

Ixworth, Ixworth Thorpe Neighbourhood Plan

Consultation: Feedback from public Drop In events 16/03/19 and 23/3/19

Upwards of 160 people attended these sessions across a range of ages and including family groups, new and established residents. There follows an analysis of the raw results from those sessions. We have not attempted to edit or interpret.

Four themes were presented; **Housing , Facilities, Environment and Movement** with some key ideas arising out of the results of the earlier questionnaire. People attending were invited to place stickers on statements and ideas that they agreed with and to add additional comments and ideas.

The number of stickers agreeing with the thematic issues are indicative only. The number of endorsing comments represented by **'s even more so.

This analysis from the Drop In event was passed to our Consultant and helped to inform the Workshop events which followed on 2nd April. The report of the Workshop events will follow.

RESULTS

What we love about Ixworth/Ixworth Thorpe

	16th	23rd	Combined
• A friendly community	21	13	34
• Good access to medical and shopping facilities	15	20	35
• Location – in rural countryside and close to A14	14	10	24

Comments received

It's current size **

Good medical facilities but needs better shopping ***

The shop is not of adequate size for such a big village **

We need that Co-Op! **

We need a post office or at least a Cash point *****

Doctors surgery need to offer appointments more urgently than 2 weeks. ***

Totally agree with above comment. So difficult to see GP quickly. 3 week wait for 'non urgent'

Drs surgery will need to expand with extra housing

Everyone very friendly especially welcoming to new residents

A warm friendly atmosphere and open arms to new comers

The Christmas trees and lights throughout December

The park, the school and library

The Library (Bardwell Resident) *****

The park is great. The community feel and people are so friendly

A Youth Club would cause more vandalism in the village as it did before when tried *

Village life but close enough to BStE for work. Get home on Friday and not drive till Monday. Ixworth has all that is needed.

THEME 1 HOUSING

	16 th	23 rd	Combined
• Plant trees in new development	13	13	26
• Create Pocket Parks for wildlife and play	14	10	24
• Design new houses in keeping with Village character	17	15	32
• Design new houses sustainably – fuel/pollution	17	9	26

Question

Where should new housing be developed?

What type of housing is required?

Comments received

With New housing we need improved infrastructure to cope with increased traffic & population *

Responding to Design issues above 'Why wouldn't you?'

More affordable housing, more green areas, more off road parking. **

Plenty of Parking – some families have 3 or 4 cars. 1 and a half parking spaces is not enough. ****

Affordable housing for Ixworth born people (kids). *****

Proposed housing needs to come as soon as possible **

More 2 to 3 bed starter homes ***

Housing should be mixed to include social housing *

New housing to be built across the bi pass **

Infilling! Not further straggle/sprawl *

New Housing needs open integration with the Village, such that these areas do not become insular, thus becoming non community minded. *

If housing increases medieval centre needs to expand *****

If housing increases primary school needs major expansion! *****

Appropriate; roads and access; schools; shops; medical facilities; post office; As the Village increases in size get the developers to build these as part of planning application.

Need to consider access to new housing (e.g. roads). Present roads couldn't cope with extra traffic. But if no access from new development to village, will be isolated. ***

More housing in Ixworth Thorpe *

More houses mean that school will be rammed. This needs to be taken into consideration.

Wildlife and Play do not mix!

Any new houses will spoil the Village.

Not if designed well!

No more housing. The village is large enough and not equipped for larger population anyway*****

Infill housing in Ixworth Thorpe (small scale only)

New houses need to be environmentally designed and match village character

Need more facilities when new housing happens which Ixworth hasn't got everything closing where will people obtain provisions etc **

I love Ixworth but I like the to be more houses *

No poorly built buildings

(Where should new Housing be developed?) As far away from Ixworth as possible! Ixworth Thorpe?

Any new houses need to be low cost and access safe! NHS services need to be considered.

