

Sandridge Neighbourhood Plan Questionnaire – Summary

Sandridge Village Neighbourhood Plan Survey Results

Overview

Residents of Sandridge village were sent a paper questionnaire inserted inside Neighbourhood News in April 2015. The questionnaire which sought to gauge residents' appetite for development and if so the type of development, location and additional facilities. The questionnaire also asked about current likes and dislikes. Residents also had the opportunity to complete the questionnaire digitally on the Parish website.

Sixty-six people returned their questionnaires.

Appetite for village growth

45% in favour – 55% against

30 respondents supported village growth, albeit slow (50% of the 30 positive responses) limited and in keeping with the current village look and feel, and 37 respondents did not support any growth. Suggestions ranged from several people who wanted to see more clubs and activities in the village hall, and two people who wanted better children's playground and one a club for teenagers.

Of the 30 who were positive there were a range of opinions, from mixed residential and employment, to family homes, to affordable housing. High quality design was a recurrent theme. All wanted development to be within the existing boundaries of the current built-up area. Nine people suggested old garage sites, two to use brownfield sites, one favoured the village centre and another favoured extending existing outskirting areas.

13 respondents favoured small developments, 16 mentioned that the housing should be affordable and 10 wanted more family housing. Only 4 mentioned retirement housing.

Facilities

19 people wanted additional shops, the vast majority mentioning a café, two suggested a post-office and chemist and a few other suggestions were related to gift shop and shops supporting Heartwood. Some positive comments were made about the improvement in the Village Shop in recent years.

Likes

The most common positive comment is the "small village feel". A few people liked the community spirit and there was a smattering of liking of village events, the wood, sports activities.

Dislikes

The overwhelming dislike was speeding traffic. 13 people requested traffic calming. 35 people commented about speed. 16 mentioned the business of roads and 17 thought there was too much litter. A few people mentioned parking, poor road surface, aircraft noise, overuse of Langley Wood.

Transport

There were very few comments suggesting ways to improve transport. Only two areas had more than two comments, one was for parking bays in Langley Grove and the other for more frequent buses. Of the others, two requests were made for more parking restrictions in the village centre.

Commerce

Six people thought there was no need for commerce in the village and four others no need for any additional premises. Four wanted a small business hub (low cost) and one expressly wanted something to enable youngsters to stay in the village.

Unusual ideas

One respondent suggested a railway station next to the industrial estate and bridge at the top of St Albans Road, to prevent people adding to traffic problems driving to St Albans Station.