

Skillington Neighbourhood Development Plan

Consultation Statement

February 2017

Skillington Parish Council

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1. Introduction

Purpose of the Consultation Statement

- 1.1 Skillington Parish Council submitted their neighbourhood plan to South Kesteven District Council in February 2017.
- 1.2 When submitting a neighbourhood plan to the relevant local planning authority the legislation requires that the Qualifying Body also include a number of other documents. One of these is commonly known as a Consultation Statement.
- 1.3 This Consultation Statement has thereby been prepared to fulfil the legal obligations of the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations 2012. Part 5, Section 15(2) of the Regulations sets out that a Consultation Statement:
 - a) contains details of the persons and bodies who were consulted about the proposed neighbourhood development plan;
 - b) explains how they were consulted;
 - c) summarises the main issues and concerns raised by the persons consulted;
 - d) describes how these issues and concerns have been considered and, where relevant, addressed in the proposed neighbourhood development plan.

Schedule of consultation activities and timeline

- 1.4 Consultation activity during the preparation of the Skillington Neighbourhood Plan occurred in two distinct stages.
- 1.5 Initial non-statutory consultation occurred between November 2014 and May 2016 when, on behalf of the Parish Council, a steering group sought the views of the wider community and key stakeholders as part of their evidence gathering. Throughout this initial consultation stage there was also engagement with South Kesteven District Council.
- 1.6 The statutory pre-submission consultation stage on the draft plan was then undertaken for 6 weeks between 26 September and 7 November 2016.
- 1.7 The specific activities undertaken during these two stages and the issues raised are described in more detail in the following sections.

2. Initial Non-statutory Consultation

Initial Questionnaire and Meeting

- 2.1 The process to prepare a neighbourhood plan began in November 2014 with a questionnaire distributed to each household in the village asking if a plan was something that residents wanted to take forward. A copy of the letter is attached as Appendix 1.
- 2.2 The Parish Council received 39 responses, which showed a strong majority in favour of a plan.
- 2.3 A letter was again sent to all households to share the results of the survey and to invite people to attend a meeting to discuss the matter further. A copy of the letter is attached as Appendix 2.
- 2.4 The meeting was held at the village hall on 23 January 2015, which 21 local people attended. It started with a formal presentation followed by discussion. There was general agreement to continue the neighbourhood planning process.
- 2.5 A number of residents volunteered to form a steering group and prepare the neighbourhood plan on behalf of the Parish Council.

Neighbourhood Area Application

- 2.6 Skillington Parish Council then applied to South Kesteven District Council to designate a Neighbourhood Area on 7 April 2015. The District Council subsequently publicised the application for a six week period and invited any representations.
- 2.7 The District Council formally approved the Skillington Neighbourhood Area on 17 June 2015.
- 2.8 The boundary of the Skillington Neighbourhood Area corresponds to the Parish boundary. This is indicated in Appendix 3.

Village Survey

- 2.9 In June 2015 another questionnaire was sent to every household in the village. Entitled 'Have Your Say!' this invited the local community to tell the steering group what matters

were important in planning for the future of the village. A copy of the questionnaire is attached as Appendix 4.

- 2.10 There were 48 responses from 46 households, which was estimated to represent about 31% of all families.
- 2.11 Respondents valued the tranquillity and rural nature of the village. This was mentioned by over 80% of respondents. Residents were keen to preserve these attributes. There was concern about any inappropriate development that would result in the loss of surrounding countryside or the important green spaces within the village. Respondents were very keen to see the preservation of the local heritage including The Square, historic buildings, and paths and bridleways.
- 2.12 About half of respondents were also concerned about increased traffic and crime. There were also fears about a weaker community in the future. Respondents therefore supported an improved village identity and sense of community. Just under a half of respondents favoured a balanced community in terms of ages and income. Respondents would also like to see improved broadband provision, a shop and some facilities for young people.
- 2.13 In terms of what sort of residential development would be appropriate in the village there was a mixed response. 20-25% supported individual development of 2- or 3-bed homes, but 31% favoured no new development at all. About two-thirds thought the village could accept individual property development or small-scale development for new homes. However two thirds of respondents were opposed to larger-scale development.
- 2.14 About a half of respondents felt that any development should comprise the replacement of existing buildings or infill development; about a third said it should be located on the edge of the village.
- 2.15 The questionnaire also sought views on energy production. Although opinions were divided on this topic there was some support for solar but mixed views on biomass and wind turbines and 71% against shale gas.
- 2.16 The questionnaire revealed the heavy dependency on cars. Only 6% depend on buses though 18% use them. There were concerns about poor road maintenance, and about parking.

- 2.17 Nevertheless there were also mixed views on the provision of more employment opportunities in the village. About half felt it wasn't needed. Others felt some workshop units or office space might be appropriate.
- 2.18 The survey results suggested that there is an aging population in the village. There was also little enthusiasm for significant change or development. However there were strong feelings about preserving the community spirit, appearance and rural character of the village.

Emerging Local Plan

- 2.19 In January 2016 the Parish Council wrote to the District Council about the emerging Local Plan. The letter outlined the results of the recent questionnaire and what residents value most about living in the locality. It also expressed concerns about the scale of any future development in the village in view of the lack of adequate services and facilities.

Village Meeting

- 2.20 All residents were invited to a Village Meeting on 3 March 2016. A copy of the flier is attached as Appendix 5.
- 2.21 Those attending were given a formal presentation that included an update on the reasons for preparing a neighbourhood plan, the results of the village household survey, progress made on preparing the plan, and the schedule for its completion. There followed questions and a discussion on progress and next steps. A note of the meeting is attached as Appendix 6.

Additional Consultation

- 2.22 A further consultation was undertaken in May 2016 seeking clarification of residents' views on the longer-term need for housing development and the sustainability of the village. A copy of the letter is attached as Appendix 7.
- 2.23 Although only eleven replies were received various helpful comments were made. Opinion was divided as to whether or not the neighbourhood plan should 'restrict housing development'. Of those who were in favour of no restriction, some nevertheless wanted housing development limited in scope and not infringing on the village's open spaces or rural character. There was recognition that, however much people would like a shop or a doctor's practice, the price in terms of new housing development which would justify such provision was not worth paying. In the words of one respondent: 'the only way for Skillington to become 'sustainable' in planning terms is for it to be wrecked by over-development'.

3. Statutory Pre-submission Consultation

Statutory Requirements

- 3.1 Part 5, Section 14 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 requires that before the neighbourhood plan is submitted to the local planning authority the qualifying body must:
- a) publicise, in a manner that is likely to bring it to the attention of people who live, work or carry on business in the neighbourhood area:
 1. details of the proposals for a neighbourhood development plan;
 2. details of where and when the proposals for a neighbourhood development plan may be inspected;
 3. details of how to make representations; and
 4. the date by which those representations must be received, being not less than 6 weeks from the date on which the draft proposal is first publicised;
 - b) consult any consultation body referred to in paragraph 1 of Schedule 1 whose interests the qualifying body considers may be affected by the proposals for a neighbourhood development plan; and
 - c) send a copy of the proposals for a neighbourhood development plan to the local planning authority.

Publicising details of the proposals for a neighbourhood plan

- 3.2 In advance of the consultation period a notice was distributed to every household in the neighbourhood area. A copy is attached as Appendix 8.
- 3.3 A brief summary of the draft plan and a copy of the response form was then delivered to all households by 25 September 2016 (the day before the consultation period commenced). A copy of the summary is attached as Appendix 9.
- 3.4 A copy of the notice announcing the publication of the draft neighbourhood plan and the opportunity to comment was distributed by email to various consultees. This fulfilled the statutory requirements to contact the consultation bodies specified in paragraph 1 of Schedule 1 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012. The contact list was kindly supplied by South Kesteven District Council. A list of those consulted is attached as Appendix 10. It broadly comprises:
- statutory bodies
 - local authorities and parish councils
 - utility companies
 - local landowners
- 3.5 Although engaged throughout the preparation process, a copy of the draft plan was also formally sent to South Kesteven District Council for comment.

