

INFORMATION SHEET

This information sheet is designed to give you more understanding of what is being proposed with the Neighbourhood Plan – so you can provide informed feedback to us on the Vision, Objectives and Strategic Options



Neighbourhood Plan: Your Village – Your Future – Your Decision

Neighbourhood Planning is a new initiative which gives local people more power and control over what happens in their area.

Earls Barton has started the process of developing a Neighbourhood Plan and we have already undertaken two consultation exercises with the community to understand what you want. To ensure that we include the most important issues in the plan we need to get your agreement that the Vision and Objectives reflect what you've told us.

What you've told us...

- Residents like to maintain the feel and size of the settlement as a village.
- New housing should either be on in-fill sites or smaller developments on the edge of the village.
- New affordable housing and open market housing was required.

- Starter homes and retirement bungalows were most demanded type of property.
- Traffic issues and parking were of most concern if more housing was accepted – pressure on the local schools was also an issue.
- More jobs could be created locally.
- Some support for better facilities – parking, community centre and sports and leisure facilities.
- The Housing Needs Survey identified 51 affordable houses required.

WE NEED YOUR RESPONSES BY 21ST JANUARY 2013
TELL US IF WE'VE COVERED ALL THE IMPORTANT ISSUES

Draft Vision & Objectives

From the previous consultation and analysing what the key challenges will be for Earls Barton over the next 20 years we have formulated a draft Vision and Objectives for the plan. Give us your feedback on them via the questionnaire so we can check we have covered those issues important to you.



Draft Vision & Objectives to 2031

Earls Barton continues to be a thriving community delivering better facilities and services for a growing population while retaining the key features of Earls Barton life.

Ob1 SERVICES

Improve resident's quality of life by improving the facilities and services within Earls Barton

Ob2 DEVELOPMENT

Allow some housing and commercial development to meet the needs of local people and increasing local employment opportunity while providing some degree of growth

Ob3 DESIGN

Protect and conserve the best heritage assets and environmental features within Earls Barton Parish and promote high quality design in all new developments

Ob4 ACCESS

Increase accessibility within Earls Barton and to other areas through improved transport links, providing better parking and access to the centre of Earls Barton

What does this mean for Earls Barton?

The vision helps to make Earls Barton more sustainable in the future delivering more services and facilities for local people without losing the appeal of what exists now.

Ob1 – is about maintaining existing services & facilities and enable new ones to be delivered locally - e.g. better parking , Community Centre , Sports and Leisure facilities or more shops/services

Ob2 – helps to provide greater housing and employment opportunities meeting local needs

Ob3 - provides stronger control over design issues and continued protection for heritage and open space within the village.

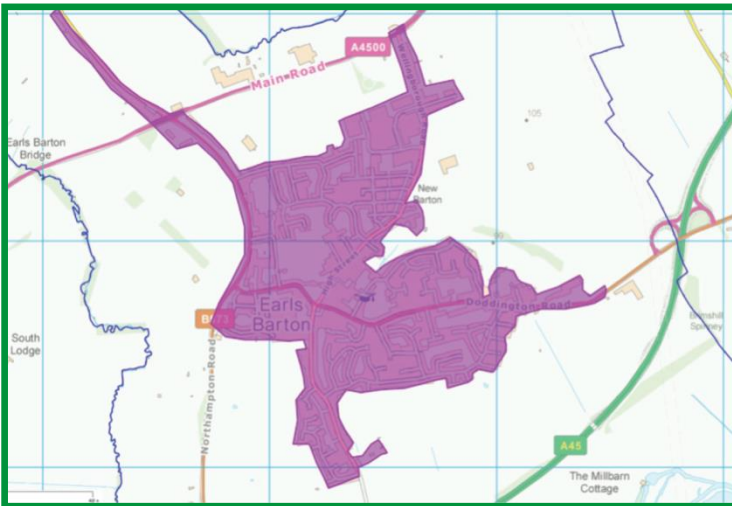
Ob4 - will help deliver better parking and traffic control within the village and also increase the ability to get around locally without getting in the car.

Strategic Options

From the completed Housing Needs Survey we know that the village requires 51 affordable homes (42 social rented dwellings were identified along with 9 shared ownership). In order to deliver this level of affordable housing through the existing policy, (new developments over 15 -25 houses, depending on site size, should aim to deliver 30% affordable housing) we estimate that with current commitments approximately 105 additional houses are required as a minimum to meet this need. Neighbourhood Plans require development to meet the minimum needs of local people – further housing and development can be planned for if communities have specific additional needs.

Three potential options have been set out which can plan for differing levels of growth for the village. We want your views on which might be the best approach and what level of housing development could be supported to deliver the Vision & Objectives.

Option 1: Dispersed Development /Minimum Growth



This option would represent a 4.5% increase in the number of houses in Earls Barton over 20 years

This option is put forward to demonstrate how the minimum level of housing might be accommodated. Multiple sites might be required as there are very limited in-fill sites still available.

