

# Hardwick Parish Council

## St Neots Road Development Survey

There is a general shortage housing in South Cambridgeshire and a need for affordable homes has been identified in Hardwick. The proposed scheme would provide up to 215 new houses, 40% of which would be classed as affordable homes.

If the development is given planning permission this will come with planning obligations that the developers will have to meet to improve facilities within the village e.g. education and health services, transport, community facilities, etc..

Hardwick does not currently have a Village Plan that could be used to guide the Parish Council in discussions with potential developers regarding proposals for expansion of the village and the facilities and infrastructure needed by the community. Thus, the Parish Council is seeking your views about this proposal and future development of the village.

This survey is intended to help the Parish Council in its discussions with the developers. It does not replace the formal consultation that will be carried out as part of any subsequent planning applications.

There are three matters about which the Parish Council is asking for your feedback:

1. Do you agree in principle with the proposal for new housing at St Neots Road?
2. Your views on which facilities you would like to see improved. (Only those that the Parish Council believes might qualify as a planning obligation for this development are included in this survey.)
3. Your willingness to contribute to a Village Plan to guide the future development of Hardwick.

For each question on the following pages, please **circle the answer** that most closely reflects your views and add any comments in the box provided.

Completed surveys can be left at the developer's drop-in session on 8<sup>th</sup> September or at The Village Stores or The Blue Lion or by post to the Parish Clerk (address on website) until the 8<sup>th</sup> October.

An electronic version of the survey is available via the village website:

<http://www.hardwick-cambs.org.uk/>

# Hardwick Parish Council

## St Neots Road Development Survey

### Proposed St Neots Road, Hardwick development

Do you agree that the proposed new housing development at St Neots Road should go ahead subject to meeting planning obligations?

1. Strongly disagree
2. Mostly disagree
3. Neither agree nor disagree
4. Mostly agree
5. Strongly agree

Comments

### Traffic

County Council traffic planners do not expect the proposed development to cause additional traffic problems in the village.

Do you agree with the traffic planners that the St Neots Road development will not cause additional traffic problems in the village?

1. Strongly disagree
2. Mostly disagree
3. Neither agree nor disagree
4. Mostly agree
5. Strongly agree

Comments

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### Planning obligations

The Parish Council, through the Chairman and Vice Chairman, has had preliminary discussions with South Cambridgeshire District Council and the developers, about the existing facilities in the village the adequacy of which it is believed will be affected by the new development.

#### Pre-School

Some residents have complained at Parish Council meetings that there are insufficient pre-school facilities in Hardwick. This will only get worse if there is a new development and if the number of hours offered has to be increased in line with Government targets.

**Do you agree that there should be more pre-school facilities in the village?**

1. Strongly disagree
2. Mostly disagree
3. Neither agree nor disagree
4. Mostly agree
5. Strongly agree

Comments

#### Children's play areas

Planning policy will ensure that there would be a new play area for 5 to 11 year olds in any new development the size of the proposed St Neots Road development. There is already an active group in Hardwick looking at how to improve play areas in general.

#### Doctor's Surgery

Many residents have expressed the opinion that there should be a doctor's surgery in Hardwick. Many villages in South Cambridgeshire smaller than Hardwick have surgeries and there are apparently no other villages the size of Hardwick in South Cambridgeshire that does not have a surgery.

**Do you agree that there should be a doctor's surgery in Hardwick?**

1. Strongly disagree
2. Mostly disagree
3. Neither agree nor disagree
4. Mostly agree
5. Strongly agree

Comments

**Would you be likely to register with a new doctors' surgery based in Hardwick if one was started in the village?**

YES / NO

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### Community Centre

It seems evident that there is a shortage of space available for community use. Many residents arrange events outside of the village or travel to neighbouring villages for classes because there are not the facilities to have them here in the village.

A community centre could provide space for children's parties, family parties, wedding receptions, exercise classes e.g. Pilates and keep fit, indoor sport, library and IT facilities, meeting rooms for village clubs and societies, youth club, scouts and guides, cinema and theatre and even a café and events catering facilities. It could also provide space for a doctor's surgery and for pre-school activities.

There are already proposals from St Mary's church to build a church hall next to the church which will help meet some of these needs, but a community centre would be larger than the proposed church hall and have several rooms available for different uses and would probably be built on the recreation field.

### Do you agree that a multi-purpose community centre is needed in Hardwick?

1. Strongly disagree
2. Mostly disagree
3. Neither agree nor disagree
4. Mostly agree
5. Strongly agree

Comments

### Recreation facilities

Hardwick has numerous football and cricket teams as well as an active netball team.

The various clubs report a shortage of changing facilities for officials (referees and umpires) and poor playing surfaces on the existing pitches e.g. waterlogged football pitches in winter and uneven outfield for cricket in summer. Very often Hardwick teams have to play home games in other villages because the above problems prevent the matches being played in Hardwick. At other times so many teams are playing on the same surface resulting in overuse.

South Cambridgeshire District Council has calculated that a village the size of Hardwick needs twice the number of sports pitches that it actually has.

### Do you agree that the number and quality of sports pitches, the facilities for match officials and storage for sports related equipment in the village needs to be improved?

1. Strongly disagree
2. Mostly disagree
3. Neither agree nor disagree
4. Mostly agree
5. Strongly agree

September 2015

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Comments

### Shopping and Food/drink Outlets

Hardwick currently has a Pub on Main Street, a Village Store on Cambridge Road, a Hairdressers, Pet-store, Garage and Florist on St Neots Road and a café that operates from the community room in the village school on the first Saturday of the month.

**Do you think that additional retail or food/drink outlets should be provided in Hardwick?**

1. Strongly disagree
2. Mostly disagree
3. Neither agree nor disagree
4. Mostly agree
5. Strongly agree

Comments

**Please indicate which facilities you would probably use if they were available in Hardwick (you may circle more than one option):**

1. Café
2. Take-away
3. Chemist
4. Butcher
5. Hardware Store
6. Other (Please indicate below)

Comments

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## St Neots Road Development Survey

### Village Plan

Village Plans are documents written by communities who wish to set out their view of their village by describing how they would like to develop as a community and identifying the action needed to achieve that vision.

A Village Plan can be a way of communicating to others what makes an area locally distinct and what is important to those living within it. Village Plans can assist communities to take a lead in enhancing their area and influencing how its future is developed.

The Parish Council has endorsed the formation of a working group from within the village to create a Village Plan.

1. Are you interested in joining this working group? YES / NO
2. Are you a resident of Hardwick? YES / NO
3. Even if you are unable or unwilling to join the working group would you be willing to participate in future surveys concerning the village and how you would like to see it develop? YES / NO
4. If you have answered YES to questions 1 or 3 above, and agree to your contact details being given to the Village Plan working group, please provide your contact details below.

Name: .....

Address: .....

.....

Tel : .....

Email : .....

Comments

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**September 2015**