Publicising where and when the plan may be inspected

- 3.6 The Draft Plan and associated publicity made it clear that a copy of the plan may be inspected on the Skillington Life website at: <http://www.skillingtonlife.co.uk/nhp.html>
- 3.7 A copy of the website material is attached as Appendix 11.
- 3.8 Hard copies of the plan were also made available for inspection at the:
- Cross Swords Inn
 - Methodist Chapel
 - St James's Church
 - Skillington Village Hall
 - or, by arrangement, from any of the named steering group members
- 3.9 A series of open days were organised where members of the local community were invited to drop in and discuss the contents of the plan. The open days were organised in the village hall on:
- Saturday 15 October (10.00 to 16.00)
 - Tuesday 18 October (18.00 to 21.00)
 - Thursday 27 October (18.00 to 21.00)

Details of how to make representations

- 3.10 Those commenting were encouraged to use the response form. Electronic versions of the response form were made available on the Skillington Life website. Hard copies were also available at the named locations. A copy of the response form is attached as Appendix 12.
- 3.11 The plan and the publicity material made it clear that any comments must be submitted in writing to:
- Email address: clerk.spc@gmail.com; or
 - Postal address: Skillington Parish Clerk, The Old School, Colsterworth Road, Skillington NG33 5HF

The date by which those representations must be received

- 3.12 It was clearly stated in the plan and all the associated publicity material that the deadline for comments was 7 November 2016.

Consult any consultation body affected by the proposals

- 3.13 A specific note was emailed or posted to landowners affected by Policy 5, which proposed certain sites be allocated as Local Green Space.

The main issues and concerns raised

- 3.14 The Steering Group received 29 responses in total. These are listed in Appendix 13. It comprised:

- 23 responses from local residents
- 6 responses from various organisations

3.15 The organisations who responded were:

- Environment Agency
- Natural England
- Historic England
- Highways England
- Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust
- South Kesteven District Council

3.16 The respondents were broadly sub-divided into:

- 17 responses that comprised substantive comments (e.g. queries about sustainability of the village, level of future housing growth, need for affordable housing, importance of good design, need to protect Conservation Area, concern about state of St James Church, and the loss of services and facilities)
- 12 responses that comprised non-substantive comments (e.g. comments of support, minor factual corrections)

How these issues were considered and addressed

3.17 How each of the issues and concerns raised during the pre-submission consultation were considered and addressed is summarised in Appendix 14. This table lists:

- the respondent
- summarises their comments
- provides the Steering Group's comments in response
- outlines the proposed action, notably whether modifications were made, or not made, to the plan in light of the representation

4. Conclusion

- 4.1 This Consultation Statement demonstrates that the Steering Group (acting on behalf of Skillington Parish Council) has prepared the Skillington Neighbourhood Development Plan in accordance with the legal obligations set out in the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations 2012.
- 4.2 As stipulated in Part 5, Section 15(2) of the Regulations this Consultation Statement has :
- a) provided details of the persons and bodies who were consulted about the proposed neighbourhood development plan;
 - b) explained how they were consulted;
 - c) summarised the main issues and concerns raised by the persons consulted; and
 - d) described how these issues and concerns have been considered and, where relevant, addressed in the proposed Skillington Neighbourhood Plan.
- 4.3 Furthermore the Steering Group hope that this Consultation Statement demonstrates that they have endeavoured to go beyond the minimum legal requirement. The Group has made genuine and committed efforts to engage all those who live, work or have a business interest in the Skillington Neighbourhood Area and provided them with every opportunity to influence the content of the Skillington Neighbourhood Development Plan throughout its preparation.

Letter to residents about possibly preparing a neighbourhood plan

To all Skillington Residents – IMPORTANT - PLEASE READ!

19th November 2014

The future of Skillington

I am writing on behalf of your Parish Council to seek views on a possible **Neighbourhood Plan** for the Village. This Plan, once in place, would help us resist any unwelcome planning applications. It might also give the community the chance to decide what, if any, future development it would like to see.

At present Skillington, because of its size, is classed as a ‘non-sustainable community’. This means that any application for new housing is almost certain to be rejected. But there is no guarantee that this status will remain in place, particularly in the light of pressure everywhere for new housing. If we lose non-sustainable status we will have much less ability to object to development that we may not want.

A **Neighbourhood Plan** would, though, have other benefits. It would give us the chance to decide what sort of future we want for Skillington. Do we want to resist all future development or would we like to see the village grow to support a larger population? Can we, and should we, try to encourage more employment in the village, perhaps a shop or other facilities?

Such a Plan would be accepted by the planning authority (SKDC) and would have to be taken into account in any planning applications that affect the village. As such it would give us valid grounds to object to unwelcome applications, although no guarantee that we could prevent them.

A **Neighbourhood Plan** must be based on residents’ wishes and cannot be put in place unless it is approved by a parish referendum. It is, though, a lot of work, as there are several formal steps to complete including, quite rightly, considerable consultation with residents and other interested parties. This is not a Parish Council activity - it would be necessary to form a separate team of volunteers to carry out this work. One concern is that, however desirable such a Plan is, there may not be enough interest in the village to enable it to be produced.

So the purpose of this letter is to ask for feedback about whether or not people want such a Plan and to see who is interested in helping produce it. I am attaching a short questionnaire which I would be grateful if you would please complete and return. This is purely a ‘Go / No Go’ consultation at this stage.

I am happy to discuss any aspect of this matter and to provide further details if required. If you have internet access there is a general description of the Neighbourhood Plan process at

<http://mycommunityrights.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2012/04/Neighbourhood-Planning-Quick-Guide.pdf>.

Please reply by 30th November! (Responses can be left at either the ‘Cross Swords’ or ‘Blue Horse’ pubs, or returned to The Old School, Colsterworth Road, or by email (grahamhpage@gmail.com))

Thanks for your interest.

Graham Page

Chairman, Skillington Parish Council

The Old School, Colsterworth Road, Skillington (01476-861296)

Questionnaire

(If possible please answer on behalf of all members of the household, or submit additional copies for different members. Please reply before 30th November)

- 1) Would you like Skillington to have a **Neighbourhood Plan**? Yes/No
- 2) Would you be willing to participate in producing such a plan? Yes / No
- 3) Comments:

Contact details (*optional - unless volunteering*):

Name:

Address:

Phone:

Email:

Responses can be left at either the ‘Cross Swords’ or ‘Blue Horse’ pubs, or return to The Old School, Colsterworth Road, or by email to:grahamhpage@gmail.com .

Feedback to residents about undertaking a neighbourhood plan

**The Old School, Colsterworth Road, Skillington,
Grantham, Lincs NG33 5HF**

Tel: +44 (0)1476 861296

e-mail: grahamhpage@gmail.com

7th January, 2015

To: All Residents of Skillington

Skillington – Proposed Neighbourhood Plan

As promised I am writing to share the results of the recent survey and to invite you to a meeting to discuss matters further. (I am sending this to all who responded, and to everyone whose email address I have. Copies will also be posted on the Parish Council noticeboard and the Skillington Life website)

Responses

The survey was sent to all households in the village (150) in the hope of response both at a family- and an individual level (we have about 270 residents). Responses were received from 27 households (18%). The number of individuals responding was unclear but was about 40 (15%).

Results

80-85% of the responses received were in favour of having a Neighbourhood Plan. Three households opposed a Plan and two were 'Don't Know's.

