

Westerfield Neighbourhood Plan



WELCOME

This evening we're providing an update on the preparation of our Neighbourhood Plan

Last October we held events to establish whether there was sufficient support from residents to prepare a Neighbourhood Plan. Subsequently, a Working Group of volunteers was established and we're making good progress towards preparing the Plan.

What is a Neighbourhood Plan?

It is a new kind of planning document designed to allow local people to play an active part in planning their area. It can guide the development and conservation of the village. It can, for example, also identify proposals for:

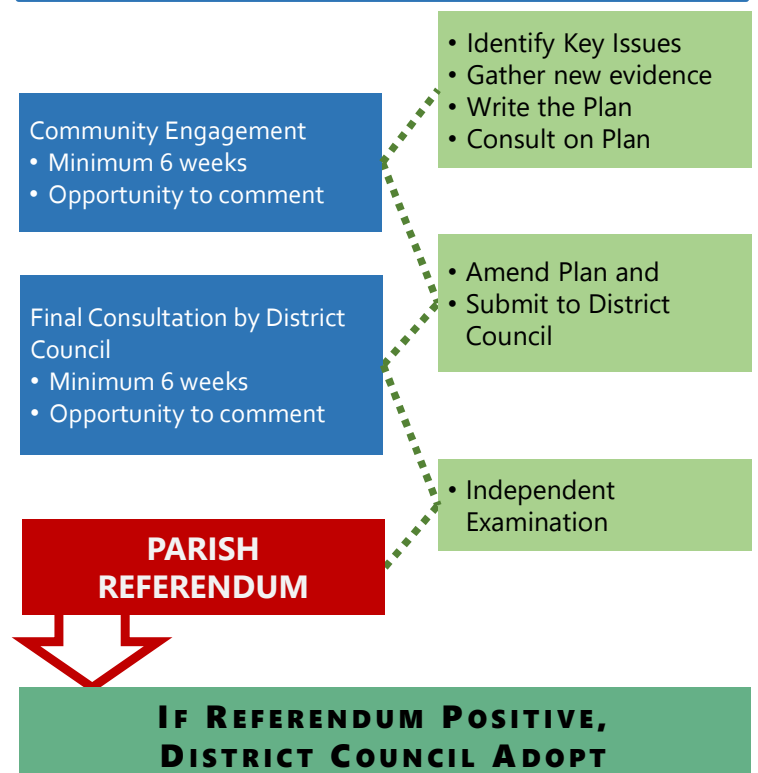
- Improving areas;
- Providing new facilities;
- Sites for new development;
- Protecting sites of environmental or historic quality.

When complete, it forms part of the statutory development plan for the area, meaning East Suffolk Council and Planning Inspectors take it into account when considering planning applications.

Community involvement is a major part of the process of developing a Neighbourhood Plan and it must be approved in a local referendum before it can be used.

How it is prepared?

The process for preparing a new neighbourhood plan is governed by Government regulations and so there is no short cut.



Westerfield Neighbourhood Plan



WESTERFIELD VISION

Our overall aim, of the Neighbourhood Plan, is:

To preserve the rural feel of Westerfield

&

To enhance the sense of community felt by residents

To achieve this the Plan will have the following objectives:

- Maintain Westerfield as a 'small Village' (in planning terms) by creating a "green belt" to protect from creeping developments both from outside and within the Village
- Allocate an area (ideally near the Village Hall and Church) as the focal point that supports the development of further services for Village residents
- Specify design and development criteria for future developments which maintain the rural character and prevent the "suburbanisation" of the Village
- Ensure residents can safely walk and cycle in and around Westerfield to enjoy the village and surrounding countryside, as well as providing access to nearby essential services such as schools
- Ensure Westerfield supports all our futures by reducing our environmental impact and improving the Village environment for local wildlife (e.g., rewilding and green corridors through the village)

**Do you agree with the aim and objectives?
Is there anything that we've missed?**

Use a post-it note to write your comment and add a green dot if you agree with what's already been said or a red dot if you disagree

Westerfield Neighbourhood Plan

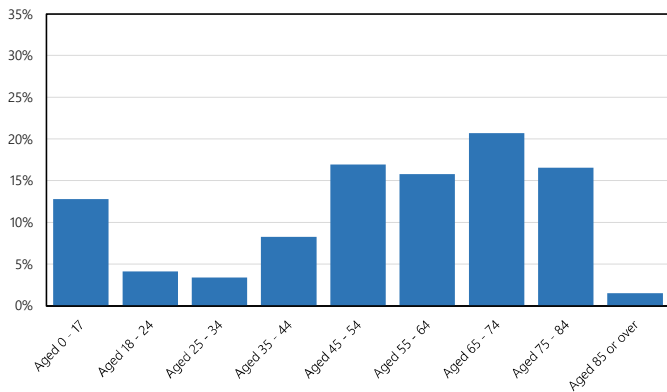


RESIDENTS' SURVEY FEEDBACK

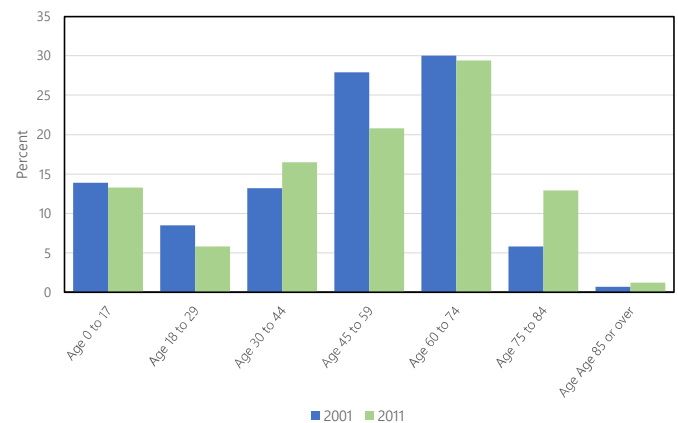
Thanks to everyone that completed the survey during March. We had 124 completed responses.

The following boards provide headline results from the survey.

