

A CONSULTATION ABOUT LIFE IN STUTTON
... AND THE FUTURE

MARCH 2018 - JUNE 2021

**Prepared by:
the Neighbourhood Plan Working Party**



THE BIG CONVERSATION

On 22 September 2018, at an open meeting at the Village Hall, residents of Stutton voted (almost unanimously) to create a Neighbourhood Plan.

A Working Party was set up to take this forward.

The Plan takes its authority from the people of the village. In Stutton, we are using this opportunity to consult widely about all aspects of our village in a consultation called The Big Conversation.

This will both guide the Neighbourhood Plan - and create Community Actions, designed to inform new opportunities of many sorts in the village in future.

This report presents what you said.

THE BIG CONVERSATION

The Big Conversation, which started in September 2018, is an on-going series of events in the village designed to ensure that everyone who lives here can get involved in shaping the future of Stutton. It includes the development of a Neighbourhood Plan, (a way for communities to influence future building development in the place they live), but also looks more widely at how we can shape life within the village.

It has been organised by the Neighbourhood Plan Working Party. We held regular meetings (except during the first lockdown period), and continue to meet on zoom. Anyone is welcome to join or attend.

The Working Group chose to create an open consultation process, with the aim of creating depth and breadth, rather than using surveys to gather tick box responses.

We wanted to reach as many people as possible, acknowledging different levels of interest within the village. The programme included: public meetings, opportunities to respond in writing, and ways to receive information without having to actively participate. A Housing Needs Survey was also included as a vital piece of evidence.



Consultation methods

There were 9 ways to get involved:

- Public Meetings - 3 at the Village Hall
- Open invitation to join the Monthly Working Group meetings
- Focus Groups - 5 in different parts of the village: relaxed and lengthy conversation over tea and cake, or breakfast, unpacking thoughts and feelings
- Targeted Meetings - 5 for specific interest groups in the village (Business Breakfast, Village Hall organisations discussing a wide agenda, School events, Oak House event - bringing school and Oak House residents together)
- Drop In/Informal events in the Community shop (3) and a stall and discussion at the community Hog Roast event (1)
- Bi-monthly newsletter delivered to every house in the village, (until the pandemic), feeding back information about the process and comments to date; and offering further opportunities to get involved
- Written Feedback - email (2) and in suggestion books and boxes (10)
- Through existing communication methods in the village - Stutton Roundabout, Twitter, Next Door, website
- Plus a Housing Needs survey

Taking place over an extended period, this has been an iterative process - themes and ideas which emerged over the course of the consultation, were shared, and developed further in future events. The Greenway, for instance, emerged as an idea early on - as a response to feelings about traffic in the village - and became a part of most future discussions.

Where participants wanted structure for their comment we provided these headings:

- Housing
- Environment
- Getting Around
- Working and Shopping
- Community, Leisure and Recreation
- Sustainable Stutton

In September 2019, the Working Party organised a Drop In event at the village hall to present a range of potential policies for a Neighbourhood Plan, based on the consultation to date.

Engagement in consultation

Between April 2018 and September 2019 there were:

- 397 attendances at events
- Plus 16 written comments received. (10 in comment boxes and 2 emails)
- and 144 Housing Needs Surveys returned - 39% of Stutton households

Attendances divide thus:

- 251 at public meetings
- 55 at Focus Groups
- 85 at targeted meetings
- 5 at informal Drop In events
- 10 engaged in informal Drop Ins
- 1 visit to a Monthly Working Group meeting

We know that many people attended more than one event. We estimate that 96 people, (24.1%) made repeat attendances. Therefore an estimated 301 actual people took an active part in The Big Conversation. (The figure of 301 does not include written comments, as we have no way of knowing if they are from people who also attended events.) Of these 277 participants were over 16 and 24 were children.

This means that The Big Conversation represents about 40% of the people in the village. (703 people over 16 in the village in the 2011 census). And 60% have not been actively involved, (although all have received bi-monthly updates.

Many residents do not want to be involved and are happy simply to live here and let development happen organically.



Feedback

Between July 2020 and September 2019 there were 720 comments recorded from the events - 647 from adults and 73 from children. This doesn't include feedback in the Housing Needs Survey.

We have analysed these comments in three layers to support planning - and to make sure we are able to weigh up the nitty gritty of what everyone thinks.

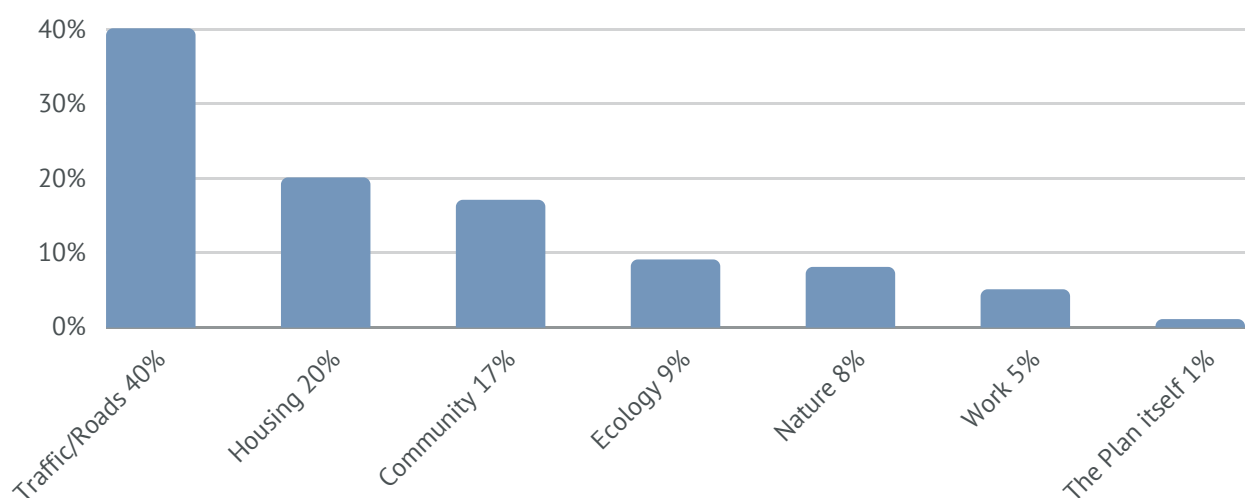
There are:

- 7 headline themes
- 20 sub themes - illuminating the headlines
- 79 micro themes - the real nitty gritty

The Main Themes

The consultation began with a focus on housing and new development, but across the whole process most comments were about roads, traffic, footpaths and other infrastructure issues

Comments by subject area

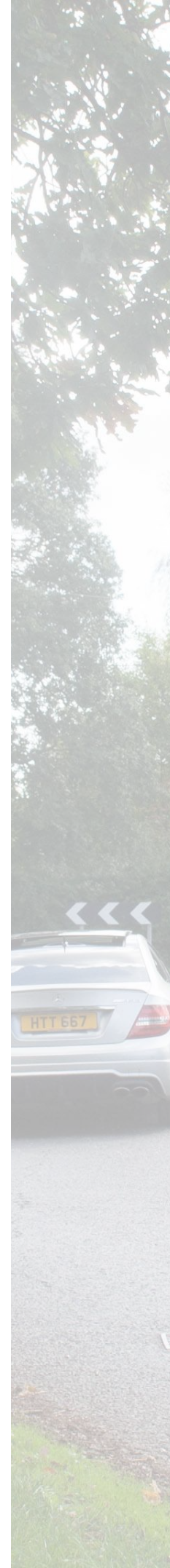


What you said about infrastructure

Roads and Traffic

Traffic (38 comments)

