

KESGRAVE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT DAY

SATURDAY, 20 OCTOBER 2018

Engagement Process

Posters advertising the event were put up around town and it was publicised through the In Touch magazine (Volume 8, Issue No.12, 12 October 2018). This carried an advertisement (see right) publicising the event and a full page explanation (see below) reminding residents of the purpose of the Neighbourhood Plan, last year's engagement events and that a key aim was to feed back on the residents' survey and give people an opportunity to comment on the emerging objectives.

KESGRAVE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

What is a Neighbourhood Plan?

A land use plan that sets out planning policies for Kesgrave. Alongside those in the Suffolk Coastal Local Plan these policies will be used to guide decisions on planning applications and the future development of our services, amenities and activities. It is written by the local community, the people who know and love the area, rather than Suffolk Coastal District Council. It is a powerful tool to ensure we get the right types of development that will better benefit our local community. Not everything can be delivered at once especially where there is a cost involved. The plan will set out our aspirations and priorities for the long term.

What has happened so far?

Three community engagement events were held in July last year and these were followed up in October by a questionnaire issued to every household. Around 800 replies were received. The results were analysed and documented in March. A further 58 young people filled in surveys at the Funday in June this year. Businesses and other interests are being consulted as part of the process too.

The objectives set out below came about as a direct result of your survey responses.

OBJECTIVES of our PLAN

Design and layout

- To protect the character of Kesgrave, particularly in respect of preserving the established openness of the built-up areas and surrounding countryside.

THIS MEANS we are looking to:

- Ensure our wooded areas and the Longstrops fields are preserved as now; and that
- residential infill development reflects the character of the surrounding area and protects the amenity of neighbours.

Environment

- To preserve and enhance the quality of green spaces and landscaping.

THIS MEANS we are looking to:

- Retain what we have, plant more trees, improve the facilities provided, and encourage their responsible use.

- To ensure development does not increase air pollution.

THIS MEANS we are looking to:

- Encourage greater use of public transport by seeking improvements in services; and
- reduce dependence on cars by enhancing local amenities.

- To ensure wildlife thrives and wildlife corridors are protected and enhanced.

THIS MEANS we are looking to:

- Conserve and enhance our woods as recognised nature spots.

Facilities & Well-being

- To expand and enhance the range and quality of recreational and sporting facilities so that it fully serves the needs of Kesgrave's community today.

THIS MEANS we are looking to:

- Increase the number of sports fields and facilities and fill the gaps we have in providing opportunities compared to other Suffolk towns.

Roads, Transport & Safety

- To address issues of vehicle congestion and safety at key road junctions serving Kesgrave.
- To provide better alternatives to the car for local journeys by expanding and improving the cycle path network.
- To increase the provision of usable off-road parking in order to enhance the character of Kesgrave and improve pedestrian and cycle safety.

What are the NEXT STEPS?

To take into account your feedback in designing a set of policies that expand on our OBJECTIVES in a more detailed and practical way.

Complete writing the PLAN document and put it forward to an independent Examiner for approval.

Everyone will then have an opportunity to accept or reject the PLAN through a referendum which we hope will be called before the end of 2019.

What can I DO?

Come along to the Community Day at Kesgrave Market on Saturday, 20th October and give us your opinions in person – tell us what YOU think are priorities for the future development of Kesgrave! Or, if you cannot attend and you have an opinion, write to us by 30th November 2018 at:

NHP Opinion,
C/O Kesgrave Town Council,
Ferguson Way,
Kesgrave IP5 2FZ.
Email: enquiry@kesgravetowncouncil.org.uk

On The Day

A stall was set up at the corner of the scout hall between Tesco car park and The Birches. This proved to be a good place for footfall moving between the two locations. It was an unusually sunny and warm day for October which helped in attracting resident numbers.

Leaflets based on the Neighbourhood Plan objectives were handed out to passers-by who identified themselves, when asked, that they were, in fact, a resident of Kesgrave. Each person was given an explanation of the background and purpose and invited to "have

their say" by placing green stick-on dots (in favour) and red ones (not in favour) against each objective area on a poster-sized print of the objectives. This was located on a board at the corner of our stall.

Town councillors were also in attendance for the purpose of testing resident opinion on budget priorities for 2019. This involved an informal interview focusing on key topics.

Outcomes

Albeit an unscientific straw poll, the results show that residents expressing an opinion were overwhelmingly in support of the draft objectives. For example, 57 green dots were placed against the first Design & Layout section with no red dots; and 93 green dots were placed against the Roads, Transport & Safety section with 2 red ones. It is likely that some individuals put more than one dot on the Roads, Transport & Safety area because there are three objectives.

Residents were also asked to place a blue dot on the town map to show where they live which 35 did, showing an even spread across town; and were given an opportunity to make written comments on post-it notes.



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- THIS MEANS we are looking to:
 - Ensure our wooded areas and the Longstraps fields are preserved as such, as well as their recreational value.
 - Ensure residential built development reflects the character of the surrounding area and protects the amenity of neighbours.

Environment

- To preserve and enhance the quality of green spaces and landscaping.
- THIS MEANS we are looking to:
 - Retain what we have, plant more trees, improve the facilities provided, and encourage their responsible use.
- To ensure development does not increase air pollution.
- THIS MEANS we are looking to:
 - Encourage greater use of public transport by seeking arrangements in services.
 - Reduce dependence on cars by enhancing local amenities.