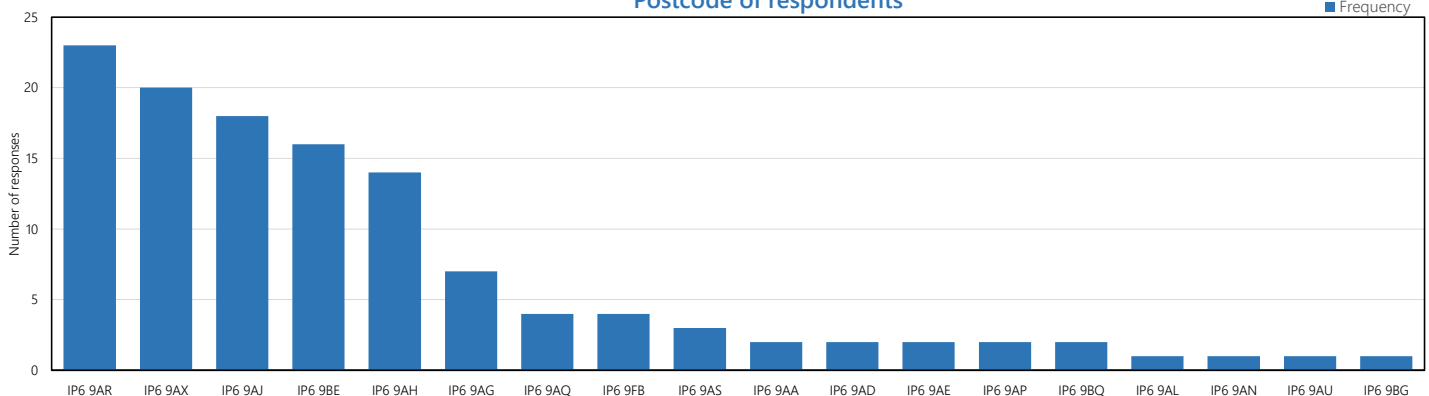
Ages: Percentage of Responses (2022)



Ages: Change 2001 to 2011



Postcode of respondents

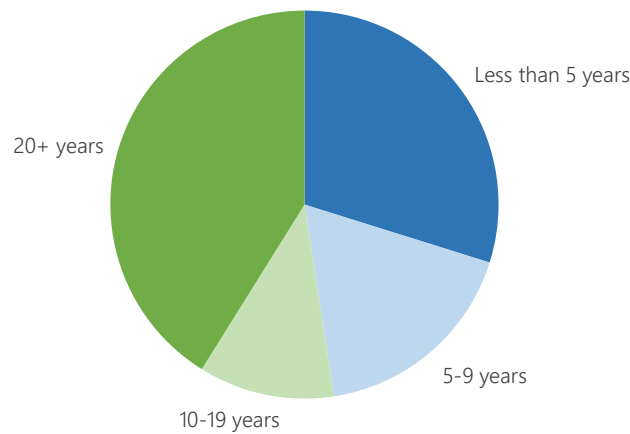


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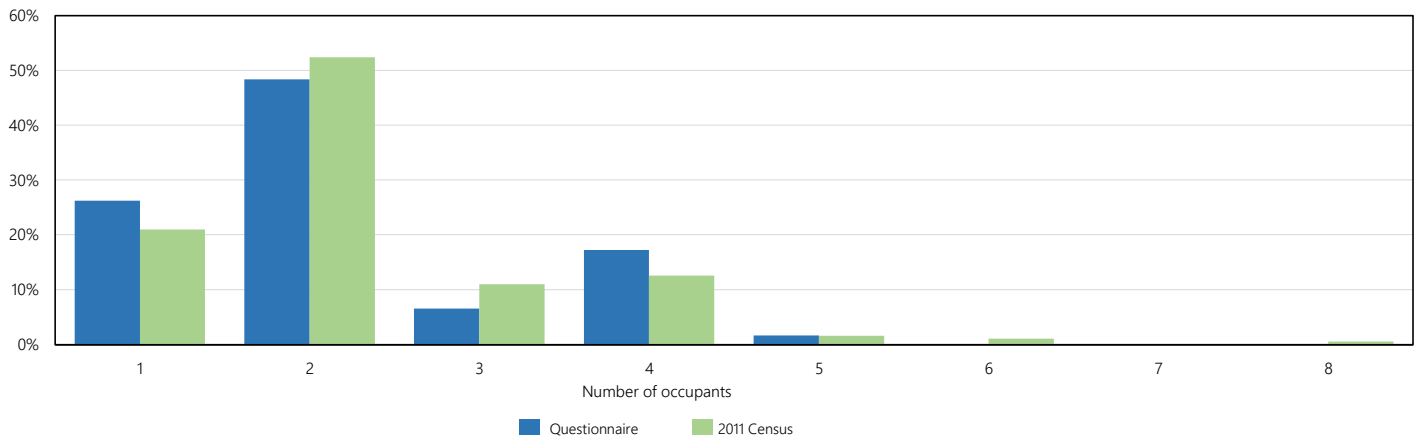


RESIDENTS' SURVEY FEEDBACK

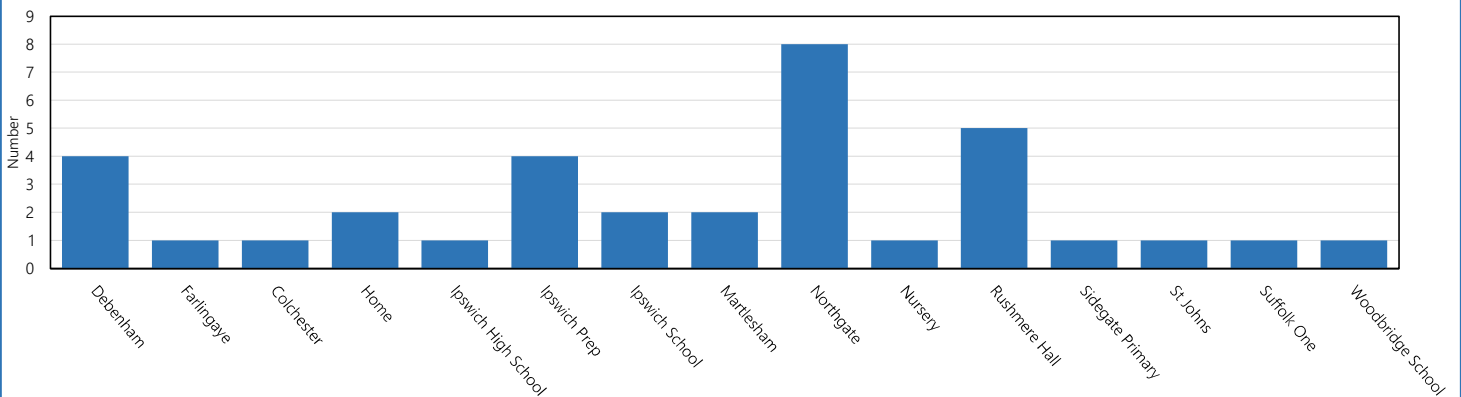
How many years have you lived in the village?
(Longest, if answering for a household)