Comments

Those who opposed or weren't sure about a Plan commented either that they did not feel a Plan would make any difference, or that they did not want to see any changes to the Village. (The latter comment may suggest that some people believe that producing a Plan would in itself lead to development - not the case in my opinion). Several people took the trouble to provide detailed comments. I think it is fair to say that the majority of comments were generally against growth, though several people took the view that some growth would be beneficial.

Volunteers

19 individuals who responded indicated that they were willing to help in producing a Plan, though several of these also felt that they would not have enough time to do much.

Conclusions

The Parish Council feels that the level of support for a Neighbourhood Plan justifies us in holding a meeting to discuss the idea in more detail and, possibly, to form a working group to move matters further. **This meeting will take place at 6.30 p.m. on Friday, 23rd January in the Village Hall. I suggest that we aim to keep the meeting to an hour.** I will make a short presentation on the procedures for such Plans and then chair a general discussion.

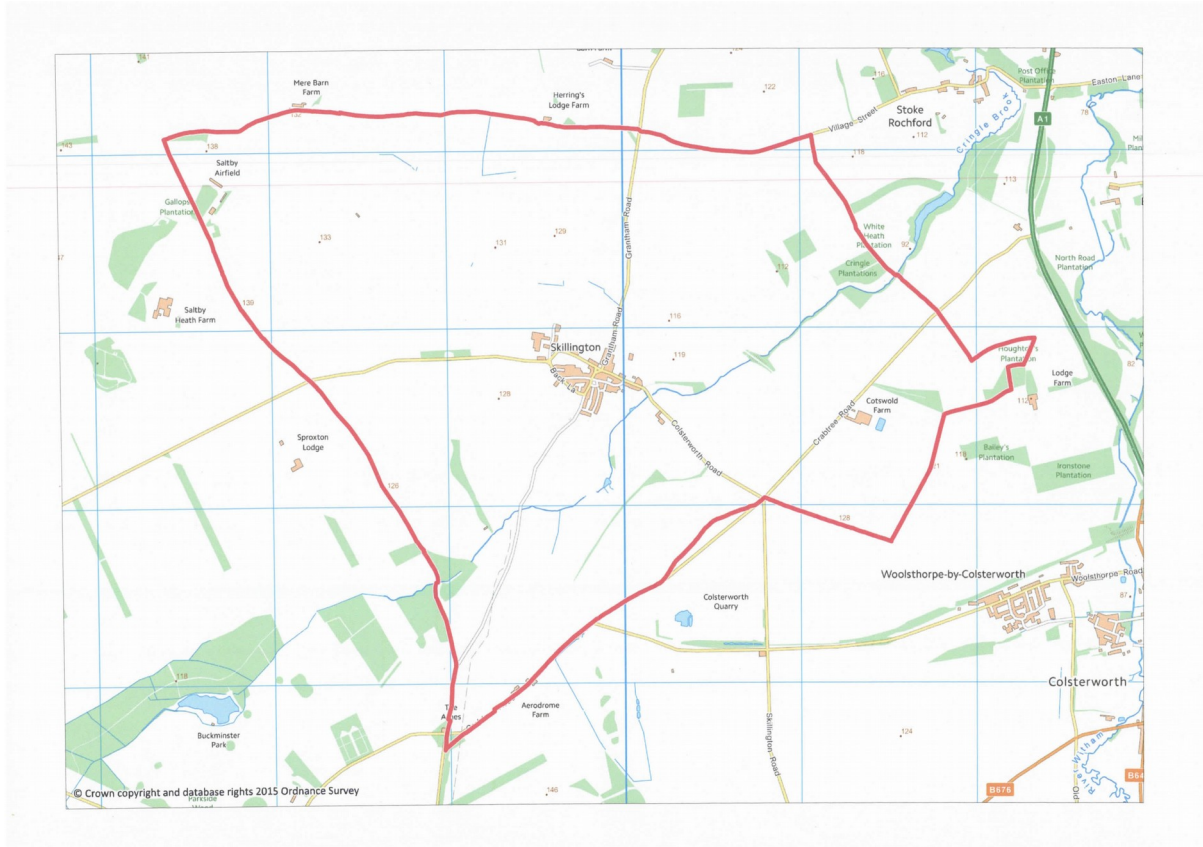
Please come if you can.

Regards

Graham Page

Chairman, Skillington Parish Council

Boundary of the Skillington Neighbourhood Area



Note: The boundary of the Skillington Neighbourhood Area corresponds to the Parish boundary

Resident survey about the future of the village

SKILLINGTON NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

A survey about the future of our village

IT'S YOUR COMMUNITY

HAVE YOUR SAY!

Rural communities are being given a bigger opportunity to influence plans for their future. Neighbourhood planning allows communities like ours to develop a shared idea for our village and to have a say in the development and growth of our local area. Our Neighbourhood Plan will last for 15 years, and be reviewed every five years. More details on what a Neighbourhood plan is are outlined on the next page.

The process to formulate a Neighbourhood Plan started in November 2014 with a questionnaire distributed in the village asking if a plan was something that the village wanted to take forward.

- We received 39 responses, which showed a strong majority in favour of a plan.
- A meeting was held at the Village Hall on 23rd January 2015; 21 villagers attended. There was agreement to continue the process with a number volunteering to continue the activity.
- Following the meeting a group of residents volunteered to form a Steering Group: Dave Featherstone, Guy Robinson, Clare Winter & Richard Wrigley

We would like you to tell us what you think is important in planning for the future of our village.

Results of this survey will feed in to the draft plan which we hope to produce by the end of the year.

Your answers and comments will be treated confidentially and we will not share or publish the views of any identified household.

Please complete this survey by the 30th June 2015 and return it via one of the following:

- The Crossed Swords or The Blue Horse pubs
- Graham Page (Parish Council Chairman), The Old School, Colsterworth Rd.
- Guy Robinson, Green View, Church Street
- Clare Winter, Blacksmith's Cottage, Buckminster Lane

FOR AN ELECTRONIC COPY PLEASE EMAIL GRAHAMHJPAGE@GMAIL.COM.

What is a Neighbourhood Plan?

Neighbourhood planning is a new right for communities and gives them direct power to develop a shared vision for their neighbourhood and shape the development and growth of their local area. Once a neighbourhood plan is in place all planning applications must take account of it.

Since neighbourhood planning was introduced by the Localism Act 2011 there has been a growing momentum behind it. There are an increasing number of communities across England undertaking neighbourhood planning and the first areas have completed the process with their plans now forming a formal part of the development plan for their areas. There is significant flexibility in what neighbourhood plans can include – they can involve, for example, just a few policies on design or retail uses or they can be comprehensive plans incorporating a diverse range of policies and site allocations for housing or other development.

All neighbourhood plans and orders are subject to an independent examination and a vote by the local community in a referendum. Only a neighbourhood plan or order that appropriately fits with local strategic and national policies and complies with important legal conditions may be put to a referendum.

How is a Neighbourhood Plan developed?

These are the 5 stages in the process:-

Stage 1 : Identification and designation of a Neighbourhood Area

- Local community identify an appropriate boundary for neighbourhood planning.
- Apply to local planning authority for the area to be designated.
- Local planning authority publicise and consult on the application and make a decision on the neighbourhood area.

(These steps have been taken and SKDC consultation is in progress, see <http://www.southkesteven.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=4553>)

Stage 2 : Initial evidence gathering and consultation and publicity

(This survey is the first step in this Stage)

- Local community formulate vision and objectives, gather evidence and draft details of the proposals for a plan.
- Consult on these proposals for a minimum of six weeks.

Stage 3 : Submission

- Neighbourhood plan proposal and required documents are submitted to the local planning authority.
- The authority publicises the plan for a minimum of 6 weeks and invites representations.
- The local planning authority arranges for an independent examination of the neighbourhood plan.

Stage 4 : Examination

- An independent examiner makes recommendations to the local planning authority on whether the draft neighbourhood plan meets basic conditions and other legal tests.
- The local planning authority considers the report and decides whether the neighbourhood plan should proceed to referendum.