What about facilities for increased population e.g. health * education * shops * parking * recreation*

Ensure adequate parking spaces in new developments. Most houses have at least 2 cars and possible work vehicle. Easy access for emergency vehicles. *****

Community Land Trust (CLT) – promote development of a CLT for Ixworth to provide affordable housing to rent or part equity. See CLT national website; www.communitylandtrust.org.uk *

Reduce building of new housing. Ixworth is large enough. It is losing it's charm as a village **

Starter homes and low cost rental only. Sufficient large family accommodation is available already. **

THEME 2 FACILITIES

	16 th	23 rd	Combined
Community			
• New Village Hall	13	5	18
• New Sports Facilities	20	7	27
• Parks and Green Spaces	9	8	17
• Youth Club/facilities	24	9	33

Services

- Extend Health Facilities 12 14 26
- More Shops and services on the High Street 15 14 29

Business

- Encourage Start-ups 7 8 15

Comments received

Need lights in Village Hall Car Park (back) ***

LIBRARY – all Libraries are at risk of closure. Please use your Library, read newspapers, internet with all, take out books, DVDs,CDs. Can take out 20 books! ****

Village Hall with dance facilities for the classes held here; mirrors, bars etc **

Things for teenagers to do.****

Youth Group for 'tweens' needed. *

Dance Studio *****

Keep the Village Hall. Why is there a need to build a new one? Save resources. Keep it central. We are lucky to have it. But maybe a new function room – larger (that can double) as a sports hall.

Playground needs to be upgraded. **

Needs quality Pre School in the Village. Play and learn lays empty. ****

A multi purpose Arts & Crafts centre for all ages and abilities which could work in conjunction with the Library, Village Hall, schools and colleges. To provide classes, tuition, performances (non professional and professional), Touring, host an annual arts festival , crafts festival, film festival, book festival. Start with an arts and crafts audit of Ixworth and neighbouring Villages.

Look at Thurston's new Co-Op Store. Ixworth needs similar!! And a cash point. *****

Ixworth needs more shops (Co-Op) ****

Post Office – when? Not part time. *****

Full time Post Office – urgent *****

But we don't want to affect the current businesses e.g. Callows (Ixworth Stores)

New Café for Ixworth. *****

Cash withdrawal facilities *****

Reopen the Café and Post Office. Need a cash point. *

High Street, Cyder House Wedding Barn, Social Enterprise Café etc **

Café! A central focus for the village, or in the Village Hall. *

We have 2 pubs that sell coffee too! ***

Post Office. Are we the only village without one? **

Need a replacement coffee shop.**

Community Café like the very successful Wyvestone one. **

Ixworth viewed as a destination village. To thrive we need each other's businesses as a 'pull' and as shop owners we appreciate support by villagers and surrounding villages. Good pull comes from Wyken bringing custom from south of BSE. Cambridge and Ipswich, Norwich. Specialist shops have a bigger catchment.

Notice on Door of Village Hall – anyone with an estate car or similar who could take small/clean items to the tip for those cannot carry with both hands. VH bin often overfull.**

Village Hall is perfect and in keeping with the village

Adult Education courses based here *

We need a shop that has space for pushchairs and sells more reasonable goods.

Play area for Ixworth Thorpe

Village Hall and green spaces are OK. Youth facilities a higher priority.*

Young people badly need somewhere to go. Us older generation usually benefit from this . The main thing is that it must be run properly, many people are needed in order to implement it.*

Church, chapel. We want these in our village but dwindling congregations make maintaining + services difficult. Lack of loo facilities at church causes activities to take place away from our church.**

Activities for school holidays. **

Health Services are already under pressure due to the amount of new houses already built. **

Secure provision for the Library – location-resources-villages network

(Business start ups) But consider the impact of increase traffic in/out village and parking. Need to anticipate and plan! **

This would help the shops for their business

Employment in the village, particularly with skills training will improve area and reduce traffic elsewhere and thru

See Foundation East for ethical finance for Start up Business finance.

<https://www.foundationeast.org/>

THEME 3 ENVIRONMENT

	<i>16th</i>	<i>23rd</i>	<i>Combined</i>
• Protect wildlife	3	22	25
○ Mature Trees	14		
○ Hares	10		
○ Swifts	9		
• More green spaces	15	13	28

Comments received

Safe ponds for kids to enjoy! **

Preserve Trees within School grounds due to be cut down *****

Green spaces for children important *****

More areas to walk **

Clean fuels please. More solar and wind power *

Swift boxes on all new homes **

More cycle and walking routes please *****

We have put up Swift boxes!

Development field has existing hares and dogwalkers need to help protect them.