Profile of occupants per house



Schools Attended

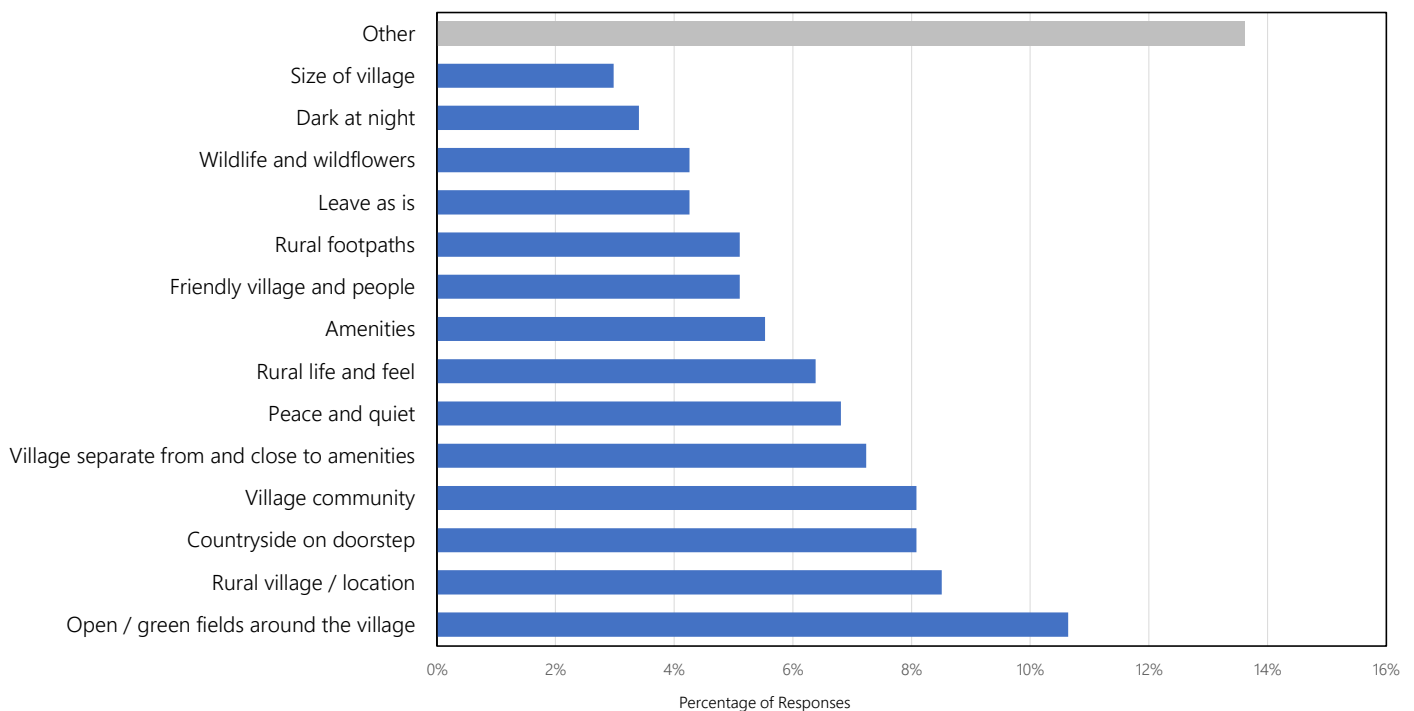


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RESIDENTS' SURVEY FEEDBACK

What do you like about living in Westerfield and want to see protected?



Other	
Transport (Trains / Bus)	2.1%
Countryside Walks	1.7%
Trees and hedges	1.7%
Church	1.3%
Mental well-being	1.3%
Westerfield is a safe place to live	1.3%
Bird song	0.9%
Dog poo bins	0.4%
Preet	0.4%
Price of property	0.4%
Reliable / Fast Broadband	0.4%

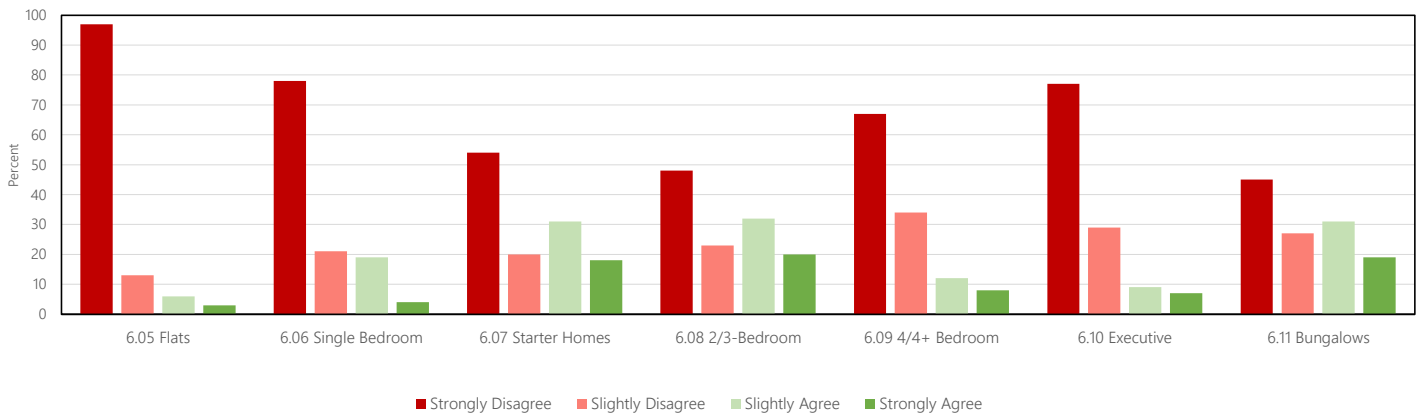
Amenities	
Both pubs	
Clubs	
Post box	
Village coffee morning	
Village Hall	

