

Walsham le Willows Neighbourhood Plan



Evie Howes, Year Group 5

The Neighbourhood Plan group wishes to ensure we include input from every group and all interests in the community so that the final plan for our village covers every aspect of Walsham life. We are looking to respond to the needs of each generation. We are setting out some of our initial ideas in this issue of the Observer and we hope during the very challenging weeks ahead readers might find an opportunity to focus on what they and their families most cherish about our wonderful community and environment.

A Neighbourhood plan should ensure we preserve and enhance all that we value about Walsham's community and heritage not just for now but into the future as well. With this in mind we propose to set up Working Groups for different interests and we are looking for volunteers. Each group will consult the wider community, developing questionnaires etc.

and then feed back what they learn into the Walsham Neighbourhood Plan.

We think Working Groups might cover:

1. Housing needs & supply.

Local needs for affordable housing must be met, but all that we most value about the character of our rural village should be preserved.

2. Business, Commerce & Employment.

How to maintain a thriving community with local employment opportunities. This will also involve excellent internet connectivity which will no doubt be being tested to capacity by many of us as we try to work and stay in touch with family and friends from our homes.

3. Transport & Infrastructure.

Roads, Public Transport, parking and encouraging and improving the ability of members of the community to more freely cycle and walk in Walsham and its surrounds.

4. Provisions for Schools, Youth & older members of the community.

Including ideas for possible improvements to the site for our primary school.

5. Centres for the Arts, Culture, History, Music Sport and Events.

Halls, Sports Grounds, etc

6. Green areas, trees, footpaths & waterways and wildlife.

Working with Suffolk Wildlife Trust and local community biodiversity observations to provide scientific research to base plans on.

7. Farming, Food Production and Orchards.

Our suggested **Timetable** for face to face Priory Room Meetings (7pm) will likely be interrupted. Please check the Walsham le Willows website for up to date information about joining in group meetings online.

April 9 th	Working Groups meet & feed back to the main group.
May 14 th	Outline questionnaire and plan to group.
June 11 th	Compilation of draft questionnaire.
July	Walsham project with Primary School
August	Exhibition of work at Gardens Weekend.
September	Door-drop of questionnaire.
October 8 th	Review and analysis of questionnaire.
November 12 th	Draft of Neighbourhood Plan Document.
Spring 2021	Draft Version of review by community.

This overview is all subject to change.

Tell us what you think!

What are your thoughts about the ideas outlined above? What do you think needs to change to best support the village community in the current climate? We really want to know what your priorities are. Be critical, it's helpful! Do you think we have missed something important from the areas of interests we've listed so far?

Please let us have your input. This is an important opportunity come together to plan for all our futures.

Wishing all in Walsham the very best.

Giving your feedback on the Neighbourhood Village Plan

You can either contact us by email us on plan@walsham-le-willows.org or writing your thoughts on this page and hand it into the collection point at Rolphs. There are lots of skills we're going to need in pulling this together so if you are good with social media, content entry, research, writing, editing or wildlife surveys let us know 😊