

CHELMONDISTON NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN

What do you want for the future of your village?

We are assuming you are concerned about what happens to this village so this is your chance to say whatever you like towards the future of a Neighbourhood Development Plan. A response form is enclosed with this leaflet for your comments.

This is a first informal consultation with every household in our community, which gives every resident the opportunity to make his or her voice heard.

For instance do you agree with this?

VISION STATEMENT

“To conserve and enhance the unique rural character of the Parish of Chelmondiston, its built and natural assets, and its infrastructure, as a thriving and enjoyable place both for residents and visitors, with particular reference to the need for protection of the Conservation Area at Pin Mill, the AONB status of part of the Parish and its sites of special interest (SSSI and RAMSAR).”

AONB = Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

SSSI = Site of Special Scientific Interest

RAMSAR = protected wetlands

Who are we?

We are the Chelmondiston Neighbourhood Development Plan Steering Group. Rather a mouthful, but we are village residents sponsored by and working under the guidance of the Parish Council.

Read more detail inside...

If you would like further information:

Go to the Parish Council Website at <http://chelmondiston.onesuffolk.net/village-news/httpswww-gov-ukguidanceneighbourhood-planning-2/>

You will find a complete downloadable copy of the working draft (to date) of the Neighbourhood Plan.

There is also a lot of relevant information here including minutes of our meetings, which are open to the public by the way.

You can also see full hard copies in print of the draft Plan (to view/read but not to take away) in:

- The Post Office
- Orwell Stores
- Hollingsworths
- Hers and Sirs

There will also be an exhibition about the draft Plan in the Methodist Chapel Room from 5.00 to 8.00 pm on Monday, 18th March, when members of the Steering Group will be glad to answer any questions and receive any of your comments.

WE NEED YOUR RESPONSE

So it is crucial that we have your views. Unless we can demonstrate by quoting numbers of comments that there is significant input to the Plan by residents, we will not be able to get it accepted.

So have your say, please, and leave your written comments:

- At one of the 4 places above, or
- On the Parish Council website response form

Your comments can be anonymous if you don't want to attach your name and contact details - but contact details would be helpful in the event that we need any clarification of your suggestions.

Why do we want a Neighbourhood Development Plan?

Because this seems the only way in which the residents of this village can exert some control over our own destiny. If and when we get the Plan accepted, it is absolutely mandatory by law that it becomes part of planning policy so that it cannot be overruled by the County or District Councils. And, once accepted, the Parish Council gets an increase in the rate per square meter payable by the landowner/developer, which it can use for our benefit (the Community Infrastructure Levy).

What's happened to the Village Development Framework?

This was sponsored by the Parish Council, and completed in 2016, following a commitment from the District Council that it would be incorporated into their planning framework. It was not. But we are using it as the starting point of the new Plan.

What are we doing?

We are developing a Plan that gives the residents of Chelmondiston and Pin Mill a good deal of statutory control over our environment generally and in particular where and how new developments take place. This is not our Plan to be imposed on the community, but it is your Plan. We are only the guiding and leading hand that seeks to put your views together as a consensus that will get through all the bureaucratic hoops that constrain us. What ever we say has got to be in line with national and local planning policies and regulations, otherwise it will not be accepted. Only if it is accepted, as the combined will of the residents, will it have real validity

The way that we work is laid down by regulation and there are 10 major steps to go through before the final Plan is accepted, including another more formal consultation with you and a referendum. So only if a majority of residents is in favour of the Plan, will it go forward for acceptance. If you want the details of all the steps of the process, these are available on the Parish Council website <http://chelmondiston.onesuffolk.net/village-news/httpswww-gov-ukguidanceneighbourhood-planning-2/>

What do you think of the following themes for Chelmondiston/Pin Mill?

These are embryo policies which we are seeking your guidance to develop. When fully formed and after the Plan is accepted they will guide planning policy.

- **How much future development? What and where?**
In principle new houses should be on infill sites or previously developed sites and otherwise on a small scale - single or small groups of houses that relate well to the neighbouring environment. There should be no building on Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty [AONBs], Sites of Special Scientific Interest, [SSSIs] and RAMSARs [protected wetlands]
- **Caring for the natural environment.**
Any developments on the edge of built-up areas should minimise their visual impact on the landscape.
- **What should new buildings look like?**
They should be well designed, sympathetic to their surroundings, and make a positive contribution to the landscape.
- **What community facilities do we need?**
We would generally wish to see the enhancement of sports and other recreational facilities.
- **What adequate supporting infrastructure do we need?**
Clearly we need a sustainable mix of homes, local businesses and jobs and other facilities. What else do we need?