Westerfield Neighbourhood Plan

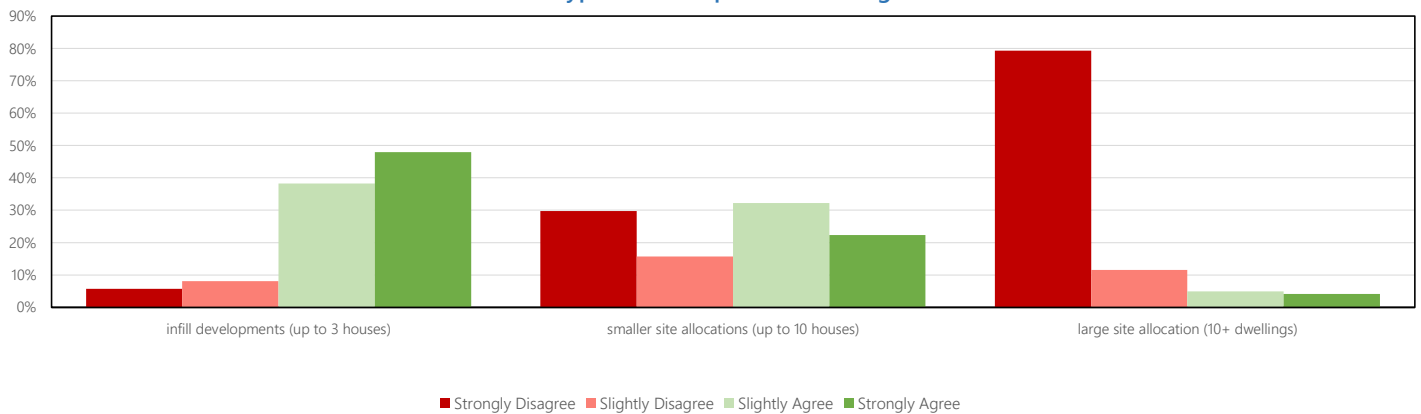


RESIDENTS' SURVEY FEEDBACK

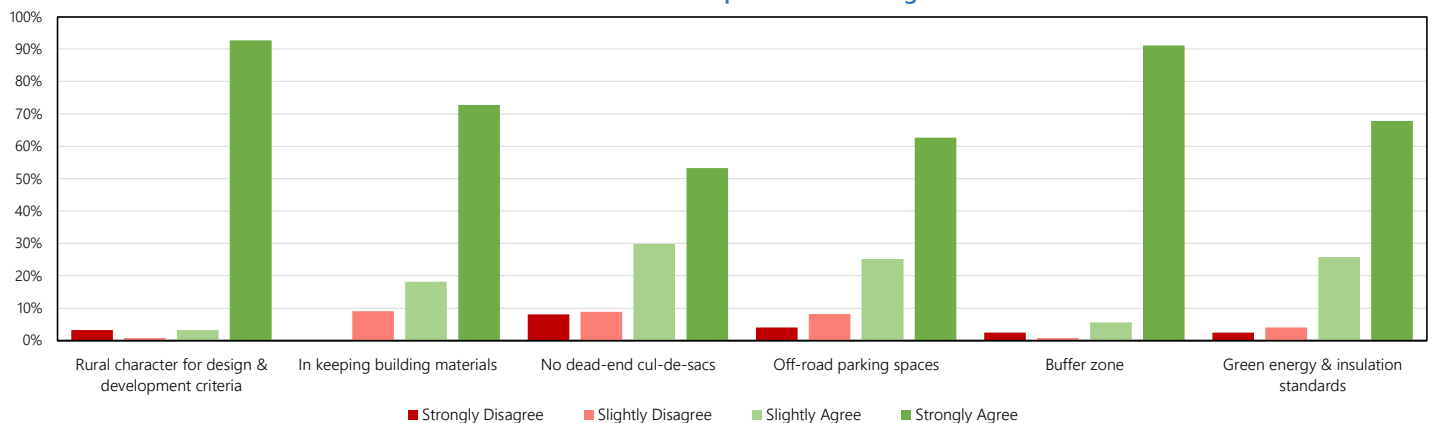
Which type of accommodation does the village need?



Which type of development the village needs more of



Future development of housing

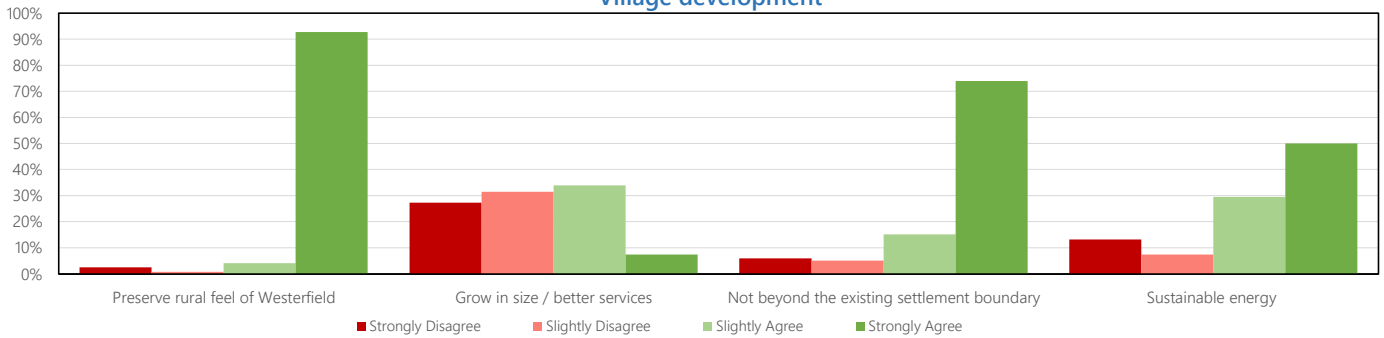


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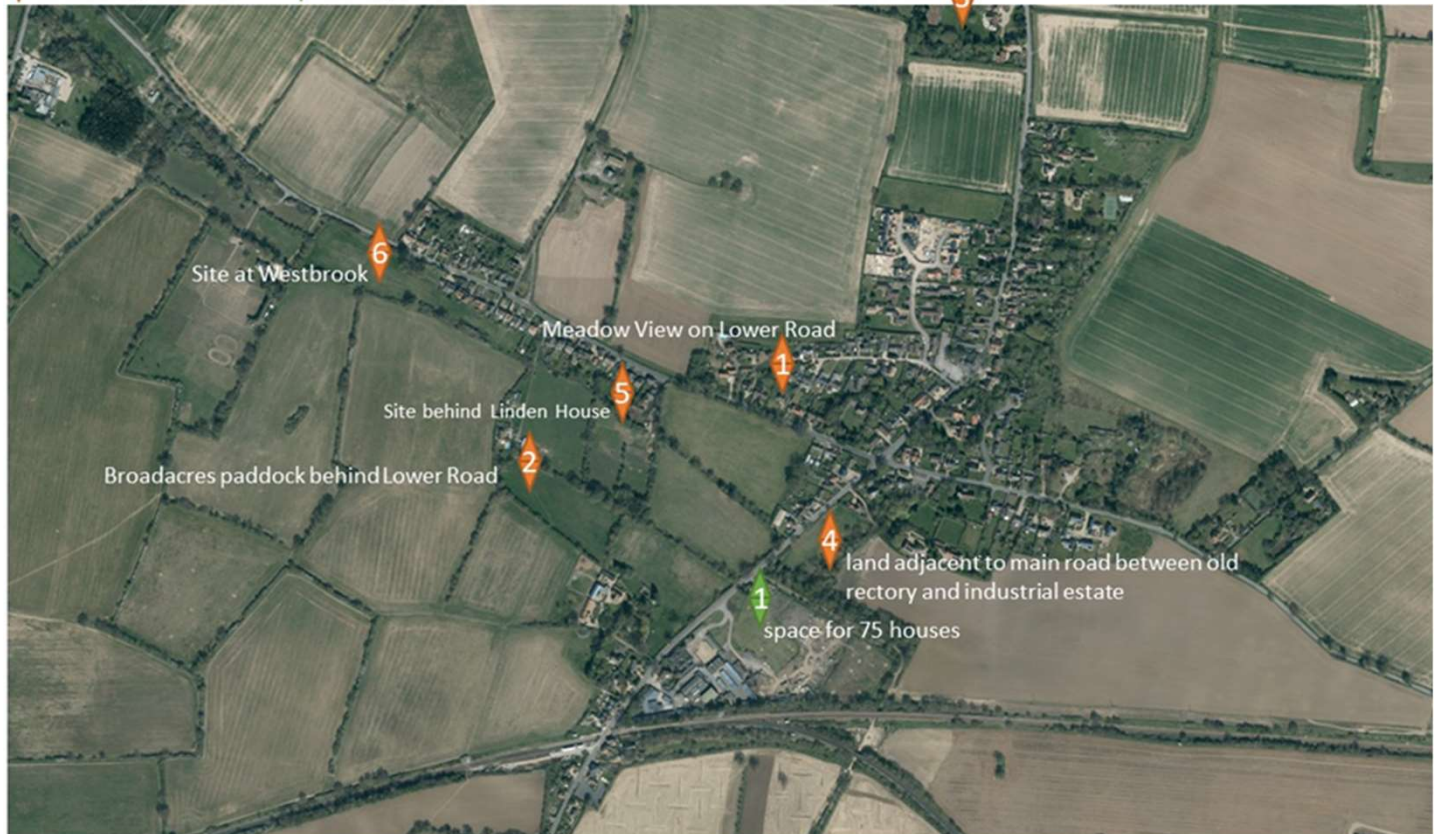
Village development