- Of course traffic is going to grow. There is much more now than even a few years ago.
- Too much traffic
- Traffic is getting worse. 1000 cars come through the village each day - it's too many.
- the village is affected by the traffic generated by what's going on in the wider area - eg school transport; more houses being built in neighbouring areas
- Quieter roadsTraffic generally is increasing
- Volume & speed of traffic – the greenway again
- The buses go too fast to and from the schools
- Speeding cars, lorries and vans ('and motorbikes' added another respondent)
- Fine speeding cars
- Join the Speedwatch Team!
- Unfortunate early morning traffic to Manningtree Station
- Slower traffic
- The fast cars and narrow footpaths make it feel a bit unsafe
- Too many coaches and buses.
- Coaches from RHS speed through the village.
- RHS buses ... impossible to cross the road to home when they are coming through. Have met the Bursar and hope for change. More interested/likeminded folk would help.
- There are too many coaches through the village.
- There are lots of coaches going through the village.
- Tractors are getting larger - worried about impact.
- Dreadful increases of so much lorries and speeding traffic in and around the village. Not happy that there will be more.
- Traffic generally is increasing
- Not just local traffic.
- Traffic speeds through Manningtree Road and also Bentley Lane.
- Issues with mirror-swiping – passing lorries/buses.
- Treacherous speed limit out of village in that direction – reduce it.
- It is hard for families with young children - bikes and bodies.
- Traffic has increased since Anglian Water campsite development.
- Threat- too much traffic,



Traffic continued

- Need to look at what roads and tracks will take if we are looking at development
- More houses will mean more traffic.
- More responsible driving
- The roads are quite slim
- Traffic – don't see it as a problem, just my neighbour.
- Potholes! We need better roads.
- Clean road signs
- in places, the roads are getting narrower as the earth verge encroaches ... in some places it is hard for two, say coaches, to pass each other
- (Reason for living here): Location of proximity to London, Colchester and A14
- Pollution

Traffic calming (33 comments)

- Speed is of concern. The electronic speed signs seem to be helpful. And Community Speed Watch does a great job.
- Traffic calming needs to be carefully thought about - slowing traffic down can sometimes increase traffic queues and carbon emissions.
- Other traffic calming measures: picket fences at either end of the village.
- Could we learn from other villages who have found creative ways of slowing people down - making them think. Or giving them a memory jogger to stay at 30 - like silhouettes of people or children beside the road through the village?
- Grids on approaches to the village.
- Picket fences or similar to delineate entering the village.
- Picket fence idea seems to be a good one.
- Support for 'picket fence' idea. (traffic calming)
- picket fences - important to make people see they are entering a village
- Village entrance "picket fence" a good idea.
- Speed bumps for traffic entering and exiting The Close
- Speed bumps as you enter and leave the village
- More speed signs
- Flashing indicators showing speed are good - should have more of them at different points through the village.
- Speed indicators are very good, but need to be moved around so people don't get used to them.
- We need zebra crossings
- Zebra crossing near the shop needed Roads can't cope
- Need a crossing near the shop and near the school.
- Need chicanes
- Barriers, and bumps, and road interventions - like they had in Brantham - don't seem to be very helpful.



Traffic calming continued

- Turn road into single lanes by creating 'priority' sections
- We do not need more street furniture along these lovely country roads & lanes
- Better traffic warders because they won't do anything about the speed!
- Traffic calming 20 mph on Manningtree Road
- Can we have a 20 mile an hour speed limit - but how would it be enforced?
- Need an official 20mph zone.
- Reduce speed limit to 20mph
- Traffic calming
- 20 mile hour limit
- 20 mile speed limit -
- No speed limit it's quite difficult to drive at 20 miles ph.
- No speed limit
- Not sure a 20 mile an hour limit would be useful as people ignore the 30 miles an hour signs.

Specific roads (21 comments)

- Post Office Corner – dangerous. Parking on the corner.
- Improve Bentley Lane - very dangerous
- Hard to turn right out of Bentley Lane.
- Hard to turn right out of Cattsfild
- The blind corner from Bentley Lane to the Shop – people think it is the end of the village and speed up.
- The Drift - traffic a problem
- Alton Hall Lane - no cars
- Safe lane? – Alton Hall Lane – can this happen?
- Speed limit. Alton Hall Lane
- Speed limit. Alton Hall Lane
- Farmer should use alternative route to take tractors down to the fields. Alton Hall Lane
- Could Suffolk County Council and Anglia Water get together to sort something out? Alton Hall Lane
- Designating it as a 'Quiet Lane'. Alton Hall Lane
- Traffic calming measures. Alton Hall Lane
- Too much room for cars to park at the top of the lane - now room for 16 cars. (Alton Hall Lane)
- Speed at which vehicles come down Alton Hall Lane: "They hurtle down the lane; it's used by pedestrians, children, Bike Active, and people are forced into the verges".
- Why no yellow lines at Post Office Corner?
- House next to school should have yellow lines as buses can't get through
- Appalling fencing in Lower Street carpark. It was a pretty road till Babergh ruined it





Specific Roads continued

- Dog walkers using Alton Hall Lane as car park. Access should be stopped as dangerous for people walking
- More Street Lights – especially in Church Lane

Parking (14 comments)

- Possible lack of off road parking areas (with new development)
- Increase in car ownership, encourage more people to walk
- Parking for the school
- People parking on blind corner
- Safer parking outside school
- Designated parking for school
- Parking around the school.
- Parking is a problem, can sometimes create dangerous situation on the road.
- Could parking for the school be at the King's Head? It used to be years ago.
- Parking on pavements
- The pavement swaps sides - you can't travel through the village without crossing road.
- Need restricted parking so vehicles don't park dangerously on the road.
- When there's a big event at Alton Water, people park on the road.
- Cars parked on the main road in the village especially near Post Office Corner – dangerous for cars, cycles and pedestrians

Cycling/ Greenway (12 comments)

- Greenway is an excellent idea.
- I think the Greenway is a wonderful idea and hope it goes ahead.
- A Greenway from Stutton should definitely include a safe route for cyclists and walkers away from the road to Holbrook Academy. It's currently unsafe for cyclists to share the road with the many cars and private school coaches. It takes an hour to walk to the academy from Stutton.
- The Greenway is achievable reasonably easily as the existing parts just need widening.
- Greenway demarcation on highway– Different road material and signs – where Greenway crosses roads.
- We need better facilities for cyclists on Brantham Hill, coming in or out of the village.
- We should have a safe cycle route from Stutton to the Brantham Bull.
- Would be good to have a cycleway.
- Have a safe non-car route to Holbrook Academy for cyclists.
- Can we have electric charging points for cars? The Hall would need to convert to a three phase system which is expensive so the grants available would need to be more generous than they currently are.

Pollution (2 comments)

- Pollution caused by the traffic is a problem.
- Noise and pollution from cars needs to be reduced

Pavements and footpaths

Pavement width (16 comments)

- Pavements wider.
- Footpaths aren't wide enough.
- Pavements are too narrow.
- Pavements need doing [improving].
- I'd like the pavements to be wider in some places
- The paths are a bit uneven
- Wider pavement next to primary school for pushchairs and toddlers
- The pavement is very narrow by the Village Hall.
- Church Lane and Lower Street needs better provision for walkers safety
- Better pavements
- The pavement is sometimes too narrow and sometimes doesn't exist at all.
- You feel as if vehicles are going to take your shoulder off sometimes because they come so close
- Worried about the narrowness of the pavements and the camber on the road which makes the bus get uncomfortably close to me when I am walking along the pavement
- paths not suitable
- Inadequate pavements – a particular concern for Oak House residents wanting to access the Shop or events at the Hall. There was considerable interest in the notion of a 'Greenway' route.
- Pavement from end of Alton Hall Lane to the King's Head is too narrow (at the end of the lane) and needs repair.