Any new green spaces need to be maintained properly otherwise they can just become overgrown and an eyesore.

THEME 4 MOVEMENT

	16 th	23 rd	C
• Safer pavements for pedestrians, wheel chair users and pushchairs	13	17	30
• Extend and increase bus services	17	13	30
• Improve access to country walks, Rights of Way and Permissive Paths	19	37	56
• Create access to riverside walks	17	23	40
• Reduce traffic speed through the village	20	21	41
• Reduce parking on the High Street	27	14	41
• A safer High Street for pedestrians and cyclists	15	8	23
• Improve safety at by pass junctions & crossing points (A143 & Thurston Rd)	20	9	29

Comments received

Cycle paths suitable for families *****

Group to clear litter from rivers and walks ****

Cab office for easier transport to BSE/Diss ***

It's a nightmare crossing the by-pass from village to Wood Street. Cars have to stop!

Enforce the yellow line no parking zones *****

Adhering to current parking regulations i.e. not parking in the bus stop. Not parking on yellow lines *

Rumble strips to slow down traffic ****

All staff in businesses should park in the Village Hall car park ***

We have a great car park why don't more use it? ***

Parking at junctions – particularly inconsiderate. *****

Parking at top of the village, outside Vertas, Fordhams and A&S Autos particularly a problem. Visibility poor entering from top of the village. ****

One way on the High Street *

More police checks for parking on yellow lines and speed. ***

Crossing point needed. Pupils could then cycle to Thurston if they needed. *****

(Pavement Improvement) Especially Crown Lane – by Primary schools – no pavement

Safer pedestrian access to surgery would be great e.g. crossing

Chalk Lane Pavements are in dire state.

A bridge over the A143 at Crown Lane would sig. improve access to the countryside *****

Would like to see a night bus service to Bury

Make a path from end of existing 'old Bury Rd' past 'Willows' as far as existing footfall.

Access to river is on private land used by Ixworth Angling Club members only. Not space along river for a path. Would cause disturbance.

More paths to the school along crown lane from the High Street. It's very difficult walking children along the road when there are so many cars.

Make a path from Mill Road to the A14 bridge + steps down to join the permissive path

Post Office needed in the Village

Ixworth needs a full time Post Office *****

20's plenty on the High Street **

(Parking on the High St) Those who don't have a garage need to park their cars on the High Street. **

Parking should be policed to stop parking on double yellow lines and on pavements. **

Police the parking on the High St. Tickets will prevent selfish parkers ie in the Bus stops opposite exit to the Village Hall and double yellow lines.

Leave parking on High Street as it is.

I understand that it must be difficult for many people who live on the High Street. Could we have double yellow lines on one side to help the flow of traffic? ***

Good idea but people park on double yellow lines anyway.

Parking on double yellow lines causes problems for entry/exit to archways off the High Street.

Make the High Street one way from Thetford Rd/Crown Lane junction to Stow Rd **

This penalises those who live in the village at the top end and don't wish to have to use the bypass + busier junctions. *

Put the bus stop outside the Church or pub. Not outside people's houses. *

Crossing near the Village Hall entrance needed.

Why not take access road for the new houses off the A143?

OTHER ISSUES AND COMMENTS

I am in the process of developing a Youth Club for the young people of Ixworth. If you are interested in helping or supporting or would like information please leave your contact details below or contact me. Mike Jones – 07890 842381 or mojo28818H@AOL.com

Maybe a dog walking group? **

More sport clubs for children at Village Hall **

The Primary School need to offer more after school activities. ***

All Street lighting should end at midnight *** Not all some. * NO!

A circular walking route NOT crossing the main road.

Need a new primary school. *****

Overwhelming requirement for a Post Office *****

Dog mess is a major issue and needs sorting out****

More bins for dog waste. ****

Need a Bridge at Micklesmere/Crown Lane *

This gathering is proving how community minded we are. Something along the lines of this style of gathering would strengthen bonds. **

Vertas is a major cause of parking problems at the top of the High Street. Their planning permission has still not been granted 2 years on of 5 year contract. Move to an Industrial Estate. *****

Questionnaires for the schools given to each child for them and carers/parents to fill out

I agree and will support 100% of the proposed plan apart from the ghost island. 5 way roundabout is a must! *

No ghost island for access *

Need more shops the village businesses will die. *****

Youth acting without restraint. We have had a disproportionate amount of vandalism and threatening behaviour. This is down to the attitude of youth.