Stage 5 : Referendum & neighbourhood plan is made

-
- A referendum is held to ensure that the community decides whether a neighbourhood plan should be part of the development plan for the area.
- If a majority of those who vote support the neighbourhood plan the authority must bring it into force (unless that would breach European or human rights obligations)

When a neighbourhood plan has passed examination, achieved successful local support through referendum and is then formally 'made' by the Local Planning Authority, it will form part of the statutory 'development plan' which is used by the local planning authority in deciding planning applications. This status, the community-led nature of neighbourhood planning and extra funding that the community can access through the community infrastructure levy are real incentives for communities to take up this right.

The main legislation that sets out the neighbourhood planning system can be found in the *Localism Act 2011* and *The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012*. The *Localism Act 2011* amended existing planning legislation to introduce neighbourhood planning. Further guidance is available in Planning Guidance. A number of organisations have produced guides to neighbourhood planning.

SURVEY QUESTIONS

THIS SURVEY IS BEING SENT TO EVERY HOUSEHOLD IN SKILLINGTON

YOUR VIEWS WILL SHAPE OUR NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

AND SO INFLUENCE THE FUTURE OF OUR VILLAGE.

The survey should take 15-20 minutes to complete.

PLEASE GIVE IT A GO.

- Part 1** Asks about your household now, the local facilities and transport you use, and what members of your household like about living in this neighbourhood.
- Part 2** Asks for views on how our neighbourhood should develop in the next 15 years. Each household can give opinions and make suggestions on **housing, employment opportunities**, and the **community and leisure facilities** that the community will need, plus changes that could improve **traffic and public transport and protect our natural environment and heritage**.

CONTENTS

Part 1 How Skillington is Now

1. Your Household

Part 2 Skillington and its Future

2. Life in Skillington
3. Housing
4. Infrastructure
5. Employment & Business
6. Transport
7. Skillington's Heritage & Leisure
8. Other Comments

1. YOU AND YOUR HOUSEHOLD

1.1. Please tell us what gender and age group each person in your household belongs to.

(Please give the number of people in each age group).

	Under 5	5-11	12-18	19-30	31-45	46-60	61-75	76+
Female								
Male								

1.2. How long have you lived in Skillington as a household?

A year or Less	1-5 yrs.	6-15yrs.	16-25yrs.	26-50yrs.	51+yrs.

1.3. How many people in your household are:

Full time Employment (30 hrs. /wk.)	Part Time Employment	Unemployed	Self Employed	In full time Education	In a government training scheme	Retired	A Carer

1.4 Where do the adults in your household work/study, and what transport do they use to get to and from work/place of study?

Place of work or study	No of People	Usual means of travel (Please tick all that apply)				
		WALK	CAR	BUS	TRAIN	CYCLE
At home						
Skillington & District						
Grantham						
Stamford						
Peterborough						
Nottingham						
Melton Mowbray						
London						
Other Areas (Specify)						
Not Applicable (Retired etc.)						

2. LIFE IN SKILLINGTON.

2.1 What do you like about living in Skillington?

(tick as many as apply, and double tick one main reason)

Good environment	
Good school catchment	
Good local facilities (e.g. shop, pub or GP surgery)	
Strong sense of community	
Peaceful / quiet	
Easy access to other places e.g. Grantham, Stamford, Peterborough, London	
Clean and tidy	
Low level of crime	
Cost of housing	
Rural location	
Low levels of traffic	
Any other reason? (please specify)	

2.2 What if anything do you most dislike about living in Skillington?

List up to 3 reasons, in order of importance.

1.

2.

3.

2.3 What might make you consider leaving Skillington?

For a larger Home	For a smaller home	To be nearer family	For education	For employment	Dissatisfied with facilities	Inappropriate Development	Lack of Development

Your Comments:

2.4 Thinking about Skillington, how would you like it to be described in 15 years?

(Please tick up to 5 – if you feel particularly important double tick.)

Accessible	<input type="radio"/>	Active	<input type="radio"/>	Affordable	<input type="radio"/>
Attractive	<input type="radio"/>	Friendly	<input type="radio"/>	Growing	<input type="radio"/>
Prosperous	<input type="radio"/>	Rural	<input type="radio"/>	Safe	<input type="radio"/>
Traditional	<input type="radio"/>	Tranquil	<input type="radio"/>	Unchanged	<input type="radio"/>

Other (please specify):

2.5 What would you like improved/developed in Skillington?

(Please tick up to 5 – if you feel particularly important double tick.)

A community with a balance of ages and incomes	<input type="radio"/>	Local jobs & Business	<input type="radio"/>
A shop	<input type="radio"/>	Mobile phone coverage	<input type="radio"/>
Allotments	<input type="radio"/>	Medical and care facilities	<input type="radio"/>
Broadband Speeds	<input type="radio"/>	Protection of countryside & local assets	<input type="radio"/>
Childcare	<input type="radio"/>	Rental property	<input type="radio"/>
Energy Production	<input type="radio"/>	Transport links	<input type="radio"/>
Facilities and services for young people	<input type="radio"/>	Variety of housing	<input type="radio"/>
Land for recreation (e.g. playing fields)	<input type="radio"/>	Village identity & sense of community	<input type="radio"/>
Leisure Facilities	<input type="radio"/>		

Other (please specify):

2.6 What concerns you about possible changes & development?

Double tick the most important.

A weaker sense of community	<input type="radio"/>	Loss of countryside/ green spaces	<input type="radio"/>
Expansion targeted only on people with higher incomes	<input type="radio"/>	Overloaded infrastructure	<input type="radio"/>
More crime/anti-social behaviour	<input type="radio"/>	Overstretched amenities	<input type="radio"/>
Increase in traffic	<input type="radio"/>	Poor access to healthcare	<input type="radio"/>
Lack of childcare facilities	<input type="radio"/>	Poor Public transport	<input type="radio"/>
New Housing	<input type="radio"/>	Lack of Housing	<input type="radio"/>
New Business Development	<input type="radio"/>	Lack of accessible employment	<input type="radio"/>

Other (please specify):

3. HOUSING.

3.1 What types of new accommodation could benefit the village?

Flats 1-3 Bed	2 Bed Starter Homes	3 Bed Homes	Large family homes	Bungalow	Homes with office space	Sheltered Housing	None	Don't Know

Other

3.2 Should any new housing be:

Owner Occupied	Shared Ownership	Private rented	Lower cost rented (e.g. Housing Association)	Other (please give example)

3.3 If required where should new housing to be built?

- On the edge of the village
- Infill (between existing properties)
- Developing/Replacing existing Buildings

Other (please specify).

3.4 Do you think the village could accept

- Individual Property Development Y / N
- Small development (2-5 Houses) Y / N
- Larger Development Y / N

3.5 If there were any development, what would worry you most?

- Changes in village appearance Traffic & Parking
- Impact on Rural Environment Reduced Community Feeling

Other (please specify):

4. INFRASTRUCTURE

4.1 How good are the following services and what priority should be given to improvement? (Please tick a rating and a priority for each)

	Rating				Priority		
	Good	OK	Poor		High	Med	Low
Water Supply							
Sewerage & Drainage							
Electricity							
Mobile Phone							
Broadband							
Roads							
Street Lighting							
Pavements							
Other							

Comments

4.2 Should the Neighbourhood Plan consider including a policy for energy production? (Local land use, neighbourhood generation etc.)

Yes / No

4.2.1. If you answered Yes, do you have a preference on the following?

	Y	N	Unsure		Y	N	Unsure
Biomass				Shale			
Gas				Solar			
Geothermal				Wind			
Oil							

Comments

5. EMPLOYMENT & BUSINESS

5.1 Would you like to see more jobs available in the village?

Yes/No

If you answered Yes, what types of jobs do you think are needed?