Pavement swaps sides (9 comments)

- Pavement swaps sides - have to keep crossing the road, dangerous for children etc.
- They stop at certain points and you have to cross the road.
- Pavements: You have to keep crossing the road to move from one end of the village to the other.
- The pavement swaps sides - you can't travel through the village without crossing road.
- I didn't realise how difficult it is for people with wheelchairs and buggies to get about - the pavements don't join up through the village - you have to cross the road to go from one end to the other





Pavement Swaps Sides continued

- Quite a few disabled people living in Stutton and it's hard for them to get around safely because of the traffic and the pavements.
- If you use a wheelchair, you can't get around the village. When I go out, I have to go to the same places all the time ... then I get stuck and can go no further. All the village needs to be accessible to wheelchair users
- Lower kerbs in places please
- More dropped kerbs are needed

Parking on pavement (7 comments)

- Stop parking on pavement
- Parking on pavements
- People park on the pavement. They think they're doing us a favour - not stopping traffic, but it stops pavement-users from getting along. Especially buggies and wheelchairs.
- It is hard for families with young children - bikes and bodies.
- People park on the pavement. They think they're doing us a favour - not stopping traffic, but it stops pavement-users from getting along. Especially buggies and wheelchairs.
- Is there any signage system to park on the pavement the other villages use. This can't be a problem unique to us?
- Why do people park on pavements? Dangerous for elderly, children and disabled

Pavement condition (6 comments)

- Cutting hedges back from pathways
- Over grown bushes and parked cars block the way sometimes
- It's good at the moment but sometimes the verges, or the hedges are overgrown, and hard for a buggy.
- Farmers sometimes drive tractors on the footpaths which ruins the surface.
- Rubbish on footpaths
- Hedges covering half the pavement causing problems for wheelchairs and pushchairs

Access (3 comments)

- If only there was some way that children could cycle through the village and also that older people could walk safely, away from traffic.
- Footpath connecting Stutton and Brantham
- We need footpath access to the school, improvements to the junction where the school is.

Public Transport

Transport for work and school (13 comments)

- Transport for commuters
- Transport for London commuters
- Good transport links
- Buses - Doesn't suit the 9-5 workers, needs smarter timetabling
- Convenient connection to train station – connection to mainline and Woodbridge
- Some thought we have a pretty good bus service; but it's not useful for commuters and early trains at Manningtree. And there are gaps at the end of the day too. Buses are not the only solution here - perhaps car share?
- What about car sharing? Have a designated pick-up point or use Social Media or Stutton's "Next Door" website
- Buses in the area are still not frequent enough. If I had to go to work experience or even work by bus, then I would have to go an hour before or an hour later.
- Proper bus service connecting with trains at Manningtree
- I am used to the hourly buses and have accepted that. However, as I am a student the gaps in the timetable are extremely inconvenient. For example, after the 7.30am bus there is not another bus until almost 10am. If I miss the early bus, I'll miss the first 2-3 lessons that day unless I can get a lift. There's no 4.22pm bus from Manningtree Station which is the exact bus I need – I have to wait an extra hour at the station.
- When roadworks close the roads and the buses don't run, I have an issue getting kids to school on the 92 bus.
- Better transport to Ipswich and Manningtree
- Better public transport links

Bus times (13 comments)

- Later/evening bus service
- Public transport in evenings and weekends missing
- An affordable bus service from 6am to midnight all week
- More buses to encourage less cars
- Late bus service
- Big gap in buses between 7.30 and 9 - no bus to get into town at 9a.m
- Also a gap between 2.30 and 4.30 coming back.
- 5.40pm is the last bus
- More public transport - and especially with wheelchair access



Bus times continued

- Not many options for getting back from Ipswich later than 5.30
- Would benefit from buses being a bit earlier and a bit later
- More buses after 6pm
- More buses after 6pm on Sunday

Community Transport (10 comments)

- Buzzabout service missing
- Return of community bus if more housing?
- Don't think there would be sufficient demand in the village to run a community transport service, but perhaps would work if shared with other villages on the peninsula
- Community transport idea - uncertain whether could be sustained using volunteer drivers.
- The support network does a great job helping people to get about, to places that would need several bus changes otherwise, like the hospital.
- We could encourage a car pool/car share - use Shaun's Shorts
- Environment related
- Have smaller, greener, cleaner buses
- Buses should be single decker, don't need to be double decker ones
- We need less cars – more reliable public transport e.g. buses.

Bus Service general (5 comments)

- Lucky to have bus service
- Busses are terrible
- Very well served for buses
- The bus service is good now - one an hour is good
- The bus goes to Compasses and turns round, but Stutton left stranded.

General (sewage/school/doctors/post office)

What's missing in the village? (12 comments)

- Post office - can it go in the shop ?
- Post office facilities
- A dentist surgery
- Doctor facilities- very difficult to get appointments
- Fast internet connection
- Taxi service
- Need more technology
- Garden Centre
- Street lights on all paths would make it easier to get about
- The days when Stutton had many shops, meaning that people mostly didn't need to travel out of the village, are long gone.



What's missing in the village continued

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- Can we have an electric car charging point in the village.
- Sewerage/pumping station can't cope with current demand.

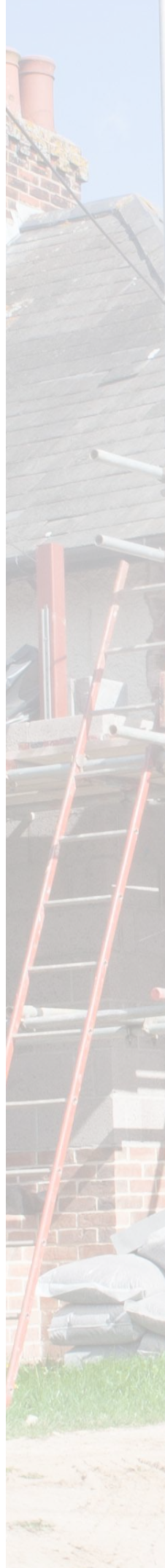
Effect of more development (9 comments)

- A large expansion would affect the schools and local medical practice
- All development should take account of roads, schools, doctors and other facilities and parking
- Can the Doctors, schools cope?
- Sewerage/pumping station can't cope with current demand.
- Important to make sure that the infrastructure is in place to support new housing
- New development needs to encompass all of transport, housing and economy
- Drains are a major problem for some people in Cattsfeld, costs more to insure, intermittent 'backing up'. What are the implications if new properties are built in the village? Can anything be specified which would influence future planning applications?
- Not a village that's too big for infrastructure
- Beautiful country lanes in villages. Babergh planners are destroying them with no consideration for people who live there

Footpaths and Greenway (22 comments)

Cycling (9 comments)

- Cycle path linking Brantham - possibly along river bank
- Cycleway to Brantham
- Cycleway and footpaths to connect villages
- Could we create a cycleway through Alton Water from Stutton to Holbrook? [should we contact Holbrook's NP group to do some joint work on this?]





