



The Parish Of Mendlesham

Neighbourhood Plan

Issues, objectives and evidence

October 2014



Mendlesham Parish Council Neighbourhood Plan

Issues, Objectives and Evidence

This document sets out to identify the issues that concern residents and businesses about the future of the Parish of Mendlesham. It also identifies the objectives to be set to deal with these issues and the evidence that is required to prove the issues and agree the objectives.

Questions regarding each of these issues were included in the three questionnaires (Household, Business and Youth) that were circulated to residents and businesses in February 2014.

The issues are

Issue 1: Housing

The availability of suitable housing for all local residents and their growing families.

The provision of a range of accommodation types and sizes to enable the young, those with growing families and those with reducing family sizes to be able to move around the parish where possible and not be forced to move from the local area to find suitable accommodation.

The availability of affordable housing for those who do not have the financial ability to purchase their own homes.

Objectives

To identify the mix of properties required to allow local residents to stay (if required) in the area.

To work with developers to ensure that the right type of properties are constructed to meet the requirements of this growing community.

Evidence

The 2014 local survey shows that;

around 15% (62 out of 404 respondents) of households expect to move in the next 5 years, of those over 6% want to move within the Parish of Mendlesham and around 5% feel it's too early to say where they will move.

Of the 62 households expecting to move,
19 will require a house,



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11 a flat or maisonette and
9 a bungalow,
20 said it is too early to say and
3 other options were mentioned (chalet bungalow,
sheltered housing and an annex).

Of the 62 households expecting to move,
7 require a 1 bedroom property,
16 require a 2 bedroom property,
12 require a 3 bedroom property and
1 require a 4 bedroom property.
26 said it was too early to say.

Of the 62 households expecting to move,
17 people wanted an affordable/rented property
3 people wanted a shared ownership (part rent / part
buy) property
15 people wanted an open market purchase property
4 people wanted a private rented property
22 people said it was too early to say
1 person specified another option (self build).

Additionally we have a Housing Needs Survey that was completed in 2010.

Issue 2: Employment

The availability of locally based jobs and good transport links to enable local residents to reduce the dependency on personal transport (cars, motor bikes etc.)

Objectives

To support the provision of local employment opportunities to reduce the amount of travel necessary to access work.

To support the provision of local transport facilities to enable local residents to access work.

Evidence

The 2014 local survey shows that 25% of households (101 out of 404 households responding) have someone working within the Parish of Mendlesham.

The survey identified 145 people working within the Parish of Mendlesham.

The survey also identified 73 households with people working from home adding up to 95 people working from home.



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Neighbourhood Plan

Almost 70% of households (280 out of 404 households responding) wanted to see more employment opportunities within the Parish of Mendlesham.

Issue 3: Future development

The size of individual developments, their phasing and the speed at which they will be carried out.

The sites that will be selected for future developments.

Objectives

To provide clear guidance on the preferred size of development sites.

To provide clear guidance on the phasing of developments and the overall speed of development over the next 15 years.

Evidence

The 2014 local survey shows that over 88% of households (354 out of 399 responding) want future housing development within the Parish of Mendlesham to be small scale and dispersed.

The survey identified that out of the 399 households responding

- 54% wanted small units for rent by local people,
- 32.5% wanted shared equity units (part rent/part buy),
- 43.8% wanted small units for private sale,
- 29.8% wanted larger family homes,
- 49.8% wanted homes suitable for retirees (e.g. bungalows),
- 20.5% wanted housing self build schemes,
- 45.6% wanted affordable housing schemes,
- 15.7% wanted combined housing and business schemes,
- 49.3% wanted Eco homes with little energy impact.

Issue 4: Transport (including Parking)

The ongoing provision of a suitable local transport (bus) service.

Heavy goods traffic in and around Mendlesham village and other local roads.

Problems with parking in and around Mendlesham village.

Objectives

To identify whether residents have any major concerns with parking.

To identify if residents have any major concerns with local transport.

To reduce the number of vehicles travelling to and from the Parish of Mendlesham each day.



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Neighbourhood Plan

To reduce the amount of heavy goods transport vehicles travelling through Mendlesham village.