ARE YOU AWARE OF ANY SITES IN THE PARISH AREA WHICH MAY COME FORWARD FOR HOUSING DEVELOPMENT THAT ARE NOT ALREADY ALLOCATED?

◆ not already allocated
 ◆ already allocated

Field north side of village, LHS of road, formerly used for horses ◆ 3

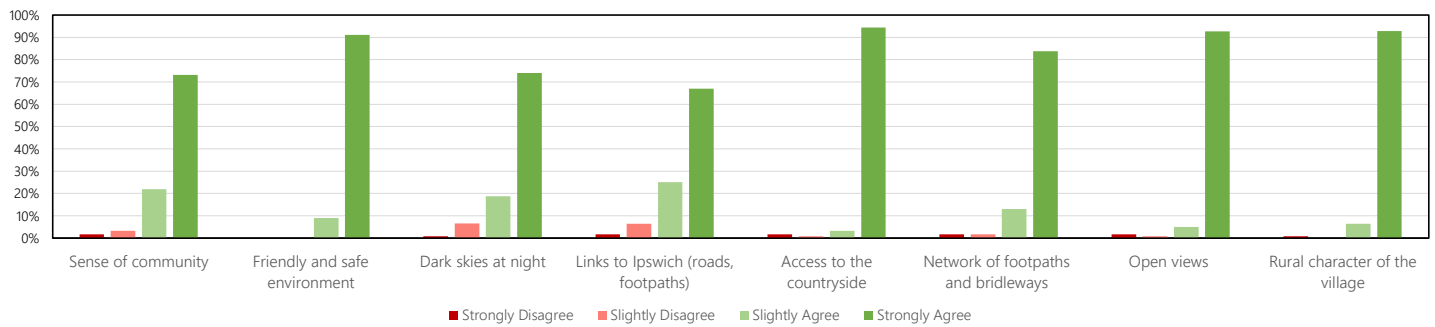


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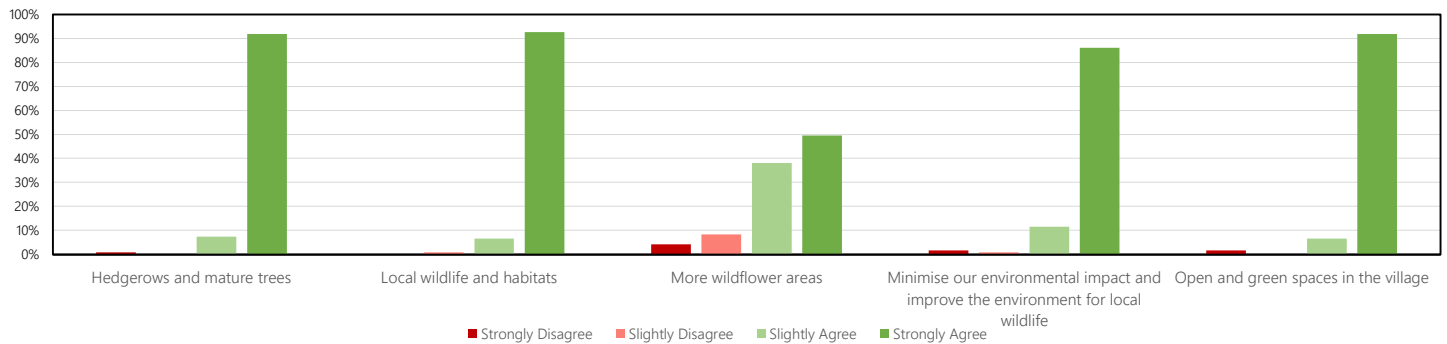


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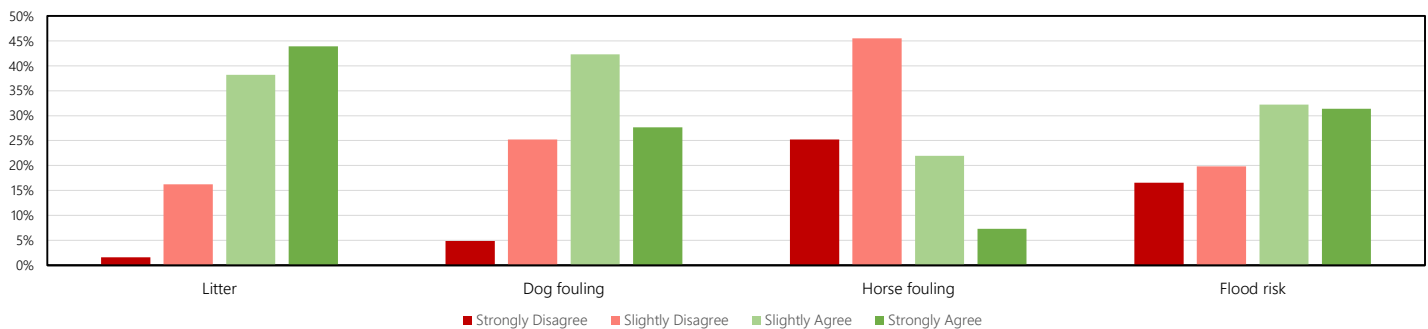
Landscape