Change management *

We have lost since I moved to the Village in 1988: One pub (The Crown), one building soc (Halifax), One craft shop, A café, a post office, a petrol station. Are we going to lose a butchers shop when that closes?

We need better shop – something like Thurston Co-Op would bring people in. We also need a cash point as our pub cannot sustain cashback for the whole village. *****

Ixworth is a lovely village/small town. It will grow but let's make sure everything will meet its needs whatever is agreed at the end of the day.

Loss of facilities just as the Village is enlarging. **

Rumble strips ruin cars.*

Some police presence needed.*

Sort out the parking for Veritas employees. They shouldn't be parking on the road all day. Road never gets swept of wet leaves and mud so passengers waiting for buses have to walk through it to get on bus. ***

Why was the Co-Op not allowed to come into the Village? We would have had a Post Office and ATM in there. This village needs a post office. ***

Old Fish Ponds given to the community to create a public park.

If Persimmon development access is onto A1088 the delays in the morning will be horrendous – more cars will come through Ixworth High Street.

Building more houses in Ixworth. The by pass is (...ttend) at the moment with traffic coming from Stanton. Takes nearly an hour when travelling to BSE at the moment. And the Council haven't thought about an added exit to Stanton roundabout or increasing the number of roundabouts on bypass.

People in large towns and cities have more access to countryside than we do. Can landowners not open up access on at least part of their land? More permissive paths. **

If shops are closing down what services are in place when more houses are built?
Added pressure on the GP surgery. Nothing appears to be thought out before housing plans are pushed forward. **

Ixworth is a village that has so much going for it – it has a centre with shops, drs, pharmacy, pubs etc. But if we just grow without planning and anticipating impact then it will be ruined. And not helpful to lose services e.g. PO, café! *

Ixworth should have a well stocked shop – a Co-Op. **

A café in the village is a really important feature. Sad to see it go.***

A 5 way roundabout at A143/A1088 junction would be extremely dangerous! As anyone who has looked at traffic would realise. *

Vertas parking is very dangerous – the reason for not accepting the Co-op was apparently parking but this is worse.**

We do not want or need any new houses or I fear for the primary school.

Thank you for fixing the pot hole by Thistledown/top entrance of Ixworth. *

Better facilities for older people who cannot obtain main shopping in Thetford /Bury. Also post office/cash machine café. 'Also talk of butcher closing. What is happening.

Christmas trees on houses and lights at end of Ixworth are festive and lovely! *

I do not like dog poo in Ixworth. **

A Co OP would have been an excellent addition to the village – very sad it never materialised.*

Bridge over A143 is really needed regardless of any new homes being built.

Community Forum linking those with particular skills with those wanting to acquire them

New and better shop needed. A new coffee shop or café is needed. A new post office which is open daily. Cash point needed.

Shouldn't have to drive to other village schools.

Safe cycling path to Ixworth for Ixworth Thorpe. * Play Areas in Ixworth Thorpe.

Middle school and new primary school PARKING! Traffic in Walsham Road is dire. There must be parking in school grounds. Otherwise road rage and the area will be so congested. Also more pollution. Middle school needs to do this now. *****

Kebab van is an excellent addition to the village.

Post Office is needed ***

Keep our wildlife spots in good check and make them safe for nature and people.

The pavement going from GP surgery to the footpath to bridle path is seldom cut in summer months. Dog walking is not very easy as only room on pavement for the dog. Have to walk on roadside which is dangerous when you have speeding cars in opposite direction.

We would like to encourage more people to use our coffee and breakfast facilities at the pub in order to help us provide these facilities to the village. We would appreciate constructive input and suggestions from the community on the time they would like to see this available etc. Currently we offer breakfast 7-9am weekdays and 8-10am weekends (pre booking required) Coffee is offered

noon till close everyday. We want to help offer what was lost when the café closed. Let us know how we can provide services for you. info@pykkerellinn.co.uk

Greyhound Pub is huge community asset. Many services to village. Much appreciated.

Three comments on the structure and leadership of Ixworth schools.