To improve parking arrangements in the centre of Mendlesham village.

Evidence

The 2014 local survey shows that

- 27% of youth travel to school in a car,
- 47% of youth travel to school by coach or school bus,
- 67.7% of youth travel to sports and activities by car,
- 23.5% of respondents (94 out of 399 households responding) would be in favour of using a car sharing scheme,
- 20% of respondents (80 out of 399 households responding) said they would be willing to participate (with their own transport) in a car sharing scheme,
- 23% of respondents (92 out of 399 households responding) said they had problems with the public transport service in the Parish of Mendlesham,
- 39.5% of respondents (158 out of 399 households responding) said they had problems with traffic in the Parish of Mendlesham.

Issue 5: Local environment

Keeping the local rural environment with its many countryside views, its local services and also the quiet character of Mendlesham village and its local heritage.

Objectives

To maintain and enhance the local rural image and countryside views.

To keep Mendlesham as a village community and not let it develop into a town.

To give clear guidance to property developers and energy companies about how change will be managed.

Evidence

The 2014 household survey shows that,

- 97.7% of respondents (384 households out of 397 responding) felt that the rural environment is important,
- 94.7% of respondents (376 households out of 397 responding) felt that the local community is important,
- 64.9% of respondents (258 households out of 397 responding)

felt that the local education facilities are important,
63.2% of respondents (251 households out of 397 responding)
felt that being close to family is important,
54.0% of respondents (216 households out of 397 responding)
felt that being close to work is important.

The 2014 household survey also showed that,
65.3% of respondents (264 households out of 404 responding)
wanted improved rights of way (footpaths),
54.2% of respondents (219 households out of 404 responding)
wanted community planting projects to be introduced.
50.7% of respondents (205 households out of 404 responding)
wanted to see more cycle paths developed.
60.4% of respondents (244 households out of 404 responding)
wanted wildlife habitats to be created.
20.5% of respondents (83 households out of 404 responding)
gave other ideas for protecting the local environment.

The 2014 Youth survey showed that,
74.5% of youth used the footpaths and bridleways, and
55.9% of youth visited the Mendlesham woodland.

Issue 6: Education

Keeping Mendlesham Community Primary School and local pre-school facilities open and available to local residents.

Objectives

Supporting the growth and enhancement of Mendlesham Community Primary School and local pre-school facilities to enable growing families to have good educational facilities for younger children close to home.

Evidence

The 2014 local survey shows that;
154 people are currently in full time education (response from 86 household) responses,
39 children currently attend Mendlesham Community Primary School (response from 28 households),
10 children currently attend Mendlesham Pre-School (response from 10 households),
23 children expect to attend Mendlesham Pre-school in the future (response from 18 households),



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Neighbourhood Plan

21 children currently attend Mendlesham Toddlers Group (response from 17 households),
15 children expect to attend Mendlesham Toddlers Group in the future.

Issue 7: Recreation

Keeping and improving local recreation facilities for all local residents, young and old.

Objectives

To maintain the existing levels of recreation facilities and make improvements where necessary

Evidence

The 2014 household survey shows that;

- 82 households (20.2% of the households responding) participate in some type of sport within the parish,
- 175 households (43.3% of the households responding) participate in some type of sport outside of the parish,
- 159 households (39.3% of the households responding) participate in recreational activities within the parish,
- 151 households (37.3% of the households responding) participate in recreational activities within the parish,
- 234 households (57.9% of the households responding) visit the Mendlesham woodland,
- 89 households (22.0% of the households responding) use the Mendlesham Playing field,
- 30 households (7.4% of the households responding) use the Mendlesham Green playing field,
- 188 households (46.5% of the households responding) use Mendlesham Community Centre,
- 274 households (67.8% of the households responding) use the local footpaths and bridleways,
- 29.7% of the 404 households responding said there was a need for more recreational facilities.

The 2014 youth survey shows that

- 66.1% of youth uses visits the Mendlesham Playing field,
- 35.5% of youth use the Mendlesham Hard Court,
- 30.5% of youth visit the Mendlesham Community Centre.



