



Wilmcote Neighbourhood Planning Group

Wilmcote & Pathlow Neighbourhood Plan – Survey Results – May 2015

The planning group, which comprises Parish Councillors and other residents who volunteer their time, was delighted with the response to the survey carried out earlier this year. Thank you for your commitment. More than 70% of households completed the questionnaire and your responses will provide a clear picture of how the majority of residents would like to see Wilmcote and Pathlow develop in the next 20 years.

The importance of Wilmcote having a Neighbourhood Plan was strengthened by a recent legal test case in which the residents of Winslow, Buckinghamshire, resisted an unwanted new housing development because of their neighbourhood plan.

This survey is part of the second stage to develop a neighbourhood plan, which will seek to achieve a balance between preserving the distinctive character of Wilmcote and Pathlow and developing the community, its amenities, housing, infrastructure and image. *Here is a summary of the main results.*

Respondents would like the rate of building new properties to be evenly spread during the period 2011-2031, and less than 75 new dwellings in this period.

85% of respondents favoured limited infilling for new housing developments and 78% favoured redevelopment of previously developed sites. 54% would like the number of dwellings on each site to be 5 houses or less, 44% would like 6 to 10 dwellings and only 12% want more than 20 houses on a new development.

79% agreed that there should be Limited Affordable housing for local community needs and 78% would like a third of new dwellings to be affordable housing.

42% think it is important or very important to provide new Social housing and 52% think this should be rented property, whereas 84% prefer shared ownership.

Almost six in ten respondents (57%) stated that new dwellings should be for children of parents in the village and 41% think they should be for the elderly.

74% of respondents think that there should not be new housing built on rural land.

When asked what mix of properties residents would like to see, 36% stated three bedroom houses, 27% two bedroom houses and 23% four bedrooms. One bedroom flats were the least preferred at 13%.

90% of respondents would like all new dwellings to have on-site, off-road parking. When asked if there should be a minimum distance from the front and rear of an existing dwelling to the building line of a new building or row of buildings, 40% felt the distance should be 10 metres or under, 30% said between 10 and 20 metres, with 13% saying 21-30 metres.

Three quarters of respondents think that the garden size for new dwellings is important and of these 62% think it should be 10-20 metres, 21% said it should be less than 10 metres, whilst 17% said over 20 metres.

98% of respondents would not support another travellers' site in the Parish and 83% would not support an increase in the existing site in Pathlow.

54% would support an increase in the number of dwellings on the three park home sites at Edkins Park, Woodcot Park and Willowdene.

93% agreed with the statement in the questionnaire about housing design and 66% believe that sustainable development is important.

Non-Housing results

The amenities thought by respondents to be most essential are the Shop (70% essential + 28% very important or important) and the School (56% essential +34% very important or important).

Next in importance is the Canal (37% essential +55% very important or important). 30% said the Village Hall is essential +59% said very important or important.

92% think it is important to protect our historic buildings and their surroundings.

86% think it is important to protect the open views across the countryside.

85% think it is important to protect the wildlife and fauna.

82% think it is important to protect the green corridor alongside the canal.

98% of respondents said they would support action being taken to retain a shop if there was ever a likelihood of losing the existing shop.

77% think there is a problem with speeding traffic in the Parish and 70% would support traffic calming measures in the Parish.

12% of respondents run a company or practice/service from their premises/home. Responses for a small business area within the Parish were evenly split, yes and no.

Residents were asked where they wished to see future funding committed. Parking for the station and canal were rated highest, followed by better bus services and parking for the School and Church.

On Saturday 27th June there will be an open meeting in the Village Hall from 10.30am to 4.00pm, with a short presentation of the results at 11.30am and 3.00pm.