

## **Report on responses to the Taplow Neighbourhood Plan Questionnaire.**

**May 2017**

Following a decision by Taplow Parish Council in 2016 to produce a Neighbourhood Plan and the subsequent appointment of a Working Party to develop it, a questionnaire was delivered to all addresses in Taplow to establish what residents' concerns and expectations were. The questionnaire itself is at xxx. In addition to the printed copy the questionnaire was made available online via the council web site ([www.taplowpc.org.uk](http://www.taplowpc.org.uk)) and responses were also invited directly to [taplownp@gmail.com](mailto:taplownp@gmail.com)

Some 932 copies were hand delivered across Taplow Parish to include all businesses. At the time of writing 125 replies have been received and the report is based on these numbers (a 14% response). Never-the-less any submissions received later can be taken into account as the plan develops.

The format of the questionnaire was a series of YES/NO and numeric fields (1-5 for priority of choices) and additionally free form comments were solicited for many of the questions.

Responses were uploaded into an Excel spreadsheet.

A front sheet collected the YES/ NO answers and whether or not comments had been made for each topic. This allows for simple statistics on for and against views and how often people had made comments. For example it shows that 67 replies were against more housing development, 36 replies supported development, 51 had made some sort of qualifying comment and that 22 had made no response at all to this question.

A separate sheet for each topic then loaded the comments made. Responses that made essentially the same point were loaded once and a count maintained for how many replies made that same point. This may be slightly subjective as people use different words for the same effect but although the capture may have lost the finer points of expression we are confident that the essence is properly represented.

Some comments get re-iterated under several section (Heritage and My Words for example). No real attempt has been made to re-assign these.

The next section provides a separate report per topic

The original questionnaire response forms are available for inspection via the Parish Clerk.



## **HERITAGE**

### **Comments received 99**

There was near universal mention of protection for the Green Belt, the Village and the Village Green setting, Taplow Court, Cliveden, footpaths, church, the bridges, Conservation Areas and these are not categorised further.

### **Specific concerns**

Silchester House, the Hermitage, Landsdown House (20)

Big houses adjacent A4 (7)

Hedsor House, Hitcham Grange, Gaiety Row (2)

Institute Road playing fields, cricket field, (3)

Old Priory gardens (3)

Taplow Lakes, Bapsey pond

Old station bridge

Hitcham Grange Ice House

Taplow House Hotel, Hill Farm Road Cottages

Village Hall murals

Bridge boathouse (4)

Royal Standard and cottages

Sheepcote Farm and Amerden

Cedar Chase (3)

St Nicolas School

Ancient walls (5)

Mill Lane open spaces

### **Open areas protections**

Trees and woods to north of the parish (2)

Thames Path (2)

Jubilee River walks and meadows (6)

Mill Lane to Jubilee walk

Marsh Lane fields, Hitcham Lane fields

Licensed Victuallers sports field

Views to and from Thames (10)

Views east from Boundary Rd, west from Marsh Lane

Protect and maintain trees (6)

Equestrian and flood plain land

Street scenes and settings across the parish (4)

Wild life protection (2)

Allotments

### **Conservation Areas**

Protect the vistas identified in the CAs

Strengthen CAs (5): Riverside to be GB1 (4), limit infill and garden development (6), make

CAs Article 4 (2)

### **More general comments**

Protect older and pre 1930 buildings and their settings (9)

Help for private owners maintaining classic houses

No further development in Mill Lane (2)

Avoid urbanisation, build in harmonious style

Focus on spaces for people and openness rather than old houses

Preserve combinations of features to support vitality

Act against litter and dumping, limit brightness of security lights

Redevelop Summerleaze areas with walks and lakes

## **AMENITIES**

### **FOOTPATHS**

<b>Do footpaths need improvement?</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>99</b>
	<b>NO</b>	<b>13</b>

**Comments 94**

#### **Support**

General maintenance, keeping clear (62), litter clearing  
wet weather improvements (3)

Better signage & publicity (19)

Maps with history of the paths

Voluntary maintainers (2), Use community offenders to maintain (2)

#### **Concerns**

Illegal fencing off (2), dogs to be kept on leads, dog fouling notices needed

Fly tipping

Restore old metalled paths (2)

Parking access

Leave alone – improvement leads to urbanisation (4)

Balance usage against expense

#### **New paths**

Berry Hill to Station, link to Burnham Beeches

Reopen Bapsey Pond path

Link paths to create circular walks (4)

Cliveden Road to Cliveden and more paths by rural roads (8)

### **LEISURE FACILITIES**

<b>Are leisure facilities adequate?</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>73</b>
	<b>NO</b>	<b>27</b>

**Comments 51**

Local shop/ coffee bar – location unspecified (5)

Some sort of sports centre (gym, swimming, sports) (14)

Tennis courts (7), playground (7)

Toilet at station, youth facility, skate park

Improve Village Hall, study room

More picnic areas

Maidenhead has all needed facilities

Better signage and publicity for existing facilities (2)

Another pub, retirees classes

## **ST NICOLAS SCHOOL**

### **Comments 52**

School bus (11), minibus, parent shuttle, communal transport

Encourage cycling, organise crocodile

Stagger leaving times

Move the school (5)

Various parking and footpath measures

Rear access from cricket ground (2)

## **VILLAGE HALL, GREEN, OLD PRIORY GARDENS**

<b>Do you use?</b>		<b>YES</b>	<b>70</b>
		<b>NO</b>	<b>44</b>
<b>Their value? (1 high, 5 low)</b>	<b>Totals</b>	<b>Entries</b>	<b>Mean Value</b>
<b>HALL</b>	<b>137</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>1.8</b>
<b>GREEN</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>1.7</b>
<b>OLD PRIORY GARDENS</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>2.4</b>