5.2 Do you think any land should be allocated for business use?

Yes/No

If you answered Yes, please tick your preference – if you feel particularly important double tick.

Offices to rent Workshop Units Storage Units

Other (please specify):

6. TRANSPORT

6.1 What form of transport do you use most to get around?

Bus Cycle Motor Vehicle
 Taxi Walking Other (Specify)

6.2 Do you or any of your household use the following?

	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Rarely /Never
Scheduled Bus				
Call Collect Bus				
School Bus				
Taxi				

6.3 What improvement to the bus service would be useful?

None the service is adequate A more frequent service
 An evening service to Grantham Better information on buses
 Bus service via Grantham Station More Call Connect Buses

Other (including routes other than to Grantham)

6.4 If you have restricted mobility what would make it easier to get around?

6.5 What improvements to roads & footpaths in Skillington do you think would be most useful?

7. SKILLINGTON'S HERITAGE & LEISURE

7.1 What special parts of Skillington do you feel need preserving?

Appearance of buildings Appearance of the Square

The Moot Cross Area Rural setting

Network of paths & bridleways Historic Buildings

Other (please identify and describe):

7.2 Which local activities are you involved in?

(Please tick all that applies double tick key items)

Church/Chapel	<input type="radio"/>	Coffee Mornings	<input type="radio"/>	Cricket	<input type="radio"/>
Cycling	<input type="radio"/>	Dog Walking	<input type="radio"/>	Football	<input type="radio"/>
Gardening	<input type="radio"/>	Golf	<input type="radio"/>	Gliding Club	<input type="radio"/>
Horse Riding	<input type="radio"/>	Keep Fit	<input type="radio"/>	Motor/Quad Biking	<input type="radio"/>
Pubs	<input type="radio"/>	Running	<input type="radio"/>	Swimming	<input type="radio"/>
		Walking	<input type="radio"/>		

Other (specify):

Also use this box to say how the village can help with your interest.

7.2 Do you think facilities for children in the village should be improved?

Y/N

Please use the box to qualify your answer.

8. ANY OTHER COMMENTS

Please provide any additional comments, ideas or observations you have. Please keep your comments short and to the point.

Name and address (***this is totally optional***)

Name.....

Address.....

.....

Email:.....

Thank you very much for completing the survey. Your answers are valued and will help us develop the draft plan.

If you have any questions, you need extra copies of the survey or should you need any help please contact:

Richard Wrigley richard.wrigley@nottingham.ac.uk (01476-860906)

Graham Page grahamhpage@gmail.com (01476-861296)

OR Clare, Dave or Guy whenever you see them around the village.

Data protection and confidentiality:

The information in the returned questionnaires will be seen only by those people nominated by the Steering Group to record and analyse the data provided by residents. This information will be entered into a database in a way which does not identify any individual resident or their address. Comments and suggestions made by residents will be listed anonymously.

Flier about village meeting

**SKILLINGTON NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN –
VILLAGE MEETING**

Thursday, 3rd March 2016 at 7.00pm

Skillington Village Hall

Meeting to consider the results of the Village Questionnaire and to discuss the vision and objectives of the Skillington Neighbourhood Plan.

Please attend if you can.

YOUR VILLAGE – YOUR PLAN!

Note of Village Meeting

SKILLINGTON NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Grantham, Lincolnshire

Notes following presentation at Village Meeting on Thursday 3rd March 2016 at 7.00pm at Skillington Village Hall.

Present: Richard Wrigley (*Chairman, Neighbourhood Plan Committee*); *Committee Members:* Graham Page, Guy Robinson and Clare Winter; *Parish Clerk:* Vicky Page

Parishioners: Rona Allinson, Francis Disney, Rosemarie Disney, Annthea Fryer, Mark Fryer, Roseanne McKee, Jennifer Robinson, Peter Samways, Darryl Scott, Wendy Scott, Anita Sheehan, Michael Sheehan, Fran Smith, Maria Whittle.

Apologies: Bob Adams (*SKDC*), Gillian Burgoin, David Carrington, Wendi Carrington, Gwen Claxton, Michael Claxton, Dave Featherstone, Bronwyn Hedley, Frank Hedley.

Graham Page made a PowerPoint presentation updating the Village on the reasons for preparing a Neighbourhood Plan, the results of the village survey, progress made on the preparation of the Plan and the schedule for its completion, and the need for more help.

Comments and questions arising from the presentation:

1. Age of those responding to questionnaire: Michael Sheehan (MS) pointed out that older people are more likely to vote in any referendum.
2. Richard Wrigley (RW) pointed out that the rules for Neighbourhood Plans preclude the option of stipulating no development.
3. MS: would there be a further questionnaire to fill in omissions in the first one?
Graham Page (GP): there will be opportunities to address missed issues further along in the process.
4. MS: the Landscape Character Assessment is likely to be at odds to the Energy proposals, eg solar/wind.
GP: the Environment Assessment would take precedence.
5. RW: Sarah Watson very helpful in setting foundation. She and Bob Keith, the Consultant, help to make a professional team.

6. Clare Winter: more help needed on the Committee.
7. MS: it would be good to pass the information in the presentation to the people who completed the questionnaire but who were not at the meeting.
GP: intends to do this but needs to consider whether or not the presentation on its own might be misleading.
8. Anthea Fryer (AF): will there be further questionnaires?
GP: no but a Draft Plan will be circulated.
9. Vicky Page: will the young people, i.e. teenagers, be surveyed?
AF: those just leaving home prefer to live in towns.

Francis Disney: in their 30's and 40's they would like to move back into the village but there is no property at about £100k available suitable for them.

Peter Samways (PS): as older people move away or into smaller accommodation larger family homes will become available.

10. PS: greater risk to community from the nationally approved plan for fracking which covers this area.
GP: the Neighbourhood Plan cannot take account of that.
11. PS: sewerage and water supply at breaking point.
GP: Anglian Water have made it clear that they are obliged to fulfil the requirement of new development, however it has to be in their 5-year plan.
VP: Bob Adams has made it clear that no planning application would be refused just on the basis of the limitations of the current sewerage and water systems.
12. GP: Stakeholders have to be consulted.
MS: has the Gliding Club been contacted, it would be a Stakeholder? He is the contact point.

GP: Will add them to the list.

Resident Questionnaire

SKILLINGTON NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

YOUR VILLAGE – YOUR PLAN

Over the last eighteen months Skillington has been developing its Neighbourhood Plan*. This is based on the wishes of residents and businesses in the village, as well as practical factors such as services and the environment. In the course of developing the Plan residents have provided input by responding to a survey in mid-2015 and attending several meetings; and you will have the chance to comment on the Draft Plan later this year, and to vote in a referendum on adoption of the final version.

This leaflet summarises the results of this consultation process so far and suggests some key objectives arising from what you said. Two main themes have emerged: Environment and Infrastructure, and Housing. Here we ask some further questions regarding housing, expanding on points raised by you in the consultation process.

Theme 1: ENVIRONMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE

It was clear from the results of the Survey that residents value the rural nature of Skillington, and that factors such as the peaceful character of the village and its surrounding countryside are important to people. Further work on this is being undertaken and the Plan will contain proposed objectives and policies to preserve and enhance this environment and infrastructure.

Theme 2: HOUSING

The Neighbourhood Plan must take account of both factual evidence and public opinion. In deciding policies for housing development both of these factors suggest that the Plan should restrict development in or around the village to be small scale and suitably designed.

Key Facts:

- Under the SKDC (District Council) Core Strategy, Skillington is designated as a ‘non-service centre’. This means that, because of its lack of sustainability resulting from the shortage of local services (transport, education, employment, utilities, etc.), new housing development is generally not approved. (This designation may be changed in SKDC’s new Local Plan, but the underlying non-sustainability will remain).
- Much of Skillington is defined as a conservation zone and this places a number of restrictions on the nature of what can be done in the confines of the village.
- The population of Skillington is an ageing one. Based on the survey results 18% are under 18, but only 11% between 19 and 45, and 41% over 60.