Footpaths and Greenway continued

- What about a cycle way to Manningtree?
- There's no cycle lane in Stutton.
- Difficult for children to ride bikes unless they use the footpaths but they are too narrow and not good for less confident/less experienced riders or when children are learning to ride.
- A bicycle lane.
- Connection between Stutton and Brantham (cycleway/footpath)

Pathways (7 comments)

- Getting about is a big issue
- Protect public footpaths
- Pathway through village that accessible to wheelchairs and pushchairs- possibly parallel to main road - From Larksfield crossing Alton Hall Lane, footpath to Cattsfield from there to Bentley Lane, zebra crossing to Woodfield Lane then village field to Lewis Lane - all paved or tarmac
- Good to have a pathway from the shop to Oak House
- Footpath to the community shop please
- Pathways need to accessible to people who use wheelchairs and push buggies. Especially perhaps the one leading up to the shop from the back way. If farmers plough right up to the edge, the footpath is lost ... and impossible for wheelchairs and buggies
- Need to review and improve footpaths to ensure they can be used to move through the village.

Greenway (6 comments)

- Green Way – sounds like a good idea.
- Support for 'greenway' idea. Would be OK to allow bikes on it.
- Green Walkway is a great idea.
- Greenway is a good idea but mustn't neglect to improve the pavements, and do something about speeding traffic through the village.
- Really support the Greenway, it's a great idea
- Support the Green Way

Mobile signal (19 comments *before the new O2 mast was turned on*)

Better mobile phone signal

Poor mobile phone service

Poor Mobile Phone Signal

Better communication- mobile signal and fast broadband

Mobile phone mast

Better mobile reception

Mobile service

Poor mobile connection

Rubbish mobile phone signal

What mobile signal?



What you said about Housing

Suggesting small and affordable

Affordable Housing (33 comments)

- More affordable homes
- Affordable housing for young people who were born and brought up in village
- Affordable as cheaper starter homes/ shared ownership /rented with housing association
- More affordable homes
- Genuinely affordable under stamp duty threshold
- Affordable housing
- Definitely need more affordable housing in village - genuinely affordable.
- Affordable housing.
- Can we ask of people in Stutton, what is your definition of "affordable" housing?
- Affordable houses please
- Affordable housing
- Affordable starter homes
- Good mix of affordable housing
- We need 2/3 bedroom houses, affordable.
- How can we make sure that new development really is affordable housing - not just at the planning stage but also when they're built?
- More affordable small starter homes
- I'm interested in people who are not necessarily local being able to live here in affordable houses as well
- Affordable
- Set affordable homes %
- Of course developers will need to build larger houses to make it pay, but what the village needs is affordable - actually social - housing
- More Almshouses
- More small rental houses like Almshouses
- Support Alms House
- Shared equity housing
- Part rent part buy
- Need housing to rent
- Part rent part buy houses
- Social Housing
- Should have more housing association housing.
- Cheap houses or capped rentals for local people
- First time buyer homes
- More first time buyer and downsizing home
- Families want to stay in the village

Affordable Housing continued

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Housing for Young People (9 comments)

- More affordable housing for younger generation to keep village alive
- Houses for the young that they would be proud to live in
- Young people's housing and extra affordable housing
- Starter homes for the young
- Young people who are still living at home don't really want to get involved in the same activities as their parents - if they could form their own household in a home of their own they may be more interested. But we need more housing in the village suitable for young people, especially rented housing.
- Cheap affordable flats and houses for young people and families approx £100,000 Modest and flexible development to attract younger demographic and ensure continuity so successive generations have a stake in the village
- If older people downsize there are more properties available for young people. But would it be young people who move in? They don't always want the large gardens. And properties are just too expensive. How do we solve this?
- Too much housing would change nature of the village- a bad thing - but affordable housing should attract young families
- No big houses - family houses which will support local school

Smaller homes (7 comments)

- No big houses - family houses which will support local school
- Don't want large houses
- Focus on small starter homes and flats
- Combination of flats and bungalows
- Small houses
- Preference is mix of 2&3 as can be preserved for future
- When small starter homes are built consider taking away permitted development rights of no extensions so people will move freeing up small housing
- 1 or 2 bed houses

For older people (7 comments)

- Small homes for elderly to rent
- We need lots of bungalows for older people. Coddensham has a great facility - a farmer gave a field to the village, solely for the purpose of building small houses for older people wanting to downsize. They started with 11 bungalows; they now have 20 (with two bedrooms). Available to people over 55 or people with disabilities. Care facilities provided; all rented accommodation £500 per month. Part of the Almshouses Association? It would be good to go and see what they've created, to see if we can learn anything about creating something like that here.

Housing for older people continued

- You say you want young people to move into the village. What about the elderly who just want to downsize to a bungalow? Young people have extended small bungalows in the village, so what's left for the elderly?
- The aged senior citizens and financially stretched- need more accommodation
- Not enough housing for older people to downsize into
- Need housing suitable for older people to downsize to.
- Also single storey houses for older people to downsize to

Potential sites

How many? (12)

- Stay more or less the same size so know people
- Up to 30
- In addition to current permissions granted then about 40 more of starter and rental homes via HA
- No more than 200
- Optimal size of village is c700 will lose identity as village community if bigger
- Too much over development could destroy what we have at the moment
- Keep building and the village won't be a village
- Housing - if you reproduce densities from elsewhere you lose the charm of the village.
- No more, we have enough
- Character of the village would be destroyed by too much housing.
- Change village demographics
- Threat of changing the feel and nature of village

Where /Where not to build (9)

- Along Bentley Lane (new houses)
- The more central the better.
- Need to think about how we can protect the rest of the AONB from being built on in the way proposed in Church Road.
- Don't fill the gap between Bentley Lane and the eco house
- One day the field beside Crepping Hall drive will probably be built on but it would be good if it wasn't for a while yet
- Keep the remaining field behind the village hall as a recreation space
- Do not develop explicitly recreational areas of the village.
- We have enough houses
- Want more houses in Stutton? Big Joke! More houses mean more destruction of an area of outstanding beauty.





Remain a distinct village (7)

- Don't want any developments past entrance to Alton Water.
- Housing not on a spur outside the village.
- Keep local villages separate- no urban sprawl
- Don't want to morph into Holbrook
- Keep us a distinct village
- Want to preserve village identity i.e. Green spaces between villages
- Preserve "green belt" around parish boundary

Preference for no big developments (7)

- Not estates
- No red brick estates
- No large estates
- Avoid a big estate, better to have small groups of houses with space
- Very large developments are a threat to culture of village and environment
- Don't want large developments.
- Not one big cluster of houses – smaller groups

Yes to developing groups of houses (3)

- Put them in one place – not dispersed.
- A larger estate next to Oak House
- Small development max 20 houses

Potential effects of more development (3)

- More people to be involved
- Loss of small community feel
- Change village demographics

Infill (2)

- Happy with housing being infill
- When considering new sites an assessment should be undertaken of those houses where additional houses can be built in gardens i.e. Wheelwrights Close

Comment on type and design

Design - 22 comments

- More interesting architecture
- Interesting architecture potential from more houses
- Attractive country designs hopefully with attractive outlooks
- Pretty houses
- Simple vernacular designs (not pseudo Georgian) good colour mix

Design continued

- Architect designed modern homes with decent size rooms
- Mixture of homes inc starter homes and semis and detached.
- New housing needs to be low level, to fit in with the character of the village, which is mostly bungalows
- Bungalows are less intrusive
- Terraced housing
- In scale and style with existing buildings
- Attention to compatible architecture
- Really unique
- Higher spec than standard building regs
- High quality build standards – BREEAM
- Compulsory water heating solar panel for all new builds
- Not to be a commuter village
- Hedges round new housing – great idea.
- Keep hedges and trees.
- Soft landscaping
- Keep hedges and trees
- ... wrong type of housing encourages wrong type of people if too many built - this is starting to happen, in 5 years it will not be same village if continues like this

Ecological concerns (7)

- Encourage innovative design, modern and high environmental spec
- Small groups of houses of eco design and interesting to look at
- Provide new housing on a small scale sustainable basis
- Opportunities to pioneer sustainable housing
- Well planned housing development for all ages
- Well Water for supply
- Need to think about how we can protect the rest of the AONB from being built on in the way proposed in Church Road.