Benefits

- Minimum growth needed for Neighbourhood Plan approval
- Dispersed Development
- Uses infill and small sites on edge of Earls Barton for development
- Potentially less pressure on vital local services

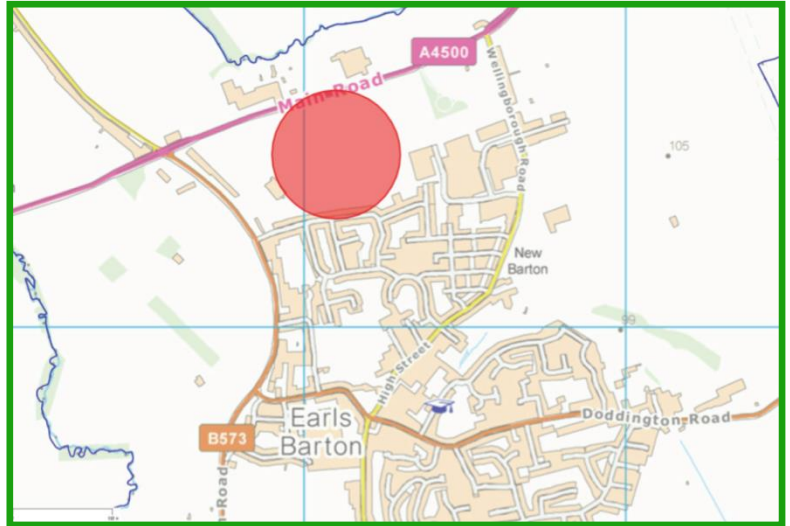
Concerns/Issues

- Greater number of smaller sites needed
- Limited improvements to facilities
- Sustainability of shops and other facilities in doubt
- No additional employment sites
- Increased pressure on schools intake

Option 2: Northern Development/Medium Growth

This option represents a 10.6% increase in the number of houses in Earls Barton over 20 years.

This option has been formulated to demonstrate how a development in this location could also potentially bring forward the Sports and Leisure project which has been under consideration for several years



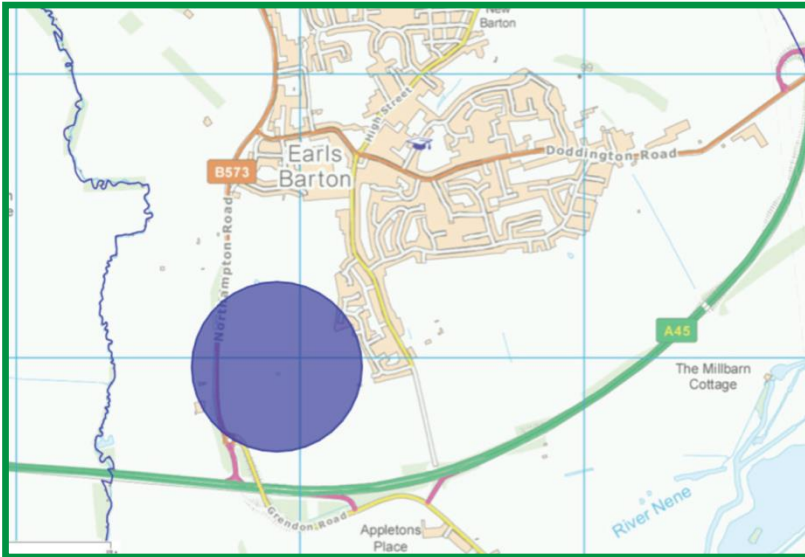
Benefits

- Dispersed Development
- Development at edge of Earls Barton
- Increased traffic does not go through centre
- Potential to deliver community benefits – better parking, community centre and sports and leisure facilities.
- Improved sustainability of shops and other services- bigger population
- Potential for additional employment areas

Concerns/Issues

- Large single development on edge of Earls Barton
- Community benefits not achieved
- Higher pressure on schools intake
- Pressure on other local services
- Some new community facilities not central

Option 3: Southern Development/Major Growth



This option represents a 17% increase in the number of houses in Earls Barton over 20 years.

This option has been developed to show how a larger development in this location may help to alleviate existing traffic pressures for Station Road and provide other community benefits. The development would need to be this scale to fund these improvements

Benefits

Development on edge of Earls Barton

- Potential for relief road from Station Road to A45 roundabout
- Potential to deliver significant community benefits - better parking, community centre and sports and leisure facilities.
- Improved sustainability of shops and other services- bigger population
- Potential for additional employment areas

Concerns/Issues

- Very large single development on edge of Earls Barton
- Great pressure on schools intake
- Additional benefits may not be realised
- Some new community facilities not central
- Considerable congestion and issues with access on Station Road if relief road not built

These options have been produced to demonstrate how Earls Barton could develop in the future and what the benefits and issues might be in each case. A further option is promoted in the consultation leaflet to allow you to put your own ideas forward.

All responses need to be returned to us by 21st January 2013. The Project Team will then start to test some of these options in more detail before formulating a preferred option to be included in the Neighbourhood Plan.