Natural Environment



Problem areas to be addressed



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RESIDENTS' SURVEY FEEDBACK

NEW FOOTPATHS OR CYCLEWAYS THAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO SEE CREATED

Summary of new path requests:

1. To Henley Gate and Crofts estate [should be via Country Park development]
2. Across to Laurel Farm, but not by road as too dangerous
3. Cycle route to Ipswich (but not up Westerfield Road) [via Henley Gate development?]
4. Footpath along Church Lane from crossroads to Moss Lane
5. Footpath from crossroads to Fonnereau way entrance
6. Footpath via railway bridges to Tuddenham Road [Red Barn development]
7. Footpaths to link to Tuddenham footpaths
8. Circular route through village avoiding main roads – esp. Red Barn area to Church Lane/Moss Lane
9. Path to Fynn Valley/Tuddenham river walks
10. Path to Fynn Valley
11. Path between Cockfield Hall Lane/Main Road and Fonnereau Way [Pipps Lane?]

Additional comments:

Walking and cycling in Westerfield is dangerous because of volume and speed of traffic
Current footpaths need to be maintained better
Entrance on to Fonnereau Way/Country Park needs to be sorted



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RESIDENTS' SURVEY FEEDBACK

WHAT VIEWS ARE IMPORTANT TO YOU?



General Village Views



Westerfield Neighbourhood Plan

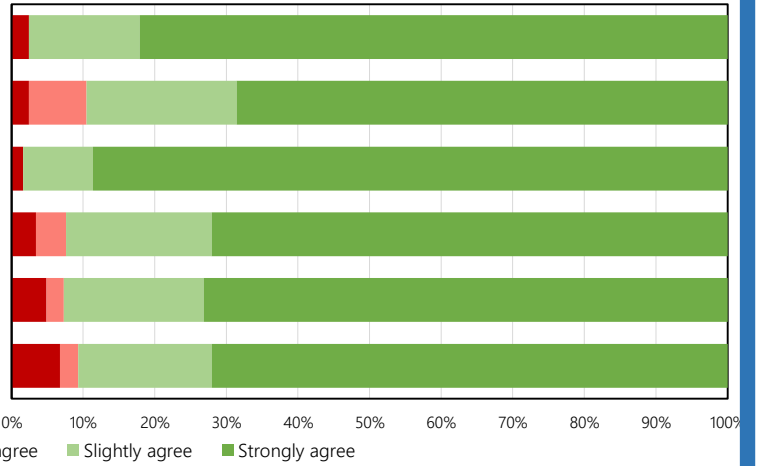


RESIDENTS' SURVEY FEEDBACK

TRAFFIC, ROADS AND FOOTPATHS

To what extent do you agree with the following statements?

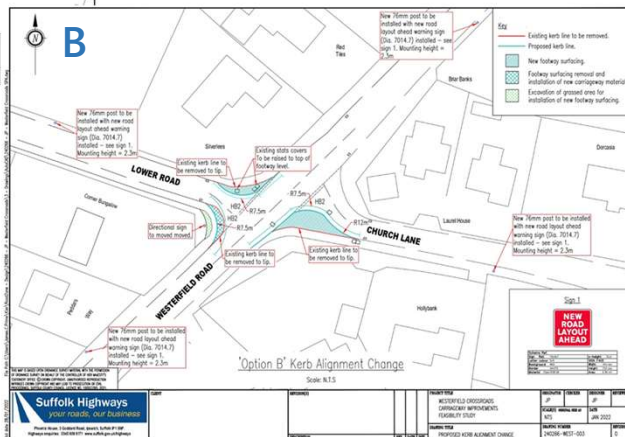
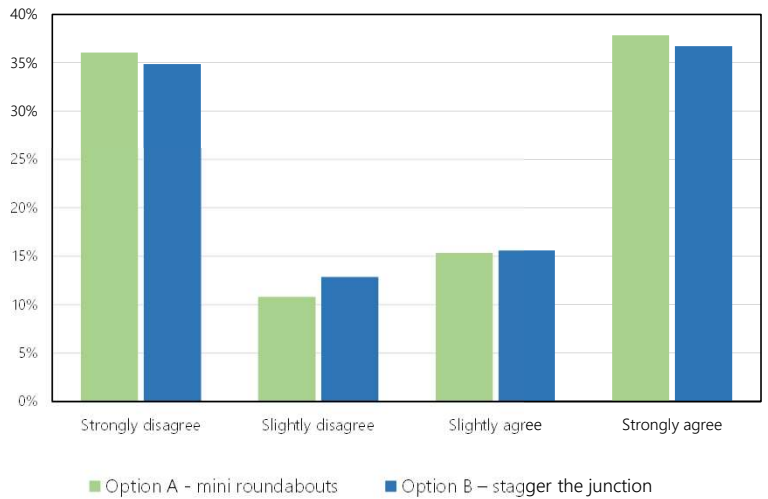
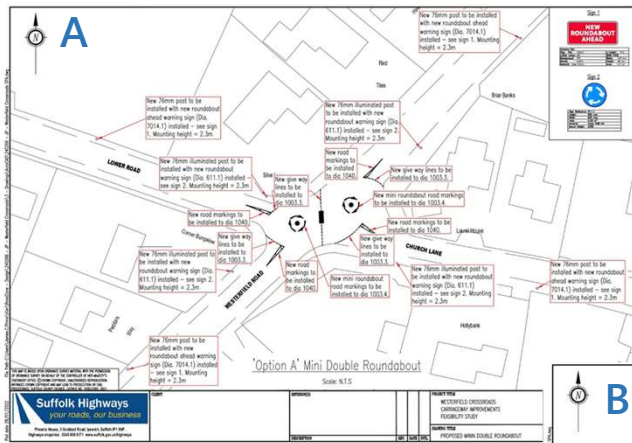
- Network rail should develop the yard area as a car park to prevent future commuters from Ipswich Garden suburb parking on Westerfield Road
- There should be parking restrictions leading up to the railway crossing to improve traffic flow
- Residents should be able to walk and cycle safely in and around Westerfield to enjoy the village and surrounding countryside, as well as have access to nearby essential...
- The footpath should be extended north to Cockfield Hall Lane
- There should be a foot/cycle path connecting Westerfield Road to the Red House development
- There should be a foot/cycle path connecting Westerfield Road to Henley Gate facilities



The Crossroads

We asked for your views on two initial ideas that Suffolk Highways had put forward to remodel the crossroads.

