

ORWELL NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN - WORKSHOP  
NATALIE BLAKEN AND RACHEL HOGGER



## INTRODUCTIONS

Modicum Planning and Nupremis Cambridge Limited are locally based, experience Neighbourhood Planners who are associates to Cambridgeshire ACRE.

Orwell Neighbourhood Plan Working Group includes parish councillors and local residents leading the process on behalf of the community



## PURPOSE OF THE MEETING

### SWOT ANALYSIS

To reach a consensus on the Strengths, Weaknesses, Threats and Opportunities facing the Neighbourhood Plan area.

### VISION

To discuss approaches on drafting a plan vision, plan themes and theme-based objectives.

### SCOPE OF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

To agree what the Neighbourhood Plan must cover, to agree what it can't, and to identify what the Neighbourhood Plan could cover (those grey areas!).

# 1. DRIVERS FOR THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN



## PLANNING POLICY

Meaningful planning policies that are Orwell specific and add, rather than duplicate the existing development framework



## ORWELL DESIGN

Ensure beautifully designed homes, business and infrastructure that's meets communities needs



## EVIDENCE BASED

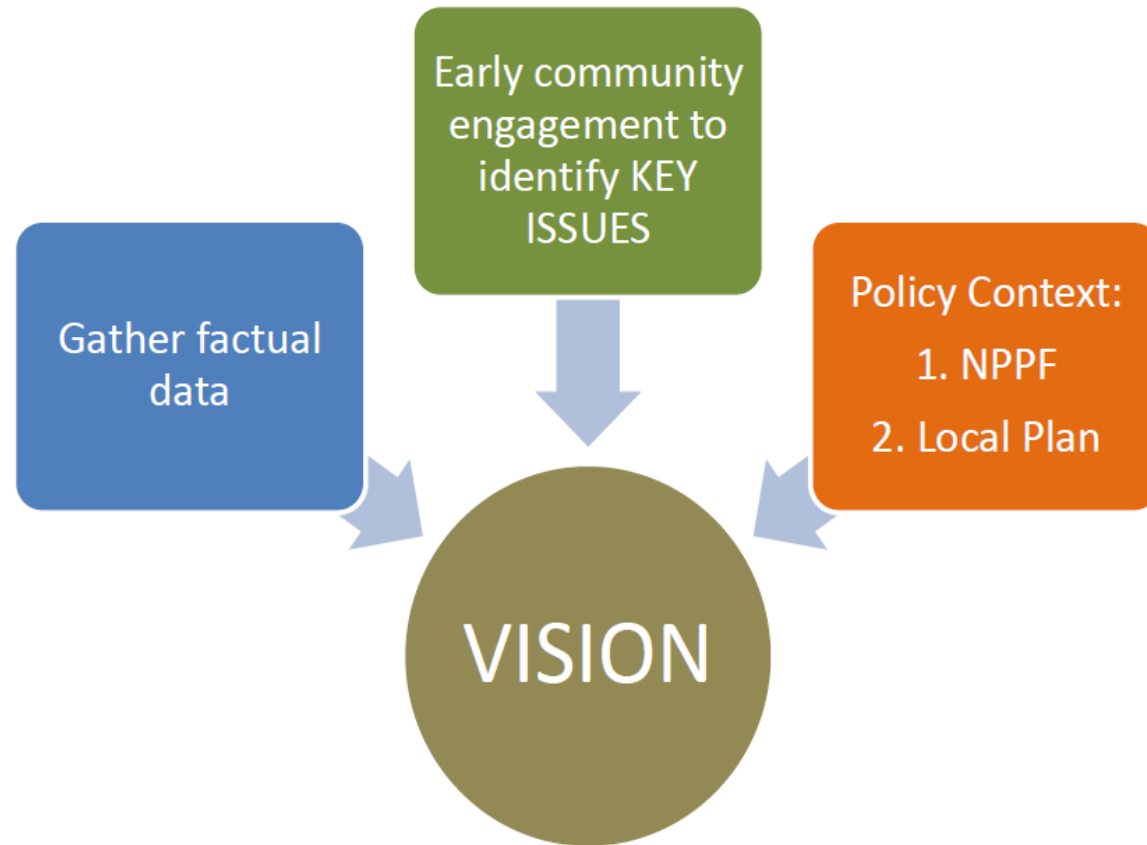
A plan which reflects an evidenced based approach including Demographic, Social and Economic Characteristics and its Housing Needs