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Neighbourhood Plan

Issue 8: Communications

The provision of suitable technological and non-technological facilities for businesses and local residents to enable them to have good contact with the “outside world” and be able to work and socialise efficiently and effectively.

Objectives

To seek improvement of local broadband and other communications technology facilities to enable local residents and businesses to work efficiently and effectively.

To keep all residents and businesses informed of what is happening in the Parish of Mendlesham and what facilities and services are available to them.

Evidence

The 2014 local survey shows that;

357 households (88.3% of the households responding) use the Mendlesham parish magazine for local information provision,
239 households (59.1% of the households responding) “talk to friends” as their method of local information provision,
165 households (40.8% of the households responding) use the Parish Information Boards for information provision,
57 households (14.1% of the households responding) use the on-line Parish e-News for local information provision
41 households (10.1% of the households responding) use the Mendlesham parish web site for local information provision,
18 households (4.4% of the households responding) use “other methods”.

Additionally;

311 households (76.9% of the households responding) use the Internet,
151 households (37.3% of the households responding) use social media,
296 households (73.2% of the households responding) use e-Mail,
339 households (83.9% of the households responding) have one or more mobile phones
23 households (5.6% of the households responding) said they have none of the above.



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51 households (12.6% of the households responding) have visited the Intanet Cafe in Mendlesham

Issue 9: Local business

The ongoing provision of local businesses and their local employment.
The provision of suitable facilities for new businesses to come to the parish and for existing businesses to be able to grow.

Objectives

To support local business and increase the number of local jobs that are available.

To encourage business expansion and new businesses into the local area.

To support suitable new sites for applicable businesses.

To support the expansion of existing businesses

Evidence

The 2014 local survey had 29 local businesses respond although the Parish Council has identified around 75.

The 29 responses had the following industry classifications;

- 5, creative and cultural
- 1, entertainment,
- 1, manufacturing,
- 2, education and health,
- 2, tradesperson,
- 1, construction,
- 3, design,
- 10, farming,
- 7, retail,
- 2, transportation and storage,
- 1, craft maker,
- 1, financial business,
- 1, logistics,
- 3, tourism,
- 3, other.

20 businesses were home based,

25 were based in the Parish of Mendlesham and

4 were based outside of the Parish of Mendlesham.

10 of the 29 respondents hoped to expand their businesses in the next 1-5 years.

2 hope to move into new business premises in the next 1-5 years.

24 of the 29 businesses require broadband to operate their business with 13 feeling that the current service provision is unsatisfactory.

14 of the 29 businesses have their own web site.

12 of the businesses employ 66 people full time and 9 of the businesses have 17 part time employees.

The barriers to business expansion cited by 12 respondents are shown below;

- Recruitment of qualified staff,
- Signage and staffing,
- Suitable site,
- Limited space in area,
- Money and time,
- Premises expansion, cash flow,
- MSDC,
- The Internet connection speed,
- Planning,
- Adequate business broadband capable of video conferencing,
- Declining sales, cost of business; cost for renovation,
- Funding.

The requirements for business expansion cited by 12 respondents are shown below;

- Better Internet connection,
- Strong local customer base,
- Good economic outlook,
- Approval of local residents and tradespersons,
- Advertising and local people supporting the sales,
- Financially supportive scheme to enable us to expand premises,
- Local councils do not support the reuse of reclaimed building, materials and tend to recommend new materials to be used,
- Less discrimination by MSDC,



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Better internet connection speed,
Support from Planning,
Increased footfall/sales,
Support from MSDC on signage & planning issues.

Issue 10: Community facilities

Keeping the existing facilities that serve the parish and its surrounds, in particular the key services offered by Mendlesham Health Centre, Mendlesham Community School, Post Office, General Stores and Pub.
Giving youth more of a voice in the running of the parish.

Objectives

To give support to initiatives that will provide increased levels of "business" for Mendlesham's key services.

Evidence

The 2014 youth survey shows that,
64.4% of youth agree that Mendlesham should have a Youth Council,
42.3% of youth would be interested in setting up a Youth Council,
47.4% of youth would be interested in joining a Youth Council.

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