

HADDENHAM NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

January 2014



The idea behind localism is that decision-making be passed to a more local level, from national and regional level to local government, and from local government to local communities.



Haddenham NP



Haddenham

The plan will contain a vision, aims, planning policies, proposals for improving the area, potentially providing new facilities, and allocation of key sites for specific kinds of development, as well as dealing with a wide range of social, economic and environmental issues such as housing, employment, heritage and transport.

Whilst impossible to tell the future, there are a number of trends that are generally held to be likely, such as the UK's population continuing to grow and get older. There are many more things that we understand less well, such as the future balance the age groups, the cost of living, what kinds of jobs our children and grandchildren will have. But by discussing these “uncertainties” in the context of the more likely trends we can begin to gain some insight into what is most important to us as a community and begin to get an idea about some of the decisions that we can take now that will help us develop the characteristics we value.

Vision Workshop

Busy Bees - Planning for Haddenham's Future

Do you recognise Haddenham as a hive of activity, with a thriving community working together in common purpose and for the collective good? Should this be our vision of what the village should be like?

In a Vision Workshop on Saturday 31st August, 50 residents worked with the Neighbourhood Plan team, led by the Parish Council, to develop themes to be included in the Plan, and this was one of a range of outcomes. The primary areas addressed ranged from its unique cultural characteristics to the way we might encourage young entrepreneurs and those with creative and artistic talents; from the housing needs of young adults to those of the most mature members of our village; from the kinds of infrastructure and incentives needed to attract new businesses and build employment opportunities, to defining the areas of the village in which we would wish to see new residential housing located. We looked at the village's current strengths and weaknesses, and the opportunities and threats that we would currently identify, but this was only the start of the consultation – and the next step is today!



Strengths and Weaknesses

- **Strengths**

Haddenham is valued as a beautiful, friendly and historic village with a range of housing stock and good transportation links supporting access to good employment opportunities. It has a strong community spirit with a multitude of volunteer groups active across all ages and a range of activities. It has good infrastructure but it is a quiet village with lots of trees and green open spaces; it is welcoming to new-comers with relatively low crime. In addition to the visual appeal of the village's rich heritage community initiatives have raised the profile and reputation of the village make it a destination rather than a thoroughfare village.

- **Weaknesses**

However, there was also a feeling that Haddenham was becoming a "dormitory"/commuter village and that there were insufficient employment opportunities in the village. Similarly, key facilities are too scattered or located at the outskirts of Haddenham and many are overstretched. There are not enough opportunities for downsizing housing, a host of transportation problems from the (recent) significant limitation of the main bus service to poor road conditions and long-standing parking problems near the train station, and to a lack of safe cycling routes beyond the village boundaries.

Haddenham's Neighbourhood Plan:

Opportunities from now to 2030

As the village grows and changes, there are opportunities to improve a range of areas of interest and concern such as: the local business environment; housing stock; the shops and services supporting the community; and to create jobs. Initiatives to help the village achieve the preferred characteristics of a 2030 Haddenham may include:

The Hub - Redevelop the community centre of the village to create a high quality, well-designed, and user friendly “hub” that combines essential village services for all ages and a platform for the many volunteer groups. Flexible use of space will help foster a vibrant, connected village and promote the strong community spirit that is so valued by residents. Community bus to link edges of village to centre and public transportation.

Enterprise kick-start - Roll out high speed, fibre optic broadband across the village; encourage mentoring opportunities for knowledge and skills exchange from young to old and old to young and across different disciplines to develop stronger and more innovative businesses; self-sustaining opportunities for local craftsmen and business people including shared space/ services and support for home-working.

Housing - A broader range of property types, configurations and ownership options and improved choice for those wishing to downsize and remain in the village. Housing that is high quality, varied, and low/zero carbon, with a good mix of “green and blue” spaces.

A Centre for the Arts – develop and promote Haddenham as a centre for the arts, building on the large number of participants in the Bucks Open Studios initiative.

Vision Statement



The most compelling metaphor for 2030 Haddenham that was proposed at the workshop is that of a **beehive – a busy, well-designed, productive and strong community**. This resonates strongly with the village's history and with that of the UK more widely.

