would you change this policy?

**Q2. Do you agree with Policy TOP2 “Affordable Housing – Meeting Local Needs”?**

Yes

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No

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If No, why do you disagree? How would you change this policy?

**Q3. Do you agree with Policy TOP3 “Development Principles and Design of New Development”?**

Yes

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No

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If No, why do you disagree? How would you change this policy?

**Q4. Do you agree with Policy TOP4 “Design Principles”?**

**Yes**

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**No**

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If No, why do you disagree? How would you change this policy?

**Q5. Do you agree with Policy TOP5 “Materials and Massing”?**

**Yes**

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**No**

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If No, why do you disagree? How would you change this policy?

**Q6. Do you agree with Policy TOP6 “New Extensions”?**

**Yes**

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**No**

☐

If No, why do you disagree? How would you change this policy?

**Q7. Do you agree with Policy TOP7 “Heritage”?**

**Yes**

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**No**

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If No, why do you disagree? How would you change this policy?

**Q8. Do you agree with Policy TOP8 “Leisure, Community, Welfare and Health”?**

**Yes**

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**No**

☐

If No, why do you disagree? How would you change this policy?

**Q9. Do you agree with Policy TOP9 “Employment”?**

**Yes**

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**No**

☐

If No, why do you disagree? How would you change this policy?

**Q10. Do you agree with Policy TOP10 “Recreational Open Space”?**

**Yes**

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**No**

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If No, why do you disagree? How would you change this policy?

**Q11. Do you agree with Policy TOP11 “Front Gardens”?**

**Yes**

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**No**

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If No, why do you disagree? How would you change this policy?

**Q12. Do you agree with Policy TOP12 “Landscape and key Ecological Features”?**

**Yes**

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**No**

☐

If No, why do you disagree? How would you change this policy?

**Q13. Do you agree with Policy TOP13 “Key views and connectivity with the countryside”?**

**Yes**

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**No**

☐

If No, why do you disagree? How would you change this policy?

**Q14. Do you agree with Policy TOP14 “Former Wethersfield Airbase”?**

**Yes**

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**No**

☐

If No, why do you disagree? How would you change this policy?

**Q15. How do you plan to vote in the referendum?**

**Yes**

☐

**No**

☐

Do you have any other comments?