Gardens (4)

- Not small box gardens
- Adequate gardens and space around them
- Some people aren't lucky enough to have gardens - it's important that the children in Stutton do
- Garden space

Accessibility (3)

- Disabled
- Accessible housing
- Good access





What you said about Village & Community

Suggestions for potential development

Events (9)

- Annual village party
- Baking club for all ages
- Social provision for children and teenagers
- Extended vegan range at shop
- Stutton cycle club
- Cocktail night
- Dances at village hall
- Concerts in the hall
- The Church would like to hold more concerts.

General village development (7)

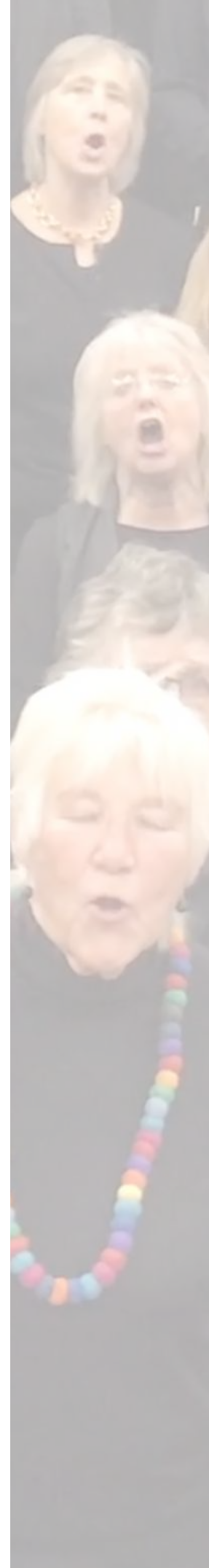
- Accessible public toilet
- Public recycling bins
- A Welcome Pack for new people moving into the village could include information about all the village organisations and how to get involved.
- Plan should safeguard community assets and invest in its enhancement
- Would like more information about local groups and activities
- Volunteering
- Constable Country Childcare would like to run a drop in for parents, a place to come to together and get support from each other. Could also offer workshops on specific parenting topics.

Village Hall (6)

- Hall can be location for more and varied social events and interaction
- The Hall could be more attractive and inviting. Current layout could be improved so could be used for more things.
- Community hall could have more of a variety of pastimes i.e. Dances, snooker table, table tennis
- Hall - would be good to have areas of relaxed seating/armchairs etc.
- The Hall needs to be upgraded, made more energy efficient, with an easier to use, more flexible layout.
- How can we get more people involved in the Hall? Put on more events; attract new, younger people.

Indoor clubs/organisations (5)

- A women's institute
- A snooker club
- More groups for hobbies and amateur sports to attract under 60s e.g. Recreation - bowls
- Social club for all age





Sporting / outdoor activity (4)

- Cricket
- Outdoor gym
- Tennis court
- More village sporting activities as in past

Playgrounds (4)

- Playground for children behind the Hall.
- Protect the school playing field as a green space that can't be sold off for housing.
- Playground behind village hall - Might not get used? Though might be better used once houses are built. Generally, not thought to be a priority.
- Would be very good to have play equipment or landscaped natural play features by the shop/behind the Hall/in the playing field. Needs to be in view of the shop patio.

Young People (7)

- **We're** leaving out young people
- Clubs for youngsters and teens
- Youth club
- The Horticultural Society has involvement from small children but not teenagers.
- Not enough for young people to do and reason to stay in village
- Must keep village school
- Schooling gives future security

What people like about the village

Community (12)

- Community spirit
- A close community
- True community spirit
- Vibrant community
- I like the community spirit
- Community- vibrant supporting many groups and organisations - all need to be safeguarded and enhanced
- A happy well integrated community
- Lovely people who work together to create wonderful community
- It's the nicest place I know with convivial, active and caring community
- Community of excellent cake makers
- Just more of the same. It's better now than it's ever been ... the Network and lifts for people. And events like this supper ... it's so good now. It all seemed to start with the Pantomime - people meeting up more.
- Community spirit missing



Friendship (11)

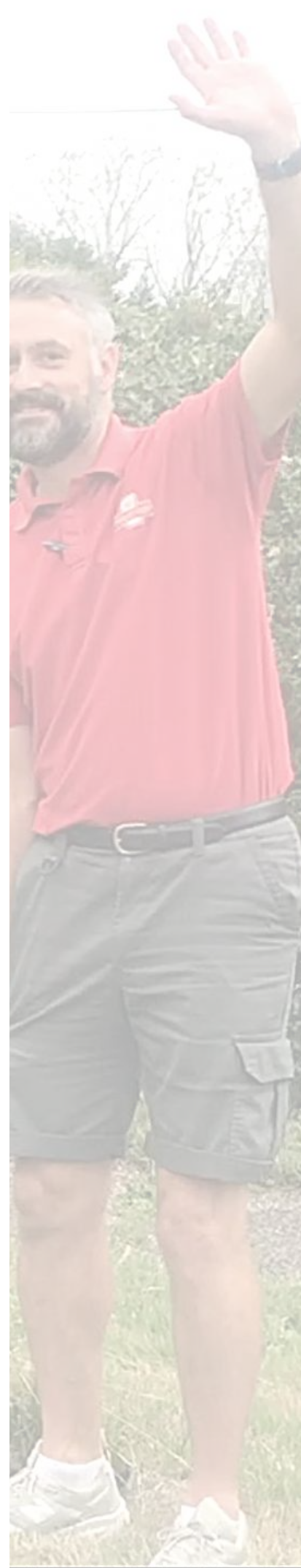
- The friendship of people
- Friendly sociable village
- A traditional community centred family friendly village with a good social mix of ages and employment
- Friendly and socially inclusive with a thriving primary school
- Friendliness and friendship
- Friendly welcoming village with lots of social activities for whole community to enjoy
- A lively friendly village
- Friendly inclusive village with thriving community
- Easy to make friends
- Everyone friendly and helpful
- Friendly
- Can we do more to support people who are social isolation

Village Likes and Dislikes(7)

- Quirky
- Here because of ...a house without stairs close to friends and family in the area
- I think Stutton is perfect
- We don't feel that the village could be improved in anyway
- I don't like the air filled with bonfire smoke on a Sunday morning when the washing is out.
- I love dog walkers, but I don't love what dogs leave behind just shoved under bushes!
- More people to be involved in stuff. Join in or don't moan!
- Threat- too much traffic, new entrants using as dormitory and not taking part in village life
- Gradually being ruined with car speeders and aggressive dog walkers (thanks to Babergh who want to ruin village life)

People (6)

- Shop, People, village hall, pub, events, people, people
- Busy with lots of interesting people from all walks of life
- Good communication between different organisations and thoughts given to children and young people
- Inclusiveness
- Nice people in the village (most of them)
- Really committed people





Village facilities/activity - 35 comments

Enjoyed ...