As a reminder, Options A and B are illustrated below

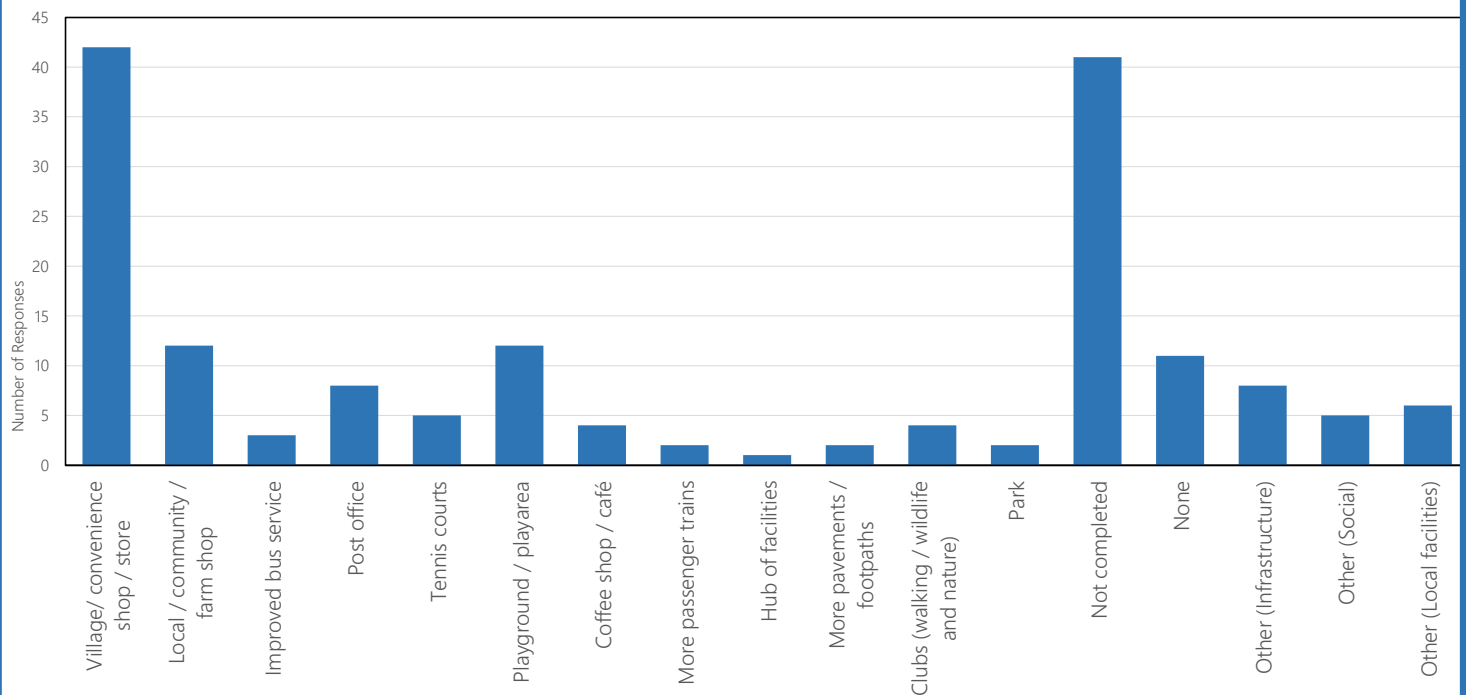


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RESIDENTS' SURVEY FEEDBACK

WHAT EXTRA FACILITIES OR ACTIVITIES WOULD YOU USE IF THEY WERE IN WESTERFIELD?



Social suggestions:

- Licence to show films in the village hall, perhaps on a monthly basis?
- Carpet bowls
- Maybe just the occasional social evening gathering to get to know each other
- More events that are not regular clubs, e.g. coffee, drop-in, getting together, small litter picks – just hour, meet, socialise, and then leave or walks round village together
- Activities in the paddock e.g. swing, adult gym

Local facilities suggestions:

- Local residents willing to offer support to the elderly by collecting shopping, prescriptions etc
- Barter system so I would give my time in exchange for services
- Fresh fish van in Village Hall Car Park
- Welcome / Activity Pack for village
- Local resident sales – Plant sales, cake sales etc

Infrastructure suggestions:

- An improved, enlarged village hall
- Children's public green space
- Promoting green space and wildlife projects especially to younger / future generations to understand what work goes on and make it easier to get involved
- Bottle bank / recycling centre
- Develop woodland nature areas (re-wilding) in vacant gap sites and fields
- More public open spaces for walking, recreation
- Provision of a pedestrian footbridge at Westerfield station
- Traffic calming

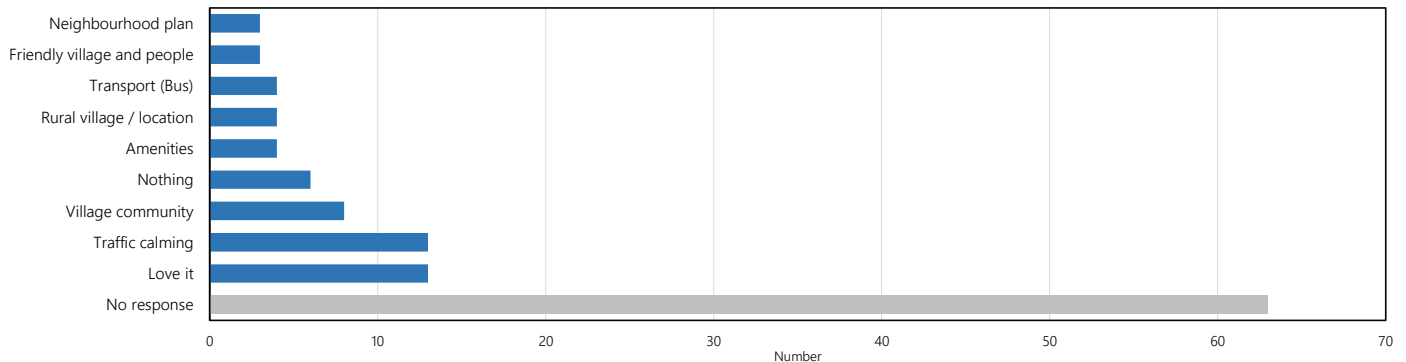
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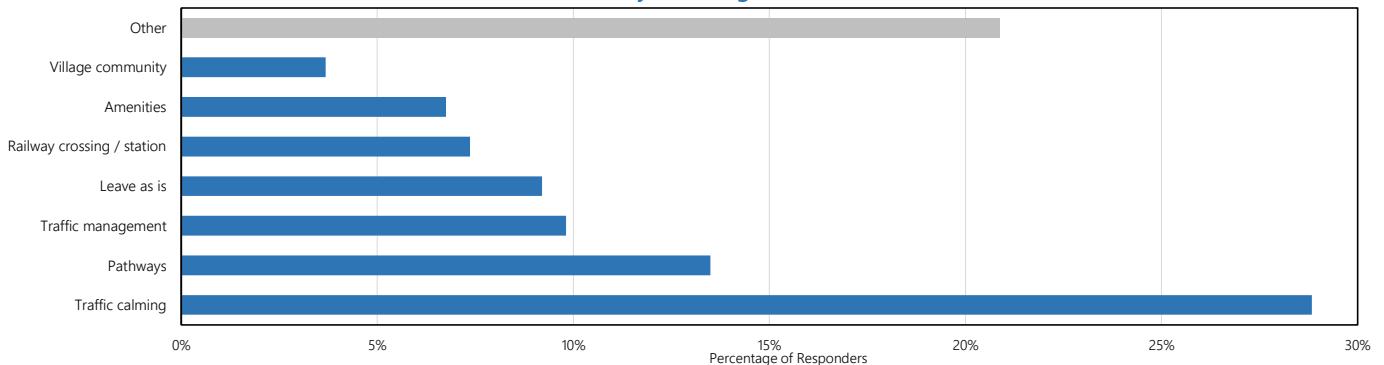
RESIDENTS' SURVEY FEEDBACK

