

Bishops Frome Parish Neighbourhood Plan

Neighbourhood Plan Questionnaires - Guidance Notes

Dear Resident,

You may be aware that the Bishops Frome Parish (Bishops Frome and Fromes Hill) are developing a Neighbourhood Plan. This follows on from the 'Community Led Parish Plan' for Bishops Frome and Fromes Hill which was published in April 2014. The Community Led Parish Plan collected information about the aspirations of the residents of the two villages. The Neighbourhood Plan aims to collect and collate more detailed information about the priorities identified in the Community Led Parish Plan.

What is the Plan for?

If approved by the community and statutory authorities, the Plan will give our parish greater influence and control over future local planning and development. This is part of a national initiative to enable local communities to have a greater input into decisions that directly affect them.

Who is involved in the development of the Plan?

Your Parish Council set up a Steering Group of residents to run the project in May 2014.

Why do we need a Questionnaire?

The project is currently at the data-gathering stage. Last year we sent out a questionnaire for the Community Led Parish Plan and this forms the basis for this questionnaire which will further develop the ideas expressed in that plan. In order for the data to be reliable and representative, it is crucial that as many residents as possible express their needs and views on future development within the parish. This questionnaire is an effective way of achieving this. The responses to this questionnaire, combined with the Community Led Parish Plan completed earlier this year, will form the basis of the draft Neighbourhood plan, which will include local policies on where new houses are to be built, what they look like and what support services are required. The draft Neighbourhood plan will be available for all in the Parish to make comments on and will be presented to Herefordshire Council for their views and acceptance. Then the completed Neighbourhood plan will be presented to the Residents of Bishop's Frome and Fromes Hill in a referendum. If the plan is accepted by you, the members of the Parish, it will then become part of the planning process covering the years 2011 to 2031 and coincide with Herefordshire Council's Core Strategy Plan.

Who are the Questionnaires for?

Everyone in your household, from the age of 16 upwards can complete a copy of the questionnaire. Your Volunteer distributor will leave you with enough questionnaires for every eligible person in your household. There are different questionnaires for Bishop’s Frome and Fromes Hill. However, there are dwellings situated throughout our Parish, so if you are offered a questionnaire for Bishops Frome and think you should have a Fromes Hill one instead, or vice versa, please ask your distributor. Each village questionnaire has a plan of the village in it

Things to remember when filling the Questionnaire

Most of the questions are answered simply by using ticks, but many give you the opportunity to add further comments. Please PRINT your comments or write legibly. Your views will not be included in the draft Plan if they cannot be read!

Confidentiality and Anonymity

We do not require your name. Though we ask for your postcode your age group and gender.

What other opportunities will I have to contribute to the Plan?

You will be invited to comment on the draft Plan at Drop-in days at Bishops Frome Village Centre and Fromes Hill Church. Once the Plan is finalised, you will be invited to vote for or against the Plan in a local referendum. A simple majority vote will determine the outcome. If accepted, the Plan will have the force of law and must be taken into account in any planning matters addressed at Parish level.

How do I contact my volunteer distributor?

A volunteer distributor will call to deliver your questionnaire(s). Your distributor will ask you for a date and time to collect the completed questionnaire from you. Please phone her or him if you want to change the date. If you need extra copies or have any questions about the distribution and collection process please contact your Volunteer distributor:

Name:..... Phone:.....
Email:.....

How do I get assistance to complete the Questionnaire?

If you need a large print version of the questionnaire or assistance to complete it please contact: John Pudge, The Hop Pocket Tel.: 01531 640323 e-mail john@thehoppocket.com

Thank you for taking the time to complete this questionnaire!

Bishops Frome Parish Neighbourhood Plan

Residents' Questionnaire - August 2014

Introduction

The Bishops Frome and Fromes Hill Parish Council is developing a Neighbourhood Plan.

If the Plan is approved by the community and statutory authorities, it will give the parish greater influence and control over future local planning and development.

As part of this process, it is essential that as many local residents contribute to its development as is possible. This questionnaire is one such opportunity for you to get involved.

Filling in the Questionnaire

This questionnaire is for parishioners aged 16 or over.