Facilities & Well-being

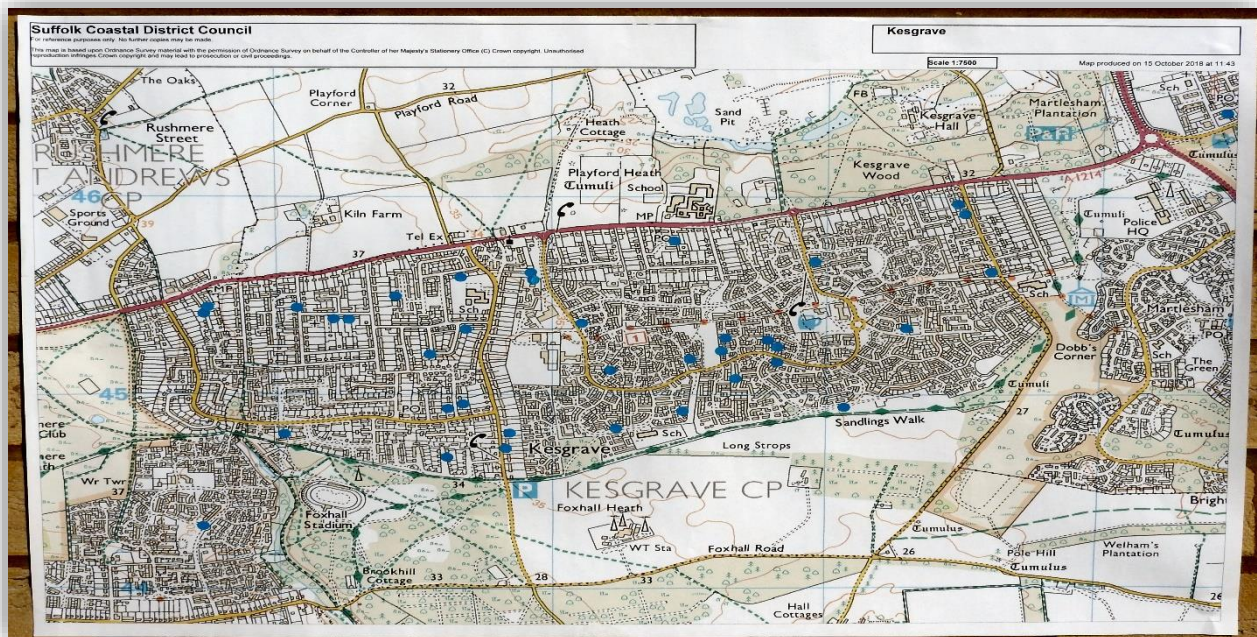
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Kesgrave Town Council

enquiries@kesgrave-tc.gov.uk | 01473 625 179 | kesgrave-tc.gov.uk
[kesgrave-tc](https://www.facebook.com/kesgrave-tc) | [kesgrave-tc](https://www.instagram.com/kesgrave-tc)



These are recounted below as they were written:

"Dobbs Lane where it meets the main road is in need of another lane to let people out to let people out turning left out."

"Make residents aware of parking on area of zig zags outside Cedarwood School is illegal. 6 points on licence & a fine."

"Speeding vehicles from Elmers"

"Parking on Ropes Drive"

"Speeding Here on Dobbs Lane!! Needs speedometer where drivers come off A12. Anything to slow traffic down please."

"Solar and/or wind subsidise cost environment Public & other community building."

"Anti-Social Behaviour In The Area of Tesco."

"Some parks are blocked by overgrown hedges. This is a safety hazard to children. Unadopted & houses."

"Roads & path not properly repaired for over 30yrs! Paths broken & in poor condition for many elderly people."

"Support residents around Oak meadow – help them with parking – residents unable to park in their own private car park spaces due to visitors to Oak Meadow."

"Cars going over speed limit e.g. Dobbs Lane, Bell Lane, Ropes Drive."

"We have had a lot of things happening on Oak Meadow Park, with criminal damage to property."

"Address the 6th From KHS parking on Windrush & Ashdale Rd. Safety concerns!"

"Poor uneven cycle paths resurface?"

"Please put some funding aside for broken paths & roads caused by lorries cutting through constantly."

"Warden to see over Mobile Homes Caravans in gardens overlooking the path."

"Electric shuttles on cycle paths! Electric rickshaws."

The following four comments were all from the same person:

"Noise from Oak Meadow, need to move Equipment away From House, Drunk Teenagers late at night I lock [?] it up Non Grange Farm residents, parking on Private Car park and Road. Can't sit in open as too noisy."

"If providing recreational facilities consider residents with additional anti social behaviour at night – residents need to sleep & go to work! – Oak meadow."

"Consider closing hedge gaps on Oak Meadow for residents in Sheppards Way & Banyard Close to reduce anti parking and crime damage."

"Consider higher fencing & locked gates at nights around Oak Meadow – seek & speak with local residents around Oak Meadow."

One person handed over a three page typed note covering many different issues which was passed over to council and is not replicated here.

More than 100 other residents received the leaflet and explanation but did not have time to stop and carry out the other engagement procedures.

RSG/22.10.2018