

Report of the Tugby&Keythorpe Neighbourhood Plan Information Evening held in the Church at 7:30pm on Tuesday 17th April 2018

The meeting was attended by 45 parishioners from the Tugby&Keythorpe Parish. The evening was divided into two parts.

In Part 1 parishioners were asked to post anonymous comments on a sheet entitled *“Tell Us What You Think About Tugby”* under the following three headings:

“What do you like?” *“What do you dislike?”* *“What would you change?”*

Parishioners were also invited to complete a *“Neighbourhood Skills Survey”*.

In Part 2 Matthew Bills, Neighbourhood and Green Spaces Officer from HDC, addressed the meeting on the Neighbourhood Plan process and fielded questions from the floor.

Analysis of the findings of the *“Tell Us What You Think About Tugby”* exercise, conducted by four members of the Parish Council on the 19th April 2018, has provided valuable information on the views of parishioners over a wide range of topics and issues. What follows is a brief summary of that analysis:

LIKES

The environment was viewed very positively in 19 comments with reference to our rural location; green spaces; character; size; footpaths and bridleways; nature; trees.

Much appreciation (19 comments) was expressed for the presence of the Fox&Hounds and the role it plays in cementing social life locally and the presence of the butcher's shop as a valued amenity.

A number of people (10) appreciated the presence of the primary school in Tugby.

Another much valued amenity is the Village Hall and several commented on the events held there through the year which bring people together.

The presence of an active church community (10 comments) was clearly valued.

A sense that Tugby has a real community spirit was noted by 8 people.

Other comments included the value of a bus service to Leicester and discrete housing both new and old.

DISLIKES

Traffic issues led to a range of comments (19 in total) which included speeding on the A47 as well as in the village itself; the Hallaton Road becoming a “rat run” at certain times of the day; large farm vehicles travelling too fast and the lack of passing places (a notable issue on Wood Lane) leading to damage to verges; road surfaces and pot holes are a clear issue and some walkers have found cyclists acting in an inconsiderate manner.

Parking issues ran a close second (17 comments) with dangerous parking near bends and junctions; obstructions on Main Street; bad congestion caused at the beginning and end of the school day; lack of car parking space generally.

Housing matters brought a range of comments. Lack of affordable homes for young families cropped up along with smaller homes for more elderly residents (9 comments). A few felt that some new housing was not in sympathetic keeping with the Tugby environment and 10 comments expressed hope for infill development rather than large developments in the future.

The reduction of public transport services was unpopular and 6 comments indicated a need for increasing the service. Three comments in this section alluded to some current concerns with the school and a further two comments were strongly critical of the level of litter on roadsides surrounding Tugby.

CHANGES

There was inevitably some overlap under this heading with the previous section.

5 people suggested the need for a second shop; 3 wished to see more street lighting; 2 would like natural gas to become available.

A few individual comments were expressed and included the hope that Tugby may have a wider demographic in the future; that inconsiderate dog walkers would clean up dog excrement; that more people would become engaged in the life of the village; that a policy of building more affordable homes for families might provide more children locally for the school

NEIGHBOURHOOD SKILLS SURVEY

This has provided a valuable data base so that individual skills may be called upon for volunteers to assist at various appropriate stages of the project.

Part 2

Matthew Bills cantered through the process of building a Neighbourhood Plan and left ample time to be quizzed by those in the audience.

The next stage of the process will involve the formation of a Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group.

Thanks are due to the Church wardens for enabling the meeting to be held in the church and to those who provided the refreshments and cleared up afterwards and, of course, to Matthew Bills for all his assistance and for giving freely of his time at the end of a long day.

Roger Peel
Chairman, Tugby&Keythorpe PC
19th April 2018