What You Said:

- The results of the Survey suggested that there is little support for large scale new housing development. In answer to the question ‘What types of new housing could improve the village?’ the most popular answer (31%) was ‘None’, but there was some support for small-scale developments, with a preference for conversion of existing properties or in-fill. 77% of respondents were concerned by the prospect of loss of countryside.

However, the age profile in the Village raises some questions. In particular, as the Survey was sent to households, there may be a risk that future housing needs have not been adequately addressed in the Survey response. Should we, for example, be considering whether young people in the village will want affordable housing in Skillington in 10 – 15 years’ time? What would be the effect on the village if one or both pubs were to close or the bus service became uneconomically unviable? So the Working Group** would like more feedback from you on this. This isn’t a questionnaire but we would like your comments on the questions below please, or a chance to discuss it with anyone who is willing to share their thoughts/experience.

***What is a Neighbourhood Plan?**

Neighbourhood planning is a new way for communities to decide the future of the places where they live and work. A Neighbourhood Plan can set out a vision for an area and planning policies for use and development of land. Like other plans, the Skillington Neighbourhood Plan will form part of the statutory planning framework for the area, with the policies and proposals contained within it helping to determine the outcome of future planning applications. The Neighbourhood Plan must conform to the wider South Kesteven Core Strategy and to the Local Plan currently being produced by South Kesteven District Council (SKDC) as well as national planning policies outlined by Government. It can, however, influence whether development should be allowed, where it might go, and what it would look like. The typical period covered by a Neighbourhood Plan is 15 years.

- Do you think that a policy that restricts housing development in Skillington is the right one for the village?
- Is there a risk that, without new housing, people wanting to set up home in the village will be unable to do so and young people will be forced to move away from the village?
- What should be done, or allowed in the Plan to make our community more sustainable?
- Does this affect you directly, or is this your opinion on the future identity of the village?

Name (optional):

Replies, by 13th May please, can be left at The Cross Swords; The Old School; Home Farmhouse; Blacksmith’s Cottage; or Green View, Church Street; by phone to any member of the Working Group, or by email to grahamhjpage@gmail.com.

** The members of the Working Group are Richard Wrigley (860906), Clare Winter, Guy Robinson (860467), Graham Page (330281).

Notice about Pre-submission Consultation

Skillington Neighbourhood Plan

Pre-Submission Consultation

Formal consultation on the Draft Plan will take place from Monday 26th September to 7th November 2016.

Summaries of the draft and Response Forms will be delivered to all residents by 25th September 2016.

HOW TO RESPOND TO THE CONSULTATION

READ THE FULL DRAFT PLAN!

It's available on the Skillington Life website at <http://www.skillingtonlife.co.uk/nhp.html>

Hard copies are available at the Cross Swords Inn; the Methodist Chapel; St James's Church; Skillington Village Hall; or, by arrangement, from any of the following steering group members:

- Richard Wrigley (richard.wrigley@nottingham.ac.uk, 01476-860906)
- Graham Page (grahamhpage@gmail.com, 01476-330281)
- Guy Robinson (amgguy@btinternet.com, 01476-860467)
- Clare Winter (w31inter@yahoo.co.uk, 07584-519588)

COME TO A DROP-IN SESSION AND FIND OUT MORE

Drop-in events will be at the Village Hall on:

- Saturday 15th October (10.00 to 16.00)
- Tuesday 18th October (18.00 to 21.00)
- Thursday 27th October (18.00 to 21.00)

Summary of Pre-submission Draft Plan

Your Village – Your Plan!

Skillington Neighbourhood Plan



(Photo by kind permission of Andrew Cluskey)

Draft Plan Consultation

Skillington Neighbourhood Plan is an important planning document, which will shape the future of our community over the next fifteen years. It is relevant to all parishioners and those who value our unique heritage and sense of community.

From 26th September to 7th November 2016 you have the opportunity to let us know what you think about our proposed Draft Plan. We strongly advise you to read the Full Draft Plan, more details on Page 4.

Why do we need a Neighbourhood Plan?

SKDC is required by the government to build more new homes up until 2036, and planning where these new homes are to be built is under way in SKDC's new Local Plan. By preparing a Neighbourhood Plan the Parish Council is taking the opportunity to influence the type, scale and design of any development which can take place within Skillington.

This Draft Plan allows parishioners:

- To have a say in how the Parish will look in the future

- To protect what is important within the Parish
- To conserve our heritage and countryside

HOW THE PLAN WAS DEVELOPED

We listened to your opinions and concerns including:

- The tranquillity and rural character of the village
- Residential development
- Protection of countryside and green spaces
- Preservation of local heritage

This led to our Vision for Skillington in 15 years' time:

In 2031 Skillington will be an attractive and tranquil village, which has a strong and balanced community that looks after its historic buildings and surrounding countryside.

Your opinions were turned into five Key Objectives which are represented by the Policies in the Draft Plan:

1. To support appropriate and affordable residential development in the village
2. To support a prosperous local economy
3. To retain and improve local services and community facilities
4. To protect and enhance the Skillington Conservation Area
5. To conserve and manage the surrounding Kesteven Uplands landscape

THE POLICIES

Objective 1: Residential development and affordable housing:

Policy 1 – Residential development in Skillington

Policy 2 – Affordable housing on Rural Exception Sites

Objective 2: Local economy:

Policy 3 – The Local Economy

Objective 3: Local services and community facilities:

Policy 4 – Local Services and Community Facilities

Policy 5 – Local Green Space

Policy 6 – Public Footpaths

Objective 4: Skillington Conservation Area

Policy 7 – Conservation Area

Policy 8 – Conservation Area Design Guidance

Objective 5: Open Countryside:

Policy 9 – Open Countryside

HOW TO RESPOND TO THE CONSULTATION

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Graham Page (grahamhpage@gmail.com, 01476-330281)

Guy Robinson (amgguy@btinternet.com, 01476-860467)

Clare Winter (w31inter@yahoo.co.uk, 07584-519588)

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Saturday 15th October (10.00 to 16.00)

Tuesday 18th October (18.00 to 21.00)

Thursday 27th October (18.00 to 21.00)

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

After 7th November comments and suggestions will be considered by the Steering Group and may be used to modify the draft plan.

The pre-Submission Draft Plan will then be submitted to SKDC who will publicise it for further consultation.

SKDC will then appoint an independent examiner who will review it and write a report.

Subject to successful examination the plan will go to a referendum of electors organised by SKDC. The plan will be adopted if there is a more than 50% vote in favour at the referendum.

The Plan is made! The Skillington Neighbourhood Plan will then become part of the statutory Local Plan for SKDC and an important document in deciding planning applications within Skillington parish.

