

Parish Council Workshop East - M11 to A14 east

Monday 16th July

These notes are a record of points raised in open discussion sessions by those attending the workshop, where a wide variety of views and ideas were put forward. The notes capture the range of issues and views identified on flip charts used at the sessions, on the tables where groups of Parishes were represented.

SAWSTON

Housing

- Need smaller homes for older / younger people – would release homes
- Houses for elderly – extra bedrooms for carers when needed
- Mixed communities – so aged not segregated
- Mixture of house types and sizes needed
- Integration with rest of village – new sites on edge of village and can seem as separated. Will not enable community to interact.
- Older people should be located near services and facilities

- Releasing land from Green Belt should only be allowed if –
 - High exceptional value to the community e.g. high percentage of affordable. Extra open space
 - Should be last resort.
- Likely to cross boundary with Babraham – who would ensure Sawston retain its allocation of schools / affordable etc. How to share between parishes.

- Need to plan ahead, think what will be needed in the future.

Transport

- 20 minute bus service but not direct to Cambridge (journey time 40 mins)
Quicker to use Trumpington Park and Ride, which creates more traffic.
- Buses are fuller, unreliable at peak times.
- New proposed sites are a distance from bus services (s106 could contribute to improving
- Small railway station needed if green belt land considered.
- No bus service to Whittlesford railway station – trial with community transport, limited take up of service.
- Parking needs to be addressed – car park in centre of village regularly full by 10am. Issues with parking on double yellow lines.

Open Space

- Under-provided , mixture for all age groups, including allotments

Community

- Medical Centre at Capacity – no room to expand. New site at other end of village?

- Need community centre for clubs / meetings (could come from s106?)
- Nursery – also at capacity, not just used by locals.
- Schools – new school already at capacity – where would new schools go, and how would they be paid for?
- Local Shops – Small shop to serve local streets – ensures community interact, and a facility for those who cannot go far.

Employment

- Difficulties in letting arrangements of business parks e.g. Dales Manor
- Spicers closed – to redevelop would need flyover for railway, can flood
- Need for employment to be retained
- Warehousing is becoming dominant employment use – limited job opportunities, especially for local people
- Would need new additional supermarket if new homes
- Extending village would need services and facilities near new homes (rather than adding more to centre).

WESTON COLVILLE, HORSEHEATH, HAUXTON, BALSAM

Housing

Horseheath-

- Want to ensure exception sites go to local people
- Difficulty finding suitable sites

Hauxton –

- Wants to understand and be involved in tenure on exception sites
- Mix of rented and equity share
- Greater variety of housing
- Ensure there is enough parking, including for visitors
- Support village framework in principle, some need to be reviewed.

Transport

Biggest issue.

- Horseheath – good public transport, Weston Colville, Hauxton, Balsham poor public transport.
- Hauxton- looking for links to park and ride to help access to services.

Listed Buildings

- Lack of benchmark for decisions – too technical

Community

Hauxton –

- School at capacity, no room to grow after current extension.
- Lack of youth groups / facilities for young people
- No pubs / shops – welcome possibility on Bayer site
- Aging population

- SCDC should do proper review of community stadium, who sustainable will it be and what options are there.

Weston Colville –

- Lack of activities for young people
- Importance of having a sub post office
- Have sufficient sites for employment, but not been taken up
- Ok in terms of open space / play
- Looking to do community led plan.

FEN DITTON, THE WILBRAHAMS, TEVERSHAM

Transport

- An issues in most villages
- Public transport lacking and slow
- Lost buses into Newmarket – big impact on the elderly and those without cars
- No evidence community transport can plug the gap
- Means people get to shops, jobs, or services only by car.
- Need better cycle lanes and cycle routes

Community

- Lack of shops and post office – all closed.
- Means higher car dependency
- Open space – Teversham seeking allotments, country park, sports facilities
- Need growth to support extra services, jobs, facilities. Without it cannot get the extra facilities.
- Local bottom up facilities attract the most support
- Pubs are closing – need to expand use e.g. cafes, shops.

Housing

- Older people want carehomes / bungalows
- Families seek houses.
- Have has housing need surveys, but may be out of date
- Need to enable downsizing to smaller houses, within same village community
- Can people be on register of local housing need in multiple villages? – could overstate need
- Fen Ditton – issue of updating existing housing stock (rented)
- General view – keep village framework and go for exception sites with market housing to pay for it.

LINTON, ABINGTON, DUXFORD, WHITTLESFORD, HORSEHEATH

Linton –

- Loosing commercial to housing
- Business hub for home workers, need space in new housing
- Broadband
- Reinstate railway for a Guided bus?
- Village hall needs renovating, allotments needed, Community Orchard?

Duxford –

- Needs community centre

Abington –

- Lots of employment with Granta Park.
- Want Community Orchard

Whittlesford –

- Home workers support group

Horseheath-

- Issues with access – speeding, traffic levels

General –

- Public transport fragile / inadequate
- Cycle paths – need to improve
- Broadband
- Impact of development in Uttlesford
- Traffic levels.
- Need to respond to individual village views – one size does not fit all.
- Draw village frameworks wider in consultation with villages.

FULBOURN, GREAT SHELFORD AND STAPLEFORD

- Amenities for new houses – get LPA to use CPO powers?
- Highway capacity
- Relocation of employment – need to replace with other employment, not just housing.
- Manufacturing and other employment, not just high – tech.

- Housing – mix of types and sizes to meet local needs
- Fulbourn – 40 extra units identified by needs survey
- Sheltered housing to meet local needs, free up large units
- Retirement and other special needs housing.

- Public Transport – consider viability.