- Father Christmas
- The production
- Stutton Presents
- Helping at primary school
- We like the coffee morning once a month - and lifts to hospital visits and shopping
- Stutton Flower show
- Flower show

Pub (7)

- Quiet pub
- The pub is a good community place. Lovely garden that people sit in a lot now. It's a good place for meetings too.
- Excellent pub, good social hub
- Like quiz night at the pub
- Pub too noisy too often
- Really, I live opposite and have no problems!
- At least it's a lively pub!

Shop (6)

- Shop should be supported as good for village and useful service
- Village shop - a great success
- Community shop
- Community Shop - Can't be improved upon. A big asset to the village.
- A local shop for local people
- New shop - its brilliant
- Tea and cake in shop

Facilities (6)

- How can we make this village even better?
- Pub, shop, village hall, church.
- Stable institutions e.g. Church, school, shop, pubs, hall
- Facilities- hall, shop, school, pubs
- Shop, hall, playing field, woodland as a focus
- Numerous groups and societies
- Greater use of village facilities if more housing
- No facilities for older children e.g. Skateboarding, tennis courts etc
- Not enough for young people to do and reason to stay in village



Village Hall and Shop together (3)

- The Village Hall is changing its constitution to an incorporated charity. The terms of reference will enable activities other than just running the Hall. They are working with the Community Council.
- The Hall and the Shop are now the centre of the village.
- We love the hall and shop.

(f) School (2)

- Inclusive school, great asset to a village community
- Really hope the school goes from strength to strength; and as it grows more families with young children live in the village.

(g) Recreation Field (2)

- It's a bit sad we're losing part of the big recreation field - needs to be somewhere where children and young people can go play.
- Worried about loss of playing field behind the hall - can't see how loss of recreational space can improve and benefit area

(h) Church (1)

- The church - St Peters - has so much to offer young and old - please support more

Alton Water (1)

- Alton Water is great facility. Fabulous playground now - Great for families, to walk down for an ice cream and back.





What you said about ecology

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle (19)

Recycling (6)

- Better recycling
- Can we have better recycling
- Reduce, reuse then recycle.
- Could we do a black plastic collection?
- Could the shop act as a collection point?
- No, the shop is a commercial enterprise and can't get into doing additional things like that.

Plastic (5)

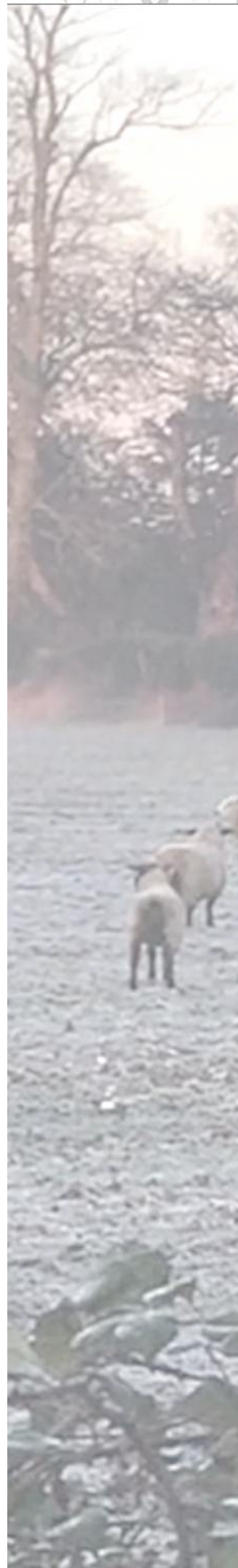
- Could we go plastic-free as a village?
- Plastic free village
- Single use plastic
- Simple plastic free ideas – can we speak to East Bergholt about what they do?
- Plastic bottle deposit scheme in Belgium – do it in the shop. Stutton to lead the way!

Solar (5)

- Sustainable- solar panels, insulation
- How can we encourage more solar panels?
- Eco friendly building and energy conservation e.g. Solar panels
- More eco friendly technology e.g. Solar panels
- Perhaps solar panels on roofs of bus stops (and elsewhere) to be fed into National Grid. Also (personally) it isn't easy to get authoritative face-to-face consultation from businesses in the area without encountering hard-sell tactics.

General (3)

- Would like the shop to sell things like loose tea, rice, pasta to save packaging and for there to be more ways to reduce, reuse, recycle.
- Have events like Apple day-Using local produce. People can donate unwanted food or produce to the shop
- More living roofs



Nature related (18)

Trees, hedges, verges (5)

- We must consider the eco-system as we grow, not destroy the delicate balance. Trees are so important. We don't want to lose any tree.
- Identify trees that need preserving and apply for Tree Preservation Orders.
- Clear the piggery behind Canham's wood and plant an orchard.
- Developers should be stopped from taking out hedges. And if they do take them out, they should be forced to put back the equivalent native hedge.
- Could we have more wildflower verges, rather than mown verges. Or strips around the fields left for wild bits.

Wildlife (5)

- Make sure people don't cut hedges at the times when birds are nesting.
- More bird boxes.
- Can we find out what species need encouraging in our locality and what particular planting/environment would help, and create such environments and planting?
- Mow less in certain areas (better for wildlife and saves money)-not Stutton Close green please.
- We need to keep a careful eye as Alton Water develops. It's a good camping facility, but will there be more? As it grows it seems as if the wildlife is reducing. We need to keep an eye on this. It's a fine balance - a great facility for people to enjoy, but not losing wildlife.

River (4)

- We need to look after our green spaces and river. And protect water drainage.
- What is pumped in to the river?
- Lack of river water pollution- would like to ensure it remains so
- Pesticides: bioaccumulation down to the estuary

General (4)

- Everything could be affected by lack of environmental care
- Village/School project – something they can engage with. Engrain reducing their ecological footprint.
- Biodiverse roofs on bus shelters.
- Dark Sky policy. Do the streetlights turn off at night?



Eco-development /Eco Village (7)

- I'm not too worried about more houses, it's getting the environmental and ecological things right that matters most
- Everything could be affected by lack of environmental care
- How would you like Stutton to be described in 20 years time? The benchmark for sustainability
- Would like to see more environmentally friendly ideas like less packaging, recycling, electric cars, community orchard
- I'd be very much in favour of becoming an eco-village.
- Love the idea of the Greenway and becoming more of an eco-village.
- Interested in working out priorities for eco action in the village

Housing-related (7)

- Specify that new housing developments should have eg. hedgehog runs, swift boxes, water butts, systems for reusing water, water storage.
- High standards of insulation.
- Rainwater harvesting in new housing
- Local district heating
- Ground source heat pumps
- Solar panels
- We need fence holes in new building

Farm related (5)

- We live surrounded by a big farm, but we don't know what is used. Can we ask?
- Can there be an Open Farm Sunday?
- What kind of farming is there around here - can we talk to farmers/landowners about eg. hedgerows?
- It would be good if farmers would tell us when they're going to spray. And what they spray. So we can shut windows, stay inside - and maybe protect some plants if the spray is going to drift onto them.
- Would like all farming to be organic

Travel related (3)

- Encourage to switch to electric cars and public transport
- Electric charging points at shop, school, church, pub
- Electric cars instead of the petrol fumes
- Many flights in and out of Stanstead pass over Stutton. Mostly unobtrusive. For those who travel frequently it is an asset for the area. There used to be an Ipswich link by bus but not sure if it still exists.





