

Wilsden Parish Council Neighbourhood Plan Community Consultation Event 24 September 2014

A community consultation event took place on the evening of Wednesday 24 September 2014 in the Village Hall, Wilsden. Its purpose was to assist in preparing a Neighbourhood Plan for Wilsden. This was a public event, advertised through the Parish Council web-site, through flyers, hand delivered to every household in the parish and distributed in Wilsden primary school local and posters in local shops and businesses. It was well attended with about 65 in attendance.

The session began with an introduction by the Parish Council setting out the aims, purpose and progress of the Neighbourhood Plan for the Parish.

Those attending were then split into eight facilitated groups. Each of the Groups was then asked to consider 5 key broad themes (see below) which previous consultation and research had shown as being especially important to Wilsden.

- Housing and the built environment
- Economy and employment
- Natural environment and open spaces
- Local Services
- Transport

The groups were asked to identify for each of the identified theme key issues and any emerging solutions to these. They were then asked to report back verbally and in written form.

A summary of the key points made by each Groups is shown below

Theme - Housing and the built environment							
Group One	Group Two	Group Three	Group Four	Group Five	Group Six	Group Seven	Group Eight
Need for affordable starter homes.	Mixture of houses	Bungalows	Housing will happen anyway. What type of housing? Where?	Not high rise Lower rise without pitched roofs.	Expansion of existing housing.	Developers may influence the type of buildings?	Smaller rather than large
Concern about number of rental properties.	Encourage young to stay-cheaper and more affordable.	Affordable housing. Small housing.	Most land is Greenbelt	Low cost housing for first time buyers	Bungalows/smaller houses	Need to keep village status rather than 4-5 beds	Old trad design
Don't want huge developments. Want Wilsden as distinct village.	4 beds too expensive	School.	Guidelines on density.	Retirement- 1 and 2 bed.	Development within old buildings. Old mills more in keeping.	Accom for older people. Assisted living/disabled.	Don't like 3 storey as it obstructs view.
Don't want to lose village feel. Open spaces etc.	More bungalows. Sheltered accom for elderly.	Infill houses in gardens.	Smaller housing takes up less space. Go for smaller more affordable housing. Housing needed for older people	Low cost env friendly housing	Traditional more than modern. 3 Storey out of character.	200 4-5 beds take up more space than 200 terraces.	Address housing needs of older people.
Prefer small pockets of development.	Apartments less space. Purpose built apartments.	Smaller developments	82 houses- Crack Lane to count towards 200.	Stone faced terraces.	Would school be able to teach local children. Lots of kids who do not live in Wilsden attend the school.	Affordable housing for young.	No to tower blocks.
Important the buildings should fit in terms of materials used. Don't want them	Convert mills in village.	Match- Yorks stone, red brick	CIL levy 25% to Wilsden.	Smaller developments preferred. Less than 40 spread		Bigger developments but out of village. Will lose village character.	

to all look the same.				around the village.			
			Old stone preferable	Use waste land first		Continuum of villages not separate.	
			Three storey blocks views	No tower blocks		Affordable materials. What type of people will live here.	
			Amenties			Prefer trad materials	
			Tower block – old mill			No to tower blocks. Fill in bits of village.	

Theme - Economy and Employment

Group One	Group Two	Group Three	Group Four	Group Five	Group Six	Group Seven	Group Eight
Important that there are job opportunities. Don't want to be a dormitory village.	Use the shops in Wilsden.	No to new businesses. We have more employment and businesses than Harden.	Industrial blocks but where?		Will we become a dormitory village or could employment be made.	Mixed views attracting employment to the village could cause congestion, community issues, very busy area. Rural life but tea shops, rural shops would be very popular.	No appetite for further industrial developments.
Facilities, businesses appreciate. Keep money local.	More car parking to support the shops.		Local use of shops needs to be raised – how?		If we could achieve more employment in the village it would ease traffic.	Wilsden should retain local shops for local people to use.	Local shops need supporting and generally seem to be well supported.
Good support for local shops. There are concerns about the future of the Post Office.	Land next to the Co-op owned by Wilsden Autos. Not intending to build. Go to PC meeting for compulsory purchase.		Planning application for pharmacy.		If we have a lot of development in the village we should get sports facilities and schools.	Could the council make it attractive to new small businesses by making it affordable. Home workers- insufficient broadband access to support these people.	Internet connectivity could be improved.
Broadband availability is not good across	More small areas of parking. Village unworkable if we		Poor connectivity – new fibre down Main Street.		Greater clarity needed for sec. 106 levy which can be used for	Cable access denied. Poor phone	

the village. Problems with some mobile reception.	build more houses and there are no parking spaces.				anything that is required – negotiation for best development.	reception/internet access.	
A List of businesses would be useful for residents.	Broadband important but sufficient at the moment.		Events arranged by Wilsdeners tend to be well attended.		SHLAA shows sites available in Wilsden.	Important to retain services/community spirit in our village. Older people especially need this.	
					Development on Greenfield site depends on brownfields.	Important to retain a post office in Wilsden.	
					Development on Birchlnds would be away from village centre but more shops could be built there if required.		
					Bigger developments in Allerton could make a huge difference to Wilsden i.e. join together schools, transport etc.		
					SHLAA document very import as it identifies 7 sites in village.		