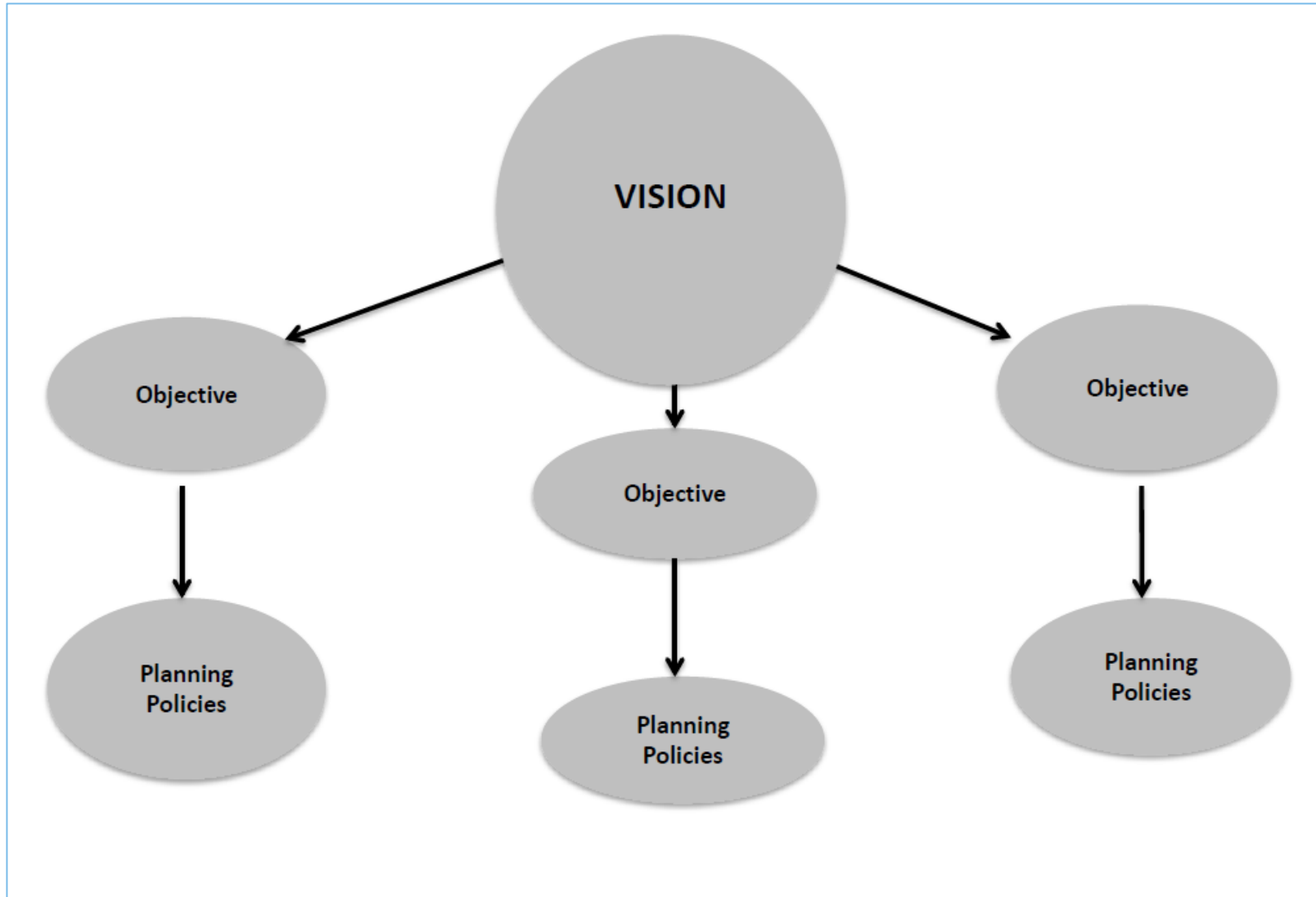


## COMMUNITY

Strength to ensure designed with the help and input of local community

# The Vision





## PLANNING POLICY CONTEXT

### NATIONAL PLANNING

Neighbourhood Plan should be positively planned adding a distinctive layer to the planning policy

### SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE

- Local Plan to 2031
- Local Plan Review to 2041
- Orwell a Group Village within the development framework
- Housing mix and affordable housing provision

### DESIGN AND CHARACTER GUIDANCE

A key driver for reviewing the NP is to strengthen the evidence around design and character

### NATURAL AND BUILT ENVIRONMENT

- Local Green Spaces
- Protected Village Amenity Areas
- Orwell Conservation Area
- Local Landscape
- SSSI, Roadside Nature Reserve; County Wildlife Site
- Heritage Assets

### SERVICES AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Flood and Water Guidance  
Shortage of outdoor sports space

## DEMOGRAPHIC SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC REPORT

### KEY FACTS

- Population grew by 11% 2011 to 2021 and a 9% increase in dwellings
- Older and ageing population
- In migration of residents 35-44
- 1 in 6 residents disabled
- Detached, larger houses more common
- High rates of owner occupied and social housing and low share of private rented
- Some of the highest house prices in South Cambs (£620,000 average price)

### KEY FACTS

- Annual income of £61,700 needed to buy cheapest home
- High Economic Activity
- Residents most likely to work in highly skilled occupations
- 1-6 work in the parish whilst ½ workforce commute to parts of South Cambridgeshire
- Deprivation low but ‘indoors Living Environment’ and Geographical Barriers’ indicators are high





EARLY  
CONSULTATION

## RESIDENT SURVEY

### **3 most loved current Characteristics ?**

- Environment
- Community
- Services/amenities

### **3 Most important future Characteristics ?**

- Housing
- Environment
- Services



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## RESIDENT SURVEY

What would you like to see more of in future?