FACILITIES AND ACTIVITIES IN WESTERFIELD

Is there anything else you would like to tell us about living in Westerfield?



What would you change about Westerfield?



Amenities suggestions:

- Café
- More dog poo bins
- More benches
- Areas of families
- Playground with equipment
- Central safe play area for children
- Village shop

Other:

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Street lighting • Communication • Village maintenance • Neighbourhood Plan • Pathway maintenance | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speed Camera • Village plans • Countryside walks • Wildlife and wildflowers • Affordable housing • Environment | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Countryside on doorstep • Rural village / location • Adverse behaviour • Mains sewage • Village bunting • Encourage considerate use of bonfires |
|--|---|--|

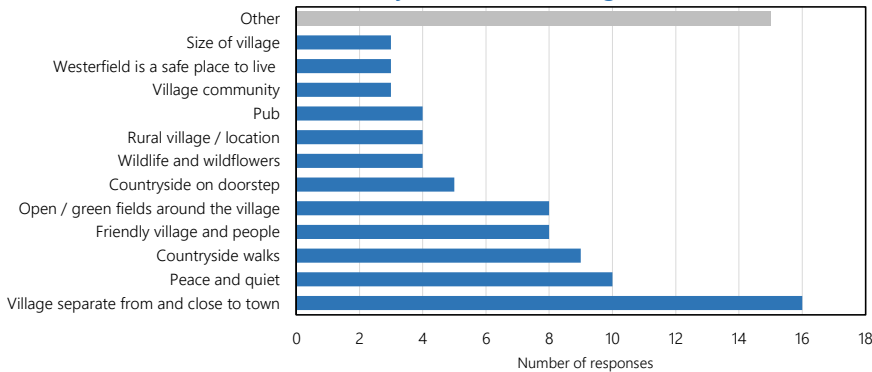
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RESIDENTS' SURVEY FEEDBACK

CHILDREN

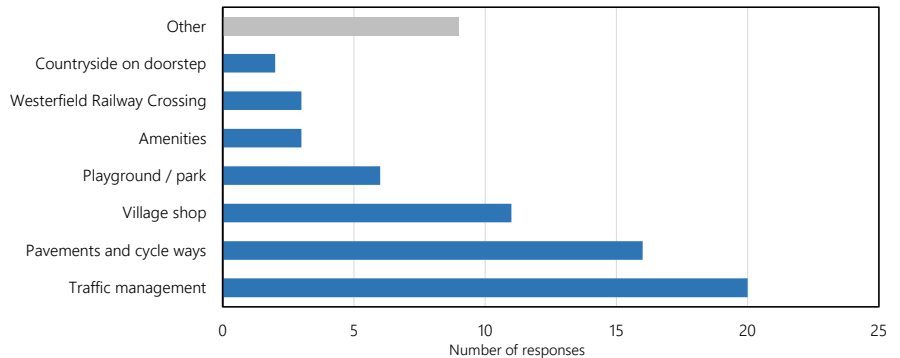
What do you like about living in Westerfield?



Other:

- Train station
- Volume of traffic
- Amenities
- Rural life and feel
- Latitude
- Church
- Westerfield railway
- Footpaths
- Garden
- School Scouts

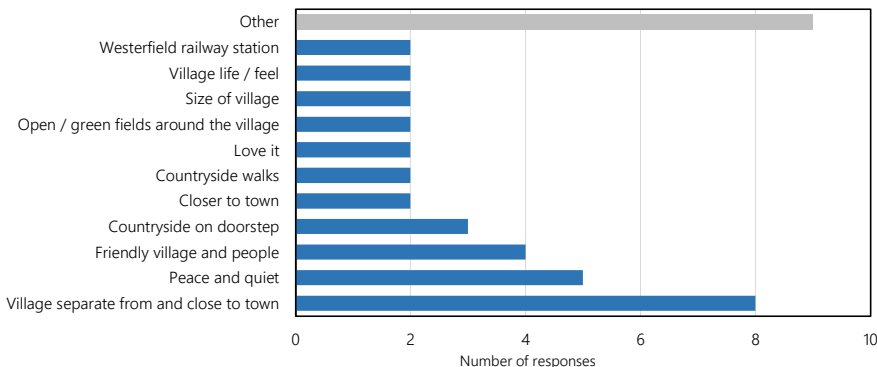
What would you like to see / improve about living in Westerfield?



Other:

- Broadband
- Café / coffee shop
- Environment
- Preservation
- Farming
- Leave as is
- Neighbourhood Plan
- Post box
- Post Office
- Street lighting

Reason why you would like to live in Westerfield when you are older?



Other:

- Close to parents
- Closer to friends
- Closer to parks
- Local development
- Pubs
- Rural / village location
- Village community
- Westerfield is a great place to live
- Westerfield is a safe place to live

Westerfield Neighbourhood Plan



WHAT NEXT

We are continuing to gather information that will contribute to identifying what will be in the Plan.

We expect to be able to consult on the Draft Plan later in the year.

It will provide you with an opportunity to read the Plan and make comments on it. Even if you fully support the Plan it's important that you let us know.

Submission of the Plan

After we've consulted on the Plan we'll make any necessary amendments and submit the Plan to the East Suffolk Council. They will carry out a further six weeks consultation.

Examination of the Plan

The Plan will then be examined by an Independent Neighbourhood Plan Examiner to assess whether it meets the Government's requirements.

Referendum

Following the Examination, the Plan will be amended to address any requirements of the Examiner and a Parish Referendum will be held. It will be open for everyone on the Electoral Register.

A simple majority voting in favour of the Plan will mean that it will be adopted by East Suffolk Council.