Most of the questions are answered simply by using ticks, but many give you the opportunity to add further comments. Please PRINT your comments or write legibly. Your views will not be included in the draft Plan if they cannot be read!

Confidentiality and Anonymity

We do not require your name, though we do ask for your postcode, your age and gender for demographic analysis.

Section One – Village Statement

Q1: Which of the following describe the essential characteristics of Bishops Frome? (Tick one box in each row.)

	1	2	3	4	5
	Not important				Very important
Country village and its listed buildings					
Open/green spaces inside the village					
Working farms around the village					
Separation from other villages by countryside					
Overall balance of population and facilities					
Varied building styles in the village					
Comments, if any:					

Q2: What do you enjoy about living in Bishops Frome? (Tick one box in each row.)

	1	2	3	4	5
	Not important				Very important
Village identity / feeling part of a community					
Village activities / community groups					
Quiet village					
Easy access to the countryside					
Familiar service in local shops and businesses					
Rural atmosphere					
Comments, if any:					

Section Two - Housing in Bishops Frome

In the Community Led Parish Plan, the responses identified that major housing development would not be supported and that new housing should be within strict limits. The action points stated that, when considering planning applications, Herefordshire Council and Bishops Frome parish council should only allow limited housing development. Furthermore, any development should be focussed on starter homes, affordable housing and family homes.

At present, within the Herefordshire Core Strategy Plan, both of our villages have been allocated a minimum of 14% increase in dwellings in the period 2011 to 2031. This is approx. 22 for Bishop's Frome and 11 for Fromes Hill. The Core Strategy plan states, that within the villages carefully considered development which is proportionate to the size of the community and its needs, will be permitted only where residential proposals are locally appropriate to ensure villages retain their separate, distinctive and varied characters.

Our Plan has to show the type of housing, the number of houses per development and where in the village this development is acceptable. On the village plans we have indicated the general area in which developments could take place. In the questions in this section we ask you to please put these locations in order of preference and indicate the number and type of housing you would consider acceptable.

For Bishops Frome, Herefordshire Council has informed us that three developments are already approved and committed to for the period 2011 to 2031. They are the old Frome Valley Haulage Yard (17 dwellings - already under construction), the Dovehills (4) and the land adjacent to Broadfield Barn (2). This takes us to 23 homes, which is above the number of houses required in this period in Bishops Frome village. Please do not become complacent, still answer the questions as the Parish Council needs to know where, what size of development and which type of housing you would like to see in your village in the future. In fact there is a new application which is currently with Hereford Council for a large development of 30 houses on the land behind Broadfield Close. If approved, this would take Bishops Frome up to 53 additional homes, above the 22 required in the Hereford Core Strategy plan.

Q3. If additional new homes (beyond the 23 already approved) are to be built in the village, how many in total should be permitted by 2031? (Tick one box in each row.)

	Yes	No
None		
No more than 2 Houses		
No more than 10 Houses		
No more than 20 Houses		
No more than 30 Houses		
No more than 50 Houses		
Comments, if any:		

Q4. When land is allocated for housing, what are your views on the size of each housing development that should be allowed? (Tick one box in each row.)

	Yes	No
One large estate		
A number of smaller developments (e.g. <10 houses)		
Individual released plots		
Garden infill development		
Comments, if any:		

Q5. When land is allocated for housing, what are your views on the style of housing development that should be allowed? (Tick one box in each row.)

	Yes	No
Single storey		
Two-storey		
Three-storey		
Flats / apartments		
Period style, with use of traditional local building materials		
Modern style		
Design that respects the scale and styles of existing buildings		
Smaller style houses		
Smaller gardens		
Larger gardens		
Houses with off street parking		
Houses with a high level of energy conservation		
Comments, if any:		

Q6. When land is allocated for housing, where in the village should it be located? (Tick one box in each row.)

	1 Not important	2	3	4	5 Very important
Within the village					
On the edge of the village					
On 'Greenfield' sites (undeveloped)					
On farms					
Comments, if any:					

Q7. The enclosed **Map 1** has several areas marked with letters where houses could potentially be built. Please consider it carefully and then list the areas in the order you believe they are suitable for development. **You must give a reason for your first and last choices.** You may give a reason for the other choices if you wish.