Appendix 10

List of Consultees

Statutory Bodies

The Environment Agency

Sustainable Places

Environment Agency

Lincolnshire and Northamptonshire Area

Waterside House

Waterside North

LINCOLN

LN2 5HA

plannL.lincoln2.an@environment-agency.gov.uk

Natural England

Consultation Service

Hornbeam House

Electra Way

Crewe Business Park

Crewe

Cheshire

CW1 6GJ

consultations@naturalengland.org.uk

Highways Agency

The Cube 199 Wharfside Street

Birmingham

B1 1RN

SpatialplanningEM@highways.gsi.gov.uk

Historic England

44 Derngate

Northampton

NN1 1UH

e-emids@historicengland.org.uk

Homes and Communities Agency

mail@homesandcommunities.co.uk

Local Authorities and Parish Councils

South Kesteven District Council

Sarah Watson
South Kesteven District Councils
St Peters Hill
Grantham NG31 6PZ
s.watson@southkesteven.gov.uk

Lincolnshire County Council

Andy Gutherson
Head of Planning
Planning Unit 16
Witham Park House
Waterside house
Lincoln
LN5 7JN
Devplanningenquiries@lincolnshire.gov.uk

Leicestershire County Council

Ms Sarah Rudkin
Leicestershire County Council
Rm G49
County Hall
Glenfield
Leicester
LE3 8RA
sarah.rudkin@leics.gov.uk

Melton Mowbray District Council

Rachel Armstrong
Local Plan Manager
Parkside,
Station Approach,
Burton Street,
Melton Mowbray,
Leics,
LE13 1GH
rarmstrong@melton.gov.uk

Easton Parish Council (Stoke Rochford and Easton)

Emma Wilson
Windygates
Casthorpe Road
Barrowby

Grantham, Lincolnshire
NG32 1DP
Phone: 07759 521269
stokerochfordpc@gmail.com

Buckminster Parish Council

Alan Noble
3 Benskins Close
Church Walk
Little Dalby
Melton Mowbray
LE14 2UF
contact@buckminsterpc.org.uk

Colsterworth and District Parish Council

johnrhannam@btinternet.com

Croxton Kerrial Parish Council

Ck.parishcouncil@yahoo.com

Sproxton Parish Council

Rosie (Bennett)
sproxtonparishclerk@outlook.com

Wyville Cum Hungerton Parish Meeting

mel@tgs-uk.net

Utility Companies

Anglian Water Services

Planning and Equivalence team
Thorpe Wood House
Thorpe wood
Peterborough PE3 6WT
sPatience@anglianwater.co.uk

Mobile Operators Association

Russell Square House
10-12 Russell Square
London
WC1B 5EE
info@ukmoa.org

Western Power Distribution

info@westernpower.co.uk

E.ON Energy

PO Box 7750
Nottingham NG1 6WR
National Grid
c/o Amec
Gables House
Kenilworth Road
Leamington Spa
CV32 6JX
Damien.holdstock@amec.com

Openreach BT

Openreach new sites
PP1C Bradford Central ATE
Manchester Road
Bradford BD5 0QJ
Newsite.reception.sl@openreach.co.uk

C.E.S.L.

Andrew Kirby
andrewkirby@sky.com

Other Organisations

Heritage trust for Lincolnshire

Jenny young
Senior Historic Environment officer
The old School
Cameron Street
Heckington
Lincolnshire
NG34 9RW
Jenny.young@lincsheritage.org

CPRE

Tony Scott
c/o 33 High Street
Heighington
Lincoln
LN4 1JS
info@cpreleistershire.org.uk

Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust

Elizabeth Ebiott
Banovallum House
Manor House Street Horncastle
LN9 5HF
ebiott@lincstrust.co.uk

Greater Lincolnshire Nature Partnership

Fran Hitchinson
Fran.hitchinson@glnp.org.uk

National Farmers Union

Mr P R Tame
Agricultural House
Northgate
Uppingham
LE15 9NX
Paul.tame@nfu.org.uk

Greater Lincolnshire LEP

c/o Ruth Carver
City Hall
Beaumont Fee
Lincoln LN1 1DD
enquiries@greaterlincolnshirelep.co.uk

The Woodland Trust

Kempton Way
Grantham
NG31 6LL
England@woodlandtrust.org.uk

St James's Church PCC

perdue439@btinternet.com

Buckminster Gliding Club Ltd.

Saltby Airfield
Skillington
Grantham
Lincs NG33 5FE
Roger Keay.
roger@keay10.plus.com

Local Landowners

Mrs B. Townsley

bevtownsley@hotmail.co.uk

The Easton Estate

The Estate Office

Burton le Coggles

Grantham

Lincolnshire

NG33 4JP

01476 550227

email@theeastonestate.co.uk

The Stoke Rochford Estate,

Simon Allam

Estate Office,

Home Farm,

Stoke Rochford,

Grantham

NG33 5EF

01476 530216

simon@stokerochfordestate.co.uk

Buckminster Estate

Estate Office

50 Main St,

Buckminster,

Grantham

NG33 5SD01476 860471

Stephen Vickers

stephen@buckminster.co.uk

Skillington Life Neighbourhood Plan Website

Skillington Neighbourhood Plan is an important planning document which will shape the future of our community over the next fifteen years. It is relevant to all parishioners and those who value our unique heritage and sense of community. By preparing a neighbourhood plan the Parish Council is taking the opportunity to influence the type, scale and design of any development which can take place within the Parish.

This plan has been produced by the Steering Group, which reports to the Parish Council. The summary of information on who lives in Skillington and their views on the character of the village and any future development is based on the survey carried out last year. The document has been drafted with the invaluable advice of Bob Keith, our planning consultant, who has worked on a number of Neighbourhood Plans.

Before formally submitting this draft Plan to SKDC, we need to hear your views. Once these have been taken into account the revised draft will be submitted to SKDC for independent examination. Any further necessary changes will be made before the plan is submitted to a referendum of electors, probably in the spring of 2017.

Please use the Response Form to provide any comments whether of agreement or disagreement.

Skillington Neighbourhood Plan

A full copy of the Draft Plan can be downloaded to your device in a Portable Document Format (pdf format) by clicking on the button below. You will need to have Adobe Reader installed on your device in order to be able to read it. If your device doesn't already have it downloaded [Adobe Reader](#) is free and can be downloaded by clicking or tapping on the Adobe icon at the foot of the page and following the instructions from then on. Download Adobe Reader before you download the Draft Plan if you haven't already got it on your device.

The Draft Plan document is over 60 pages and nearly 2mb. It may take a few seconds to download depending on your internet connection speed. Once you have downloaded the plan you will find that the index is on page 3. You can skip to a specific chapter by clicking or tapping on an index line or page number.

If you right click with your mouse anywhere within the document you can save it to your device by selecting "save as". Bear in mind that this is a Draft Plan and may change before the proposed Neighbourhood Plan is submitted to SKDC. The download button below will be amended to reflect this as and when the proposed Neighbourhood Plan is submitted to SKDC.

A response form will be delivered to your address shortly. However, you can download and print off a form to complete if you wish using the second button below. You will also need to download Adobe Reader to see it.

- Download the Draft plan
- Download the Response Form

Pre-submission Consultation Response Form

Your Village – Your Plan!

Skillington Neighbourhood Plan

Consultation Response Form

Responses must be received by 7th November 2016 – for details see page 2

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____ Post Code _____

Organisation if applicable: _____

Email: _____ Tel No: _____

Please give any comments of support or concern, with any suggested changes you would like to see in the Draft Plan:	Policy Number	Paragraph Number

If you need more space continue over the page or on a separate sheet attached to this form.

Continued from page 1	Policy Number	Paragraph Number
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Are there any other comments you wish to make?

The Pre-submission Consultation 26th September to 7th November 2016

All responses received by **7th November 2016** will be considered by the Skillington Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group and may be used to amend the Pre-submission Draft Plan. A consultation statement, including a summary of all comments received and how these were considered, will be made available along with the amended Neighbourhood Plan.

Please return this form by hand to The Crossed Swords Inn, or by hand or by post to The Old School, Colsterworth Road, Skillington NG33 5HF; or by attaching it to an email and returning to clerk.spc@gmail.com

Today's Date: _____

Your comments cannot be taken into account unless your name and address is included.