## **TRAVEL**

### **BUS**

<b>Do you use?</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>16</b>
	<b>NO</b>	<b>103</b>
<b>Is improvement needed?</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>53</b>
	<b>NO</b>	<b>21</b>

#### **Comments**            **59**

Frequency and reliability (**18**)

Service to station (**3**), minibus in busy periods

No north going bus (**8**) or Wooburn Common Rd service (**2**)

Connections to Marlow, High Wycombe, hospitals via Village Centre

More stops, better signage

Marsh Lane service

Not enough usage to justify more services (**2**)

### **CYCLING**

<b>Do you cycle in Taplow?</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>53</b>
	<b>NO</b>	<b>67</b>
<b>Improve Cycling facilities?</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>61</b>
	<b>NO</b>	<b>36</b>

#### **Comments**            **72**

##### **Difficulties**

Poor street lighting, roads too dangerous (**20**), potholes (**13**), too hilly, A4 cycleway dangerous (**6**)

##### **Management**

Improve signposting (**3**), 20mph limits (**2**), cut back hedges (**4**), share pavements (**2**), support at major junctions, more bicycle racks including station, traffic calming (**3**), better standards from cyclists (**4**)

##### **Development**

Cycle bridge over Thames, cycleways for Cliveden Road, A4 (**9**), child routes to Jubilee and Maidenhead, safer routes from village, National Trust routes, develop off-road routes (**3**), enough off-road routes already, facilities OK (**2**)

## **DRIVING**

<b>Improve/ build new roads?</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>87</b>
	<b>NO</b>	<b>23</b>

### **How? 94**

Potholes and maintenance (47), clear vegetation at junctions (3), improve village pavements, priority route signage, re-open Mill Lane (10), improve A4 / Berry Hill junction, one way system and parking for Station Road, unspecified improvement to Hill Farm and Rectory Roads (3), new Thames crossing (2), cancel Smart M4 if Heathrow expansion rejected

<b>Additional Traffic Management measures</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>72</b>
	<b>NO</b>	<b>28</b>

### **Suggestions 85**

Speed management: all village roads (34), Wooburn Common Road (6), Marsh Lane (5), Cliveden Road (7), flashing speed warnings

Resurface Ellington, River Roads (5)

More roundabouts & speed bumps (7), more clear central white lines,

Better attention to A4 access and problems - three lanes?- drainage (5),

Better police enforcement, limit heavy lorries (3), review double yellow lines and dangerous parking (3)

## **PARKING**

<b>Develop station parking (via Option 15)?</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>98</b>
	<b>NO</b>	<b>12</b>

<b>Restrict parking on adjacent roads?</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>79</b>
	<b>NO</b>	<b>27</b>

### **Suggestions 63**

#### **Station parking options**

Reduced charges / free for residents (7), affordable (5), discount for multiple occupancy cars  
Park needs to be big (5), multi-storey on north side (3), make building car park a condition for office development (3), use ROOTS as car park, more Bishop centre parking (2), cycle storage, park and ride, screen park from A4, charged parking bays in Station Road (3)

#### **Other options**

Yellow lines at junctions (9), resident parking River / Ellington roads (11)



## **BUSINESS & EMPLOYMENT**

**Comments**                    **34**

No more needed (10), surrounding areas offer enough  
No office based development: high levels of private employment, encourage home working, improve broadband access  
Farm shop, village shop (3), develop ROOTS with coffee bar  
Small businesses to preserve local energy, allow pubs business flexibility, support start-ups with cheap office space (3), mix with residential  
Childrens play centre  
Preserve the boathouse business by the bridge, support continued commercial use of the Hermitage (3)  
Develop offices by the station

## **THE COUNCIL AND YOU**

### **Information on responders**

<b>Property owner</b>	<b>110</b>
<b>Property renter</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Household member</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Business</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Anonymous</b>	<b>9</b>

<b>Resident children?</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>26</b>
	<b>NO</b>	<b>90</b>
	<b>blank</b>	<b>9</b>

**How long resident in Taplow?**        **19 years average**

<b>Raise precept for more services?</b>	
	<b>YES 59</b>
	<b>NO 73</b>

### **What more should council do?**

**General comments**                    **29**

Too small for economies of scale  
More planning involvement (2), involve in service delivery  
Better media use and consultation (2)  
Do services best managed locally, manage via contracts

### **Specifics**

Path maintenance (12)  
Support bus services, cycleways (3)  
Develop volunteer support (Litter, hospital taxis etc) (2)  
Help for homebound, improve police services

## **MY WORDS**

### **Responses 47**

Green Belt and green spaces support **(3)**

More devolved powers for parish **(3)**, parish should be ready for devolved powers

Neighbourhood Plan must check the NPPF and Localism Acts for gaps and omissions, strengthen Conservation Areas

Improve services to the north of the parish

Taplow grown by more than 50% since 2011 – no more, no more without infrastructure improvements **(3)**, divert heavy lorries, care for what we have rather than build more, monitor and protect narrow rural lanes from over use by motor traffic

Minimise street furniture, restrict advertising hoardings, active litter clearing, detailed care for environment

Tree preservation, use preservation orders, new plantings **(6)**, preserve wild life habitats, prevent urbanisation **(2)**

Footpath to Cliveden, encourage walking and community events, develop community awareness **(2)**

A4 traffic and cycleway concerns **(2)**, more police presence

Stop nimbyism and develop

Car boot sale concerns, dissertation on mis-naming of Amerden Lane

Appreciation of Parish Council efforts **(3)**