What you said about the natural environment

Space, safety, rural beauty (22)

- Space, safety and peace
- The surrounding fields give sense of space and peace
- Peaceful
- Peaceful tranquil setting
- Sense of space, river, the resi all lovely
- Lots of public footpaths and open space
- Lots of safe open spaces
- Not all houses through the village - gaps for views and nature
- Safe for children and elderly
- Needs to grow but preserve its focal points such as wood and playing field
- When building more houses, having an outdoor space to play, exercise and explore nature.
- Help preserve rural feel
- Lack of light pollution
- A natural environment for our children to grow up in
- The birdlife
- We're very lucky with our environment - it's absolutely beautiful.
- Outstanding beauty
- Location
- Beautiful area (reason for living here)
- Being able to ride a horse safely around village
- Attractive recreational areas for all ages
- Building houses takes away natural environment

What's important about the environment (20)

- River and Reservoir
- River Stour access
- Going to the Ness and swimming
- Estuary
- Beach areas (protected)
- Walking to the shore
- Down on the shore
- The Reservoir/Woods
- Proximity to water
- Alton Water (protected)
- Dog walking around Alton Water
- Location - reservoir, estuary, ssi
- Walks





What's important about the environment continued

- Great walks
- Walking
- Walking with a dog
- Lovely walks
- Scenic woodlands
- Hedgerows
- Plant fruit trees on corners of Larksfield and Catsfield roads.

Maintaining the environment (10)

- Respect for tidiness no detritus
- Litter at the reservoir
- More dog bins – encourage owners not to dump their waste from home in the bins.
- Thought to be given to wildlife areas and ponds
- Encourage Farmers and Highways to clear ditches and roads. Lewis Lane.
- Look after the local environment
- Respect for tidiness no detritus
- Would like shooting of animals prohibited
- More dog bins – encourage owners not to dump their waste from home in the bins.
- Preserve special areas e.g. Alton Water, church, school, woodland



What you said about work and business

Supporting businesses better (18)

Business Hub in the village (8)

- Could there be a 'working hub' built in the village, where people working on their own could share facilities and be less isolated?
- Can we encourage better conditions for people to work in the village. Work units / spaces/ hub facilities.
- Business hub would help overcome isolation amongst people working from home.
- I wouldn't use such a hub as she I have facilities I need at home
- Support a way of living that doesn't involve so much commuting.
- Working hub is a good idea
- Working hub would reduce commuter traffic
- Help stop the village becoming a commuter/satellite village to Ipswich

Networking and Sharing resources better (6)

- I have duplicating equipment which could be used at a lower cost than going out of the village to other providers.
- The Shop will receive parcels on behalf of others for £1 per parcel
- Offer of assistance with software training and website design – the latter would allow local businesses to grow by raising awareness of what they offered on the web.
- Make directory of local Stutton businesses available – primarily via the Village Website. Not intended as an advertising feature, but more of an awareness raising exercise.
- Leaflet about village businesses for use in the Shop, Oak House and other sites.
- Local networks so local businesses and get to know how they could support one another i.e. by using each other's skills or equipment.

Technology (4)

1. Improved mobile phone connection
2. Need good broadband (telephone wires need upgrading)
3. Mobile signal.
4. Better transport to Ipswich and Manningtree

Business opportunities to encourage (16)

Types of work (8)

- Is there a demand for more units e.g. Manor Farm? If so then similar

- Website social media businesses
- Opportunities for young or vulnerable to get work experience
- Not much
- A dentist surgery
- Secure and ethical
- Voluntary to encourage community spirit for retired and physically challenged
- Shouldn't encourage much business

Start Ups (5)

- A business centre for start ups
- Start up workshops Small businesses not noisy infrastructure not sufficient for anything big
- Small
- Yes encourage employment- keep it small
- encourage 'start-ups'

Local (4)

- Local trades
- Local workplaces for skilled and unskilled employment to cut down on transport
- one local business person needs a larger business unit which could employ up to six local people
- support local businesses





What children said

Stutton School

Penguins and Dolphins: aged 4, 5 and 6

First we sat in a circle on the floor and talked about what the adults in the village are talking about in The Big Conversation. Specifically, we talked about what they would like new house in the village to look like? And who might need houses.

We'd like to see lots of different kinds of houses: (11)

- a. old houses that look as if they are in a fairytale
- b. new houses
- c. painted houses in lots of colours
- d. and houses that are completely different, like nothing you've ever seen before
- e. some people will have lots of money and some people will be poor.
We need houses for everybody
- f. every house should have a garden
- g. every house should have a horse paddock

Then the children did a painting of a house they would like to see here.
They talked as they painted

1. this house costs whatever they have and then I'll give them the money for the rest ...
2. I've drawn a vegetable garden. Lots of vegetables. (I don't like vegetables)
3. house should be built of lots of things - brick wood and straw because it will give texture.
4. I don't know why - I've used lots of different materials in the same house

6.8.2 Whales: aged 7,8,9,10

We talked about the Big Conversation - and the different topics that the adults in the village are addressing. We talked for over an hour (we went for a run in the middle). This is what the children think.

HOUSING: What should new houses look like: (15)

1. people want to live in Stutton so the village needs more houses
2. small cottages - for single people / couples / small families
3. thatched roofs - attractive country cottages
4. houses with pebbled walls
5. much as I like modern houses, I don't think they would fit in here
6. houses like my house - dormer bungalow - it's spacious, big garden



Then we had a vote. "What kind of design should the Neighbourhood Plan recommend?"

- old-fashioned / rural 15
- new, different houses 3
- a mixture 3

HOUSING: Where should new houses NOT be built? (7)

- Not on the community shop field
- Not at Alton Water (nature)
- Not near the church (peaceful)
- On the fields near the long straight road opposite the War Memorial - it is peaceful and open there and that would spoil it
- Not opposite the school – don't want lots more children at the school
- Not one big cluster of houses – smaller groups
- Not on the road out towards Brantham

ENVIRONMENT (10)

There are organisations that protect the beautiful and special places around the village. But are there things we can do, to protect and improve the environment...

- more animals in the village on a big farm / rescue centre / more space for animals
- use glass straws not paper
- at the shop - have baskets (maybe wooden) instead of plastic
- when we go to the Community shop – take a box to take your fruit etc home in
- use more natural materials in our buildings
- have plastic bag collection boxes for re-use
- protect the green open spaces when new houses are built
- Can children do anything to improve things?
- we could park cars outside the King's Head, or outside the village hall and walk to school from there
- this gives us health benefits, and there will be fewer cars on the road outside school
- perhaps we could have parking underground

We voted to see who would be prepared to walk from one of these car parks

11 agreed that it would be good (but noted that people from Holbrook direction would have to go past the school and walk back)

TRAFFIC through the village (8)

We spoke about the different feelings amongst adults - some are worried about the increasing traffic; some are not worried. This is what the children think:



Comments that expressed concern

Writing a Neighbourhood Plan (3)

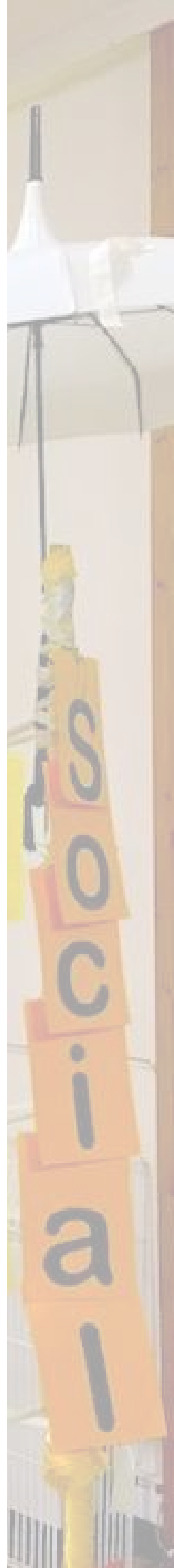
- What is point Babergh only concern is money - and wildlife and greenery is to destroy
- What is the point of Stutton agreeing any sort of plan? Babergh is not for village people. They are ruining the atmosphere and destroying the history and ambiance of village life
- I can't believe a Neighbourhood Plan will achieve anything
- it's the public who live in villages. They build what and where they want.