Theme – Natural Environment and Open Spaces

Group One	Group Two	Group Three	Group Four	Group Five	Group Six	Group Seven	Group Eight
Want to keep farm land, footpaths etc. for walking, running	Not to join up with Harden.	Placed for youngsters to play – football, cricket.	Mainly Greenbelt.	Retain park, Townfield, Norr Hill and Wilsden Hill.	Green Belt Deletions are inevitable.	More allotments to be available – only 2.	Value of different bits of green belt depends where you live.
Value play areas near Village Hall. Used by different age groups at different times.	Laneside field to be looked at.		Sad to lose dairy farms and equestrian.	Dry stone walling in small developments.	Boston Spa – Churchfields Taylor Wimpey.	Would prefer open spaces to be retained. Fields around the village (Wilsden Hill) with a compact village.	General agreement that Greenbelt between Sandy Lane and Wilsden should be given a priority.
Laneside a possible good site for development.	Use next field and connect to Birkshead.		Rather be Wilsden and Harden than Wilsden & (say) Allerton, as they are similar.	Maintain village with separate identity.	Cycle route improvement possible.	Field on junction of Crack Lane and Shay Lane.	Preference for pockets of housing set amongst the green fields.
	Small developments to intergrade into the village.		Rather keep small pockets of greens for younger generation.		Roads around here are too narrow for more traffic e.g. Crack Lane.	Many walks and footpaths would be spoiled if they are built on – Pie Hole.	Open spaces – won't go to well over recreation field.
	Recreation field should be retained.					Fields above Ling Bob onto Harecroft.	
	Complete unfinished sites.					Contain our village, build in the village and retain as many open spaces as possible.	

Theme – Local Services

Group One	Group Two	Group Three	Group Four	Group Five	Group Six	Group Seven	Group Eight
Pressure on school from people outside the village (and cars). Housing for young families in the village would mean spaces filled by local children.	Very concerned about primary school and nowhere for it to expand unless a new school is built.	More doctors, nurses. Longer surgery times.	School – oversubscribed at the moment – should be from Wilsden.	Concern about spaced in Wilsden Primary school. Approx. 50% of children are driven into the village. This adds to traffic congestion.		The school will not have enough places for all prospective pupils.	School pressure a primary level – rebuild elsewhere.
Difficulty getting appointments at local Doctor's surgery.		Infrastructure. Sewage – water – electricity.	Medical centre – new at Harden.	Future development – school bus for children.		Parking/dropping off is a big problem.	Efforts to relieve pressure on health service.
Pharmacy not as accessible for non car drivers, but some people like the surgery and pharmacy adjacent.		New school.		More pressure on doctor's surgery.		New school between Wilsden and Harden.	
				Traffic concerns – potential chaos		Doctors o.k. at present but more	

				with increased housing.		patients would be problematic.	
				Increased broadband speed for new businesses.			
				Wholefood shop.			
				Hardware shop.			
				Charity shop.			
				More allotments.			
				No more takeaways.			
				Chemist on Main Street.			

Theme - Transport

Group One	Group Two	Group Three	Group Four	Group Five	Group Six	Group Seven	Group Eight
Additional traffic at Ling Bob roundabout would make getting out of the village problematic.	Bus service more reliable.	More buses.	More buses and links. Wider variety of bus routes – hoppers.	Improve public transport. Buses to Keighley earlier for works 7.30 a.m.		Need to restrict speed limit through village.	.Buses – high frequency. Better choice of routes e.g. Shipley.
Good half hourly bus service but the routes are limited.		Better connectivity with trains. Peak times.	First Bus and TLC amalgamation and co-ordination.	Cyclists – maintain better road surfaces.		Speed restrictions may force drivers on to the small country roads.	Trains o.k. Support off road tracks for cyclists.
Car parking spaces inadequate on the new developments.	More parking.	Hopper buses.	Trains o.k.	Speed bumps 20 mph Main Street.		Reliable service. More direct service is needed to Keighley.	Encourage use of buses.
Need to insist on two spaces per house minimum.	Need more parking on Main Street.	Speed control. 20.	Parking reduction.			Access bus would be a good idea.	
Cyclists – need to make sure footpaths/bridleways are clear to allow access.	New school with parking facilities.	Speed bumps.	Cycle lane.			Better facilities for cyclists – but don't know what.	
		Cycle facilities.	Horses.			Public transport is generally good.	
		Containment of development on perimeter of existing.					