- **Transport & travel** (new and improved footpaths, cycleways, a better bus service)
- **Sport & recreation** (improved/more play equipment for young children, improved sports facilities for older children and adults)
- **Environment** (trees, hedgerows, open spaces, biodiversity)
- **Housing** (sympathetic, 'in-keeping', catering for disabled, small developments, smaller properties, homes for young people)

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RESIDENT SURVEY - 2022

What would you like to see less of in future?

- **Housing:** i.e. Fewer large developments, and developments not sympathetic to the village environment.
- **Transport:** i.e. Fewer heavy vehicles, less speeding and fewer parking issues
- **Community:** Behavioural problems & pollution (noise, litter & dog mess)



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## RECREATION SPACE SURVEY 2022

In the Hurdleditch survey, 174 residents ranked sports & recreational facilities by importance to them and the top 5 results were:

- Open Green Space – a mown area for outdoor games and fitness
- Woodland activity play areas
- Picnic Area
- Outdoor Gym/Exercise Equipment
- Children’s play equipment

And the 3 most important environmental elements were:

- Biodiversity Areas including wildflower meadow
- Footpaths
- Hedgerows and trees



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## BUSINESS SURVEY

### Value:

#### **Facilities**

Shop, Post office, Pub, (Air)B&B's, Hairdresser

#### **Environment:**

Access to the countryside, circular walks, rural nature

### What improvements would you like to see in future?

Road Junction with A603

Lunchtime recreation

Village café

Street lighting

Bus service

## DRAFT ORWELL DESIGN GUIDANCE

### INITIAL AECOM REPORT

- Detailed review of historic development of Orwell
- Conservation Area
- Listed Buildings
- Green spaces
- Settlement Patterns
- Landscape Setting
- Movement and Transport
- Landmark Buildings
- Materials

### CHARACTER AREAS

- Village Core
- Primary Residential
- Cul de Sacs
- Westcroft
- Open Countryside

### DESIGN GUIDANCE AND CODES

General Design Codes

Key Design Guidance

- Materials and Form
- Lighting and Dark Skies
- Walkable

Neighbourhoods

# HOUSING NEEDS ASSESSMENT

## EARLY ANALYSIS

- Population of 1,147 with 77 homes built since 2011 (total now 514 homes)
- New affordable homes
- Dominated by home ownership
- Poor affordability even for some affordable housing products

## AFFORDABLE HOUSING

- Require 3 units of social/affordable housing per year
- 65% affordable rented and 35% affordable ownership

## TYPE AND SIZE

- High detached and larger homes
- To determine appropriate housing mix demand but focus on 2/3 bedroom homes

## SPECIALIST HOUSING FOR OLDER PEOPLE

- 154 people over 75 years old
- Forecast an additional 78 people being in the age cohort by 2041 with 55 new households
- 20-22 new specialist homes and 5 care home beds may be needed for older people
- Promote adaption of homes to be accessible standards

# QUESTIONS





## 2. STRENGTHS WEAKNESSES OPPORTUNITIES AND THREATS



### STRENGTHS

What makes the Orwell NP area special (e.g. its key distinguishing features?)  
What is good about living in Orwell Neighbourhood Plan area?



### WEAKNESSES

Are there any specific detracting physical elements within the Orwell Plan area?  
What is not so good about living in the Orwell area?  
What needs to be improved?



### OPPORTUNITIES

Are there any opportunities to address any of the items listed under 'Weaknesses'?



### THREATS

Are any of the items under 'Strengths' at risk?

# QUESTIONS



### 3. SCOPING THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

## HOW CAN THE ORWELL NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN RESPOND APPROPRIATELY TO THE ISSUES IDENTIFIED AS PART OF THE SWOT WHILST ALSO ADDING VALUE?



#### POSITIVE

The Neighbourhood Plan must respond positively to the opportunities and threats



#### LAND USE

The Neighbourhood Plan must be about land use or spatial issues



#### OPPORTUNITIES

What policy areas or themes are needed to respond to opportunities



#### THREATS

What policy areas or themes are needed to respond to threats

### 3. SCOPING THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

#### BREAK OUT GROUPS?

HOUSING  
NEEDS

GETTING  
AROUND

NATURAL  
ENVIRONMENT

FACILITIES AND  
SERVICES

CLIMATE CHANGE

BUILT  
ENVIRONMENT

Groups - Draft the key objectives for each of the themes

Groups - Draft policy ideas under each of the objectives

# DISCUSSION



LET'S REFLECT

## MUST

Which issues must be prioritised as part of the Neighbourhood Plan?

## OUTSIDE THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Which issues fall outside the scope of the Neighbourhood Plan?

## COULD

Which issues **could** potentially be addressed as part of the Neighbourhood Plan?

# DISCUSSION





CLOSE AND NEXT  
STEPS

NEXT STEPS

- Writing up the SWOT
- Writing up today's discussions
- Drafting a vision
- Agreeing theme-based objectives
- Making sure any policy ideas flow from vision, objectives etc.