Village Life (2)

- Gradually being ruined with car speeders and aggressive dog walkers (thanks to Babergh who want to ruin village life)
- Threat- too much traffic, new entrants using as dormitory and not taking part in village life

New development (15)

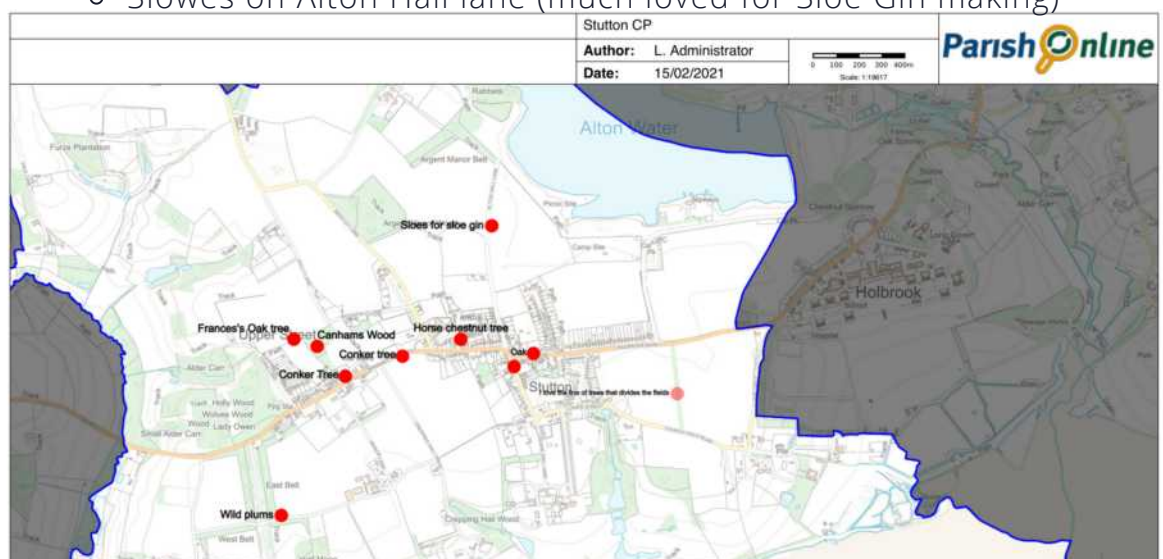
- We have enough houses
- No more, we have enough
- too much over development could destroy what we have at the moment
- ... wrong type of housing encourages wrong type of people if too many built - this is starting to happen, in 5 years it will not be same village if continues like this
- Very large developments are a threat to culture of village and environment
- Keep building and the village won't be a village
- Housing - if you reproduce densities from elsewhere you lose the charm of the village.
- Want more houses in Stutton? Big Joke! More houses mean more destruction of an area of outstanding beauty.
- Character of the village would be destroyed by too much housing.
- Change village demographics
- Threat of changing the feel and nature of village
- Threat- too much traffic, new entrants using as dormitory and not taking part in village life
- Building houses takes away natural environment
- Character of the village would be destroyed by too much housing.
- Shouldn't encourage much business



Valued Trees

At the Open Consultation Event at the Village Hall in September 2019, villagers were invited to place pins in a map to indicate valued trees.

- 10 trees, or groups of trees, were identified by participants:
 - 2 single oaks (one also a Commemorative Tree)
 - 3 single Horse Chestnut trees along the main road
 - a large x at the end of Church Road
 - a group of wild Plums close to Stutton Park
 - Canhams Wood
 - the line of trees dividing fields South of Holbrook Road
 - Sloes on Alton Hall lane (much loved for Sloe Gin making)



The big oak trees on the primary school perimeter.
 The big oak trees roughly opposite the primary school.
 The big oak tree on the corner of Alton Hall Lane.
 The big tree on the village green near the Hairdressers.
 Canham's wood and the other young woods around the playing field.
 The big trees along Church Field Lane.
 The wooded area along The Drift.
 The trees lining Alton Hall Lane.

The mature trees to the back of the hairdressers/vets (the green field pictured on the map) and the ancient oak trees which align the footpath.

The oak tree on the small green triangle at the beginning of Alton Hall Lane is important to us.
 Also the view facing across the fields to the woods that separates argent manor from Alton Hall lane.

Stutton is also proud to have it's own variety of Walnut Tree the Stutton Seedling. There are many of these dotted around the village - in gardens.

There are also several special trees planted in commemoration of national events around the village, or donated as special gifts to enhance the environment:

- 1903- oak planted on the triangle at start of Watery Lane (Alton Hall Lane)
- 1937- chestnut in front of the Village Hall for the coronation of George VI
- 1973 - two flowering cherries at the entrance Crepping Hall Drive (marking the Golden Anniversary of the WI)
- 1974 - a red May at the school (from Stutton Brownies)
- 1977 - two ? at the entrance to Alton at the entrance to mark Queen Elizabeth's Silver Jubilee
- several trees in the Village Hall grounds



Valued Views

There was also an open invitation for villagers to tell us which views are important to them. Most did this by email or on the comments box in the village website.

- River views from Church Field Lane (can we prevent these being obscured by the planting of hedges/trees, e.g. by Stephen Clark near Dove House)?
- View from near the Church looking towards Griff's and also the other way over the ponds up towards the Church.
- Views across open fields, e.g. from the main road across to Church Field Lane and near Crepping Hall Drive.
- The view across the fields when walking down Crepping Hall Drive.
- Views across fields when walking down Alton Hall Lane.
- The open field views when walking down Hyam's lane towards Stutton Hall Farm.
- The river view near Crepping Hall as you walk down to the shore.
- The open view of the playing field and surrounding fields and trees from behind the village shop.
- Period houses along Lower Street together with beautiful country gardens.

The trees either side of the drift and the strip wood running South from the B1080 to Churchfield Rd. Both provide cover for hares and deer. And the view south across the river valley from the B1080

Considering that the caravan park at Alton water was approved and should not, according to the planning cause any light pollution: is there any real hope that any of our views will be considered: The views 7/8 and 11 are blighted by 365 days light pollution from the washing block. In the past there was uninterrupted views across the valley over to Holbrook and beyond. AONB...what does that mean? Now EVERY night, whether inhabited or not the lights spoil the night sky. All of the shore is special to me and the long walk down through the lanes which used to be crawling with Stag Beetles when I was a kid in the 60's.

The views both south east and south west from Stutton Point are very important to most of us living in Stutton.

Breakdown of Comments

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256

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