

Infrastructure

Compiled report of info received about members of the Village under the Heading of Infrastructure. December 2016

It was felt that it is important that there is a need for an audit of community facilities to identify gaps. However these are the primary concerns of the village residents so far.

Health Services:

- There was recognition that the Health Centre in the Shelford village will need to expand and that members of the village/s need to be involved in this. It was suggested that it could take pressure off Addenbrookes by providing additional care for local people.
- There were concerns that the Health Centre was already operating above capacity, that it is shabby and there are not enough parking spaces. One suggestion was that it could expand onto the adjoining site or could be part of a redeveloped village hall – (enough parking?)
- There are concerns about how this expansion and redevelopment could be funded (106 funding too small (?)) and that the Health Centre was owed by a private company-NHS England and so it would be difficult for the village people to be able to ensure this service was meeting the needs of the community.
- It was suggested that we encourage stronger links, cooperation and tangible support with organisations that provide a service to the local and wider community, and that could contribute to improved services; for example the re-located Hospice or inexpensive/gratis office space for any charity willing to provide resource to bridge the gap between hospital and community social care (there is a belief that the red-cross is operating such a service somewhere in the south of the country).

Library Services:

- Many people felt that this is a very important part of the community and concerned that it was under threat. It is a place for all ages to feel welcome and is a community hub for both older and younger people. The use of computers is also very valued.
- Residents posed the question “How can we persuade philanthropic, business or academic institutions/organisations to help, particularly in “legacy” and community projects like the library?”

Sports and Leisure:

- Residents said that we needed to encourage new sports/leisure activities into the village/s, particularly those in which all age and ability ranges could participate.
- One suggestion was that we could extend into the Grange Field with different facilities for different groups.

Safety and Security

- One resident posed the question “How can we get and maintain the police service that we think is necessary; working with the community to realise a safe and secure environment for the residents and visitors?”

Public Amenities.

- Several residents felt that toilet facilities were needed in the villages esp for when adults take children to play on the parks. They can't get in to the pavilions etc.

Schools

- There were concerns that the present sites might not be adequate to meet the needs of the growing population and a desire to ensure that if new facilities are needed then that they are built to meet the needs of the community.
- There was a desire to make sure adequate playing field space is maintained and if necessary expanded.
- One resident queried that, in addition to schools, if there could be a policy on targets for child-care facilities in the village/s.

Businesses

- There was recognition that local businesses needed support with infrastructure and that there should be a policy to encourage a suitable mix of businesses and services and the following questions were posed:
- How can we retain and encourage the essential services and businesses, and discourage an out-of-balance mix?
- Can the village/s have a policy on such things as street furniture and advertising/shop front lighting and design?
- Can we encourage businesses to reduce waste, reduce their carbon footprints and use cleaner energy?

Access requirements

- There were concerns about increasing difficulties over parking in the village/s and how we deal with this.
- There are already existing transport issues - ease of use / frequency of service.
- There were concerns raised about the Station, the future increase of train services and how this will affect level crossings. One suggestion was the need for a footbridge for station.
- There is obviously a need to make sure that footpaths are maintained and extended where necessary and access issues are dealt with effectively and sensitively.

Heritage buildings:

- There was a desire that new buildings shouldn't impact negatively on heritage buildings.

The proposed Science Park (?):

- People were concerned that a huge tract of land has already been earmarked for development for this project without consultation of local residents.
- People wanted to have a say in where it would go and the following issues were raised: Could it be run by renewable energy? Could there be cycle ways to Cambridge and local villages constructed for it? Could there be a travel to work strategy with a minibus to ensure that roads weren't clogged by employees? Could there be a buffer between the development and the river? Could it be screened from the river? How will it use green spaces in its development? It should adhere to a design code. Can we make sure that allotments nearby are conserved or any other space that is allocated for allotments is equal in size and quality of land?

Farms and Farm Land

- There was a desire to ensure the preservation of farmland and farm businesses.

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