Suitability for development	Area (letter)	Reason
1st (most suitable)		
2nd		
3rd		
4th		
5th		
6th		
7th		
8th		
9th (least suitable)		
Comments, if any:		

Key to Letters on map

- A Next to Summerpool
- B The transport yard (Trevor's yard) next to the Old Post Office
- C Upper House (Eveson trust) land West of Upper House
- D Land and farm buildings West of Broadfield Court / Mudwalls
- E Land between Wellington Farm Drive and Filly brook
- F Land area South of building plot for 2 houses (near Broadfield Barn)
- G Land (Eveson Trust) South of Broadfield Court
- H Land West of Partridge's garage
- I Land South of Partridge's garage (Christmas tree field)

Q8. When additional houses are to be built, which size or type should they be? (Tick one box in each row.)

	Yes	No	No Opinion
Starter homes (2 bedrooms)			
Family homes (3 or more bedrooms)			
Executive homes (4 or more bedrooms)			
Adapted/easy access homes, e.g. bungalows			
Flats/apartments (one or more bedrooms)			
Supported housing/retirement homes			
Living/working properties (small scale enterprise located within or adjacent to the home)			
Homes for local people/people with local connections			
Comments, if any:			

Q9. The space below is for any other comments you want to make on housing:

Section Three - Traffic, Transport and Access

The Community Led Parish Plan revealed that speeding is a major safety concern in the parish and respondents supported the use of 'Slow Down' signs, speed indicator devices and speed cameras. Your opinion on the future of road transport in your Village is very important. The topics below will help the Parish Council to prioritize the future structure of the village.

Q10. In your opinion are any changes needed with regard to the following transport issues?
(Tick one box in each row.)

	1	2	3	4	5
	Not important				Very important
Speed of vehicles through Bishops Frome					
Parking in Bishops Frome					
Road maintenance					
Road developments (see note below)					
Footpaths					
Bus service					
Comments, if any:					

Road developments: Future housing developments may require road development in the village. The attached **Map 2** shows one example of a possible road development. The example shows a new road going from between the front of Upper House and the Green Dragon car park which re- joins the Burley Gate road on the village side of Wellington Farm drive. You can comment on this in the 'Comments' box above. Or if you have any other ideas for road developments then please add it to the 'Comments' box and mark it on **Map 2** and return the map with your completed questionnaire. Payment for some road developments could be borne by the developers as part of conditions for any new housing developments.

Section Four – Protecting our environment

Q11. Which of the following ways of protecting and enhancing local heritage and the natural environment are important to you? (Tick one box in each row.)

	1 Not important	2	3	4	5 Very important
Improved measures for the conservation of historic or listed buildings and features					
Green/open spaces in the village					
Enhanced protection of the natural environment					
Protection of views and vistas in and around the village and parish					
Comments, if any:					

Q12. Has your property suffered from flooding in the last 10 years because of:

(Tick one box in each row)

	Yes	No
River / stream overflow?		
Field run-off?		
Sewers overflowing?		
Road run-off (drains / ditches unable to cope)?		
Comments, if any:		

Section Five – Creating a sustainable community

Q13. What aspects of community living do you think we need to address to ensure that our parish thrives as a place in which to live, work and play over the next 20 years and beyond?
(Tick one box in each row)

	Yes	No	No Opinion
Producing local renewable energy by sun, water or biomass			
Producing local renewable energy by developing wind power			
Building homes that exceed government energy-efficiency standards			
Allocating land to enable residents to grow their own food			
Walking, cycling, and going by bus more - driving less			
Attracting younger people to live in our villages (and providing homes, employment, so they can)			
Increasing the number and type of community facilities (e.g. Play areas, clubs)			
Comments, if any:			

Section Six – About you

Q14. Please enter the following information about yourself:

Your age group? (tick one box)	16-20	21-30	31-40	41-50	51-60	61-70	71-80	81+
Your gender?								
Your postcode?								