Mixed and varied population, age and incomes. Become a centre of excellence for something that draws people into the village.

Mixed homes with good architectural design and character. Discourage bungalow conversions and plot sub-division.

Support employment in existing industrial / commercial 'hub' areas. Investigate a village currency.

Develop a plan for coherent sport and recreation provision between the playing field and airfield sites

Investigate opportunities for a community bus
Support village activities (fete, beer festivals, Vale Harvest, café plus etc) to engender a community spirit

Develop a plan for development of children's play areas around the village

A village spirit



Retain a village focus



- Redevelop the Village Hall and old Medical centre site to provide a thriving village hub. Encourage redevelopment of Banks Parade area.
- Ensure new development(s) support the “character” of the village, have a connection to the village centre and meet defined principles of development
- Encourage local shops and businesses. Redevelop the village “hub” to offer retail space and increase attractiveness.
- Village hall site to remain and utilised to the full. Include community facilities / art and display facilities in a redeveloped village hub
- Access to village facilities through a range of transport means
- Encourage use of village medical and dental facilities. Support development of a health ‘hub’ and spiritual hub.
- Encourage development of an efficient education infrastructure in the village centre

Sustainable Development

- Development within the village bounds and commutable through a range of transport means and routes between residential and community sites
- Meet Vale of Aylesbury Plan requirement (100 new homes) and village priorities (inc burial space)
- Encourage jobs for village people and the exploitation of existing micro (home-based) businesses
- Develop and support clubs, amenities and facilities to meet an evolving population. Evolve as a focus / centre of excellence for the Arts
- Develop cycle and walking routes in the area – inc linking community and recreational facilities
- Encourage opportunities to follow a healthy and active lifestyle, inc safe walking and cycling, trim trail, and local fresh produce
- Ensure that there is sufficient high quality school and extra-curricular provision to meet the needs of village children



A ZERO **CARBON** village

- Discourage development of a 'dormitory' village
- Update village facilities to minimise energy consumption. Demand high specification / low impact housing stock; retain green and blue space.
- Encourage car sharing and alternative transport for business travellers. Demand high environmental standards from village businesses
- Extend sport, recreation and leisure in the village to minimise commuting to clubs and organisations
- Review traffic management and options for multi-use areas, limiting speeding and reducing congestion
- Maximise availability of social and health facilities in the village. Day Centre, visiting practitioners
- Work with the schools to manage drop-off / pick-up times and places. Encourage car-sharing non-car drop off schemes.

Opportunities for all ages and abilities

- Promote and empower individuals and groups of people to benefit the village and its population (library, fish scheme, gardening or decorating scheme)
- Encourage housing development for all ages including starter, family & retirement housing
- Develop mentoring schemes and facilities for start-up businesses
- Explore commercial opportunities to extend sports and leisure facilities (swimming pool and/or gym)
- Support bus routes / maintain bus stops
- Encourage opportunities for development of physical wellbeing and spiritual health
- Support opportunities for an ageing population, inc U3A, WEA



