

What are YOUR views about Baylham and its future?

Have YOUR say.....

February 2020

Dear Resident

Village Plan / Neighbourhood Plan

Why have a Village Plan or Neighbourhood Plan?

Village Plans and Neighbourhood Plans are a means of collating and documenting the views and wishes of residents and communicating those views to local councils and other authorities. The aim being to influence their decision making particularly in relation to development and protecting what is important to the community. It may also assist in attracting funding for certain suggestions put forward.

The existing Village Plan was produced 8 years ago and the Baylham Parish Meeting (Steering Group) feels that it would be worthwhile to revise it for two main reasons.

Firstly, as we are seeking to form a Parish Council, it will provide the new Council with an accurate and up to date picture of the views of residents to guide it in its activities.

Secondly, experience gained since the Village Plan was written has shown that the Plan is weak in its influence and impact concerning planning and development matters.

Without going into a lot of procedural detail, the main difference between a Neighbourhood Plan and a Village Plan is that in deciding planning applications the District Council has to give much more weight to a Neighbourhood Plan and it can truly influence the decision making process. A Village Plan is no longer a current form of document. The Council is only expected to note views in a Village Plan but is rarely influenced by it.

The preference, therefore, is to produce a Neighbourhood Plan rather than a revised Village Plan as it will give the village a stronger voice. The procedure is more involved but the potential benefit greater.

As the Plan has to represent the village as a whole, we need to capture your thoughts, likes, dislikes, needs, hopes and views generally - and those of anyone living with you - about any issue relating to life in the village. Hence the reason for this survey.

Having received the completed forms, we will collate the answers and present the findings to villagers. To gauge the level of support for each of the suggestions everyone will be given the opportunity to vote for or against the ideas. This in turn will influence the contents of the plan. Some issues may be too complex for a simple 'for' or 'against' answer. For such matters we will arrange further consultation to enable a balanced community view to be identified. A draft plan will then be presented to the village for comments, and amendment if necessary, before a vote on a final draft is arranged.

Please help us help you – by taking a few moments to answer the questions.

Please return the form by **26th February 2020** to one of the addresses listed at the end of the survey form.

Members of the Plans Group are presently Matt Bell, Rosie Blake, Steve Edwards, Rachael Maynard, Keven Thomas and me. If you have any queries feel free to contact any of us and we will be happy to help – or you can email us on **baylhamplansgroup@hotmail.com**

Thank you.

Yours sincerely

Jim White
Baylham Parish Meeting
(Plans Group)

You can find out more on the Baylham website: **www.baylham.onesuffolk.net** : *click Village/Neighbourhood Plans*

Survey of Residents' Views

All members of your household are invited to contribute. To save paper, as this is only a survey, not a voting form, all the family's answers can be included on this one form even if their views differ. If you would prefer to have another copy of the form it can be downloaded from Baylham website - www.baylham.onesuffolk.net

Please indicate at the end of the form how many persons have participated in the completion of the form. This will help us show the level of interest and participation when the final plan is audited.

You can complete the questionnaire anonymously if you wish by returning it in a sealed envelope. It will then be opened with all the other sealed returns. However, if you would like to discuss any of your ideas with the Group or become more involved please give your name and contact details and we will contact you.

If you do not have enough space, please continue answers on the back page or add further sheets of paper.

Questions:

1) What do you like about living in Baylham and would not wish to lose?

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2) What do you dislike or would like to see changed?

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Building & Development

3) What are your thoughts about any growth or development in the village?

a) Residential:

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b) Commercial:

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c) Light Industrial:

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d) Leisure:
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e) Other?:
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Facilities

4) Are you happy with the level of facilities/amenities in the village?

Comments
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5) Any comments about the village hall?
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6) Any comments about the church?
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Access to Public (Council/Local Authority/Government) Services

7) Are you happy with the level of public services available?

Comments
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Roads and Traffic

8) What are your thoughts about roads and traffic?

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Environment

9) Any comments on the local environment and/or countryside?

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Community Activities

10) What are your thoughts about community activities?

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Children & Young Persons

11) Any comments affecting children and young people in the village?

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Elderly and/or Disabled Persons

12) Any comments affecting elderly and/or disabled persons in the village?

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Any Other Matters

13) Please feel free to comment on any other matters

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Continuation sheet - (please indicate which question(s) you are referring to).....

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How many people in your household have contributed to answering this survey:

Thank you for completing the questionnaire.

If you would like to discuss any of your ideas with the Group or become more involved please give your name and contact details below and we will contact you. Please leave blank if you wish to remain anonymous.

Name

Address

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Telephone

E-mail

Completed forms should be returned by 26th February 2020 to whichever of the following addresses is most convenient for you:

Lower Street / Mill Lane area : Rodwell Farm, Lower Street

Circular Road area : High House, Circular Road

The Stone /Back Lane : 3 The Stone

Upper St / Church Close area : Castaways, Upper Street (bungalow opposite the post box)

Upper St / Homechurch area : Park Farm, Upper Street