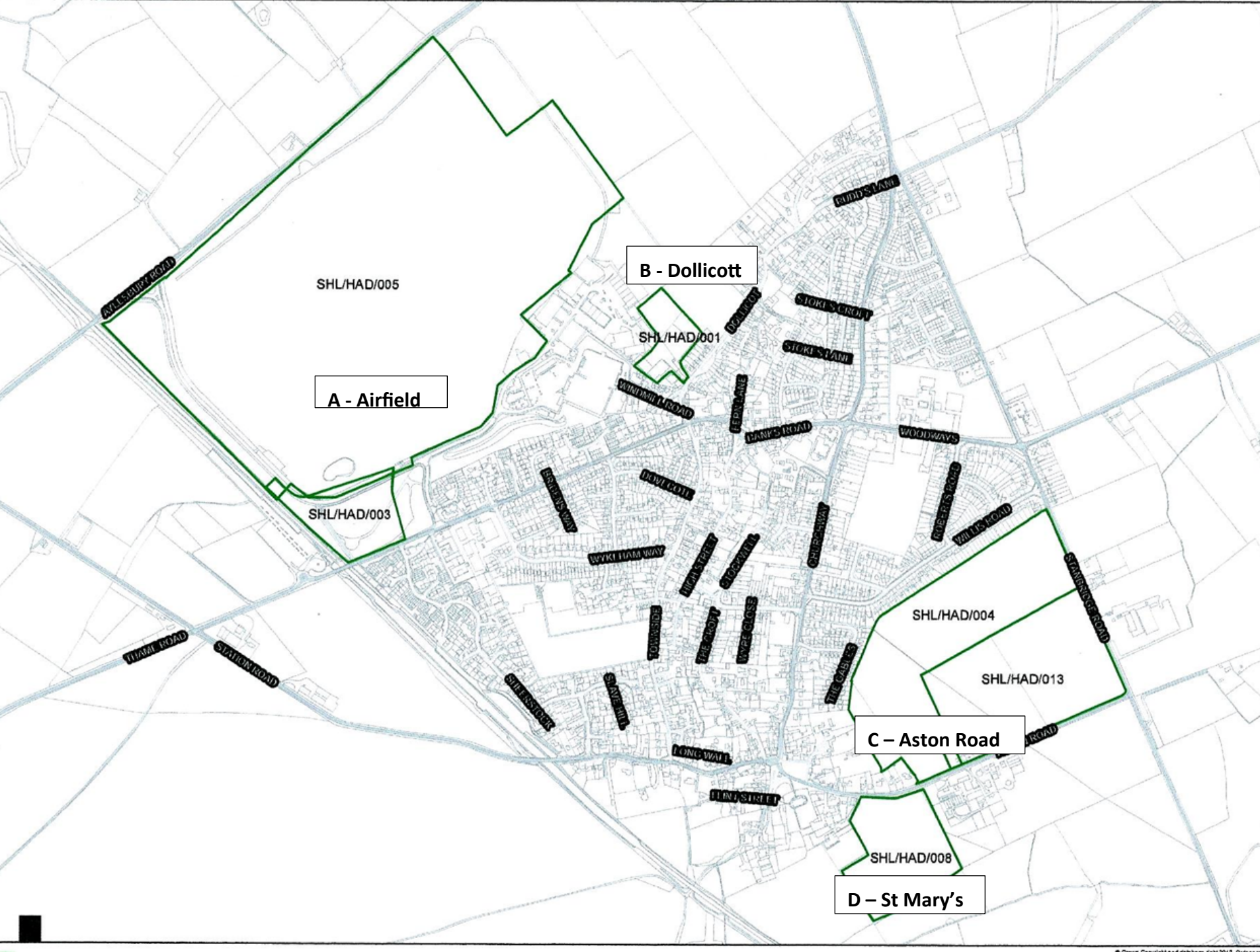
Maximise the benefits of technology

- Encourage media-enabled community facilities (i.e. booking a meeting space on line, finding out what's on and maximising intra-village communication)
- Tech provision to facilitate supported and independent living for an ageing population
- Support high-speed broadband provision
- Maximise access to community computer and internet facilities
- Maximise technology utilisation to reduce travel requirements
- Encourage electronic management of community facilities to facilitate coordinated and efficient use
- Support engagement of young people in village activity through social media

Development Site Allocation

The Neighbourhood Plan is an opportunity for the Village to express its preferences on the design and nature of housing development. In particular, this can include:

- Specification of the “mix” of housing. That is, should it include affordable homes, one-bedroom homes, sheltered housing or old people’s homes, flats?
- Specification of the design emphasis; should it be on car use, with provision of extensive parking and access to roads, or should it encourage walking and cycling?
- Should the external design mirror the colours and high walls of the witchert village?



SHL/HAD/005

A - Airfield

SHL/HAD/003

B - Dollicott

SHL/HAD/001

SHL/HAD/004

SHL/HAD/013

C - Aston Road

SHL/HAD/008

D - St Mary's



Have your say!

- The number of houses that will be required in the village has yet to be determined and will evolve over time, but:
- **If the village were to look to site 100 new homes, where would you want them to go?**
- Please prioritise the sites 1 – 4; show splitting the development by equal numbering.