List of Respondents to Pre-submission Draft Plan

NO	NAME	DATE	FORM
1	Environment Agency	29/09/2016	email
2	Natural England	04/10/2016	email/letter
3	Local Resident	06/10/2016	Form
4	Historic England	11/10/2016	Letter
5	Local Resident	16/10/2016	Form
6	Local Resident	17/10/2016	email
7	Local Resident	29/10/2016	Form
8	Local Resident	30/10/2016	Form
9	Local Resident	30/10/2016	Form
10	Highways England	01/11/2016	Letter
11	Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust	01/11/2016	Form
12	Local Resident	01/11/2016	Form
13	Local Resident	02/11/2016	Notes
14	Local Resident	02/11/2016	Form
15	Local Resident	04/11/2016	Form
16	Local Resident	04/11/2016	Form
17	Local Resident	04/11/2016	Form
18	Local Resident	04/11/2016	Form
19	Local Resident	04/11/2016	Form
20	Local Resident	04/11/2016	Form
21	Local Resident	06/11/2016	Form
22	Local Resident	06/11/2016	Form
23	Local Resident	06/11/2016	Notes
24	Local Resident	06/11/2016	Form
25	Local Resident	07/11/2016	Form
26	SKDC	07/11/2016	Letter
27	Local Resident	07/11/2016	Form
28	Local Resident	07/11/2016	Form
29	Local Resident	07/11/2016	Form
OTHER COMMENTS			
	Local Resident	25/09/2016	email
	Local Resident	27/09/2016	email

Assessment of Responses to Pre-Submission Draft Plan

Ref No.	Consultee	Para or Policy In PSD	Comment	Response by Steering Group	Modification to Plan as submitted to SKDC
1	Environment Agency	General comment	None	Noted	N/A
2	Natural England	General comment	None	Noted	N/A
3	Resident	General comment	'A detailed and professional plan'	Noted	N/A
4	Historic England	General comment	Important that strategy safeguards historic assets'	Noted	N/A
5	Resident	3.13	Mention phone box / defibrillator	Accepted	Add sentence to 3.16: 'The village phone box has been disconnected and, following a village fund-raising appeal, is now used to house a defibrillator'
		2.16	EU obligations in light of referendum result	Draft covers current EU obligations	N/A
		3.4	Mention number of retired residents	Accepted	Add to 3.4 as third bullet: '21.8% were retired'
		General comment	Make meaning of abbreviations clearer	Accepted	Appendix: Glossary and Abbreviations to be added
		5.1	Comments on lack of village shop	Draft reflects present state of the village and residents' opinions. A shop would require a new initiative which is outside the scope of the	N/A

				Plan.	
6	Resident	General comment	Support for proposals to conserve the village and surroundings Comments on community facilities: shop, pubs, play areas, and wish to see the Plan promote them more.	Noted Commercial ventures (pubs, shop) are business ventures which require an owner and need to be profitable. A play area is desirable but residents' views on its location are divided.	N/A N/A
7	Resident	General comment	No objections	Noted	N/A
8	Resident	General comment	Plan is 'well-prepared, well-considered, and clearly written. I would endorse it.'	Noted	N/A
9	Resident	Objective 4 / Policy 8	Objective should be strengthened to ensure a more pro-active approach to managing the Conservation Area. Policy 8 should be strengthened to include 'management of the Conservation Area' with a working group to review and recommend how the Conservation Area can be pro-actively enhanced.	Accepted though it should be noted that powers to compel adherence to design guidelines are limited, so education and advice are likely to be the main priorities.	Amend Policy 8 to: Add 'and Management' to title and before final paragraph insert: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 'A working group will be established to review and recommend how the management of the conservation area can be pro-actively enhanced.'
10	Highways England	General comment	No impact on A1	Noted	N/A
11	Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust	General comment	Lack of background ecological information used to prepare the Plan.	Accepted. Although a report was received from Lincolnshire Environmental Records Centre, and was considered in the formulation of the Plan, the text does not	Add as 3.53 'The Parish contains a number of areas important for their wildlife and landscape character. The report from Lincolnshire Environmental Records Centre (5 February 2016), identifies the following: four Local Wildlife Sites

				adequately reflect this.	(Skillington Road Verges; Skillington to Gunby Road Verges; Stoke Rochford Road Verges; Crabtree Road Verges); one Site of Nature Conservation Interest (Lower Farm, Skillington); one Roadside Nature Reserve (Sproxton Road). Areas of Lowland calcareous grassland (3.04 hectares) were identified within and bordering the parish. (Full details of these locations are available from the Greater Lincolnshire Nature Partnership, at www.glnp.org.uk).
		Policy 3	Wording in Policy 3 should be strengthened to ‘avoid’ rather than ‘mitigate’ adverse impact on the environment.	Partly accepted	Amend final sentence of Policy 3 to read: ‘Any adverse impact on the environment should be avoided if possible, or otherwise mitigated.’
		Appendix 2	Identification of ridge and furrow field locations	See 23 below	See 23 below
12	Resident	3.13	Location of nearest food shop is in Buckminster.	Noted but Colsterworth is fractionally closer.	N/A
		3.15	No mains gas supply	Noted, but 3.15 seems clear.	N/A
		Table 5.1	Comments about attitudes to development should be removed as they are not objective statements.	The table heading and content make it clear which items are opinion-based.	N/A
		6.4	Delete reference to ‘Tranquil’ as it is a subjective term. Include term ‘sustainable’ as it is in line with Objectives 1-3.	‘Tranquillity’, while admittedly a subjective matter, reflects the views of	N/A

				many residents as an important characteristic of Skillington. It is felt that the Vision and Objectives are adequately phrased.	
		7.32	Development on the periphery of the village is not opposed by residents.	Only 30% of respondents to the survey supported any development on the periphery.	N/A
		7.67 – 7.70, Appendix 1	Why is the paddock not designated as Local Green Space?	As 7.66 explains, significant green areas can be protected in various ways, including LGS designation. The paddock is protected by the Conservation Area Reappraisal and it is felt that no extra benefit would be gained by LGS designation.	N/A
		General	Skillington Conservation Area boundary runs across paddock behind The Stackyard which is illogical.	Conservation Area boundaries were subject to recent consultation during Reappraisal of CA and are not addressed by Neighbourhood Plan.	N/A
			Paddock behind The Stackyard is proposed as suitable for development.	For reasons given in 7.32 the Plan does not include a designation of land for	N/A

				development.	
13	Resident	7.71	The Square: this piece of land was registered as a Village Green under the Commons Registration Act of 1965 on 3 rd February 2010.	Noted	Add to 7.71 (2): 'This piece of land was registered as a Village Green under the Commons Registration Act of 1965 on 3 rd February 2010'
		7.72	The paddock should be included as Local Green Space.	As 7.66 explains, significant green areas can be protected in various ways, including LGS designation. The paddock is protected by the Conservation Area Reappraisal and it is felt that no extra benefit would be gained by LGS designation.	N/A
		General	Whilst recognising that Skillington is a Non-Sustainable Community and Colsterworth is a Local Service Centre it is important that Skillington retains its own identity and is not considered a satellite of Colsterworth.	Noted	N/A
		General	'a well thought-out and detailed plan'	Noted	N/A
14	Resident	General	'This comprehensive plan is a fair assessment of the village as it stands and looking to the future. I make particular reference to the need to keep the centre unspoilt and preserve the open spaces and key views.'	Noted	N/A
15	Resident	General	'We fully support the whole draft plan. Any concerns we may have had have been addressed.'	Noted	N/A

			We will keep the appearance of [our house] as it is and will never change to plastic windows!'		
16	Resident	General	'The five key objectives I totally agree with.'	Noted	N/A
17	Resident	3.50	New development should adhere to (9) Use of limestone for new construction.	Noted	N/A
		4.8	Support small scale development (10 houses?). The key then is to influence the design and use of materials.	Noted	N/A
		6.4, 6.5	Agree with Vision Statement and Objectives	Noted	N/A
		7.29, 7.35	Opposed to infill which is stifling and spoils the nature of the village.	Noted	N/A
		Policy 6	Agreed	Noted	N/A
		Policy 9	Might this not stifle small scale development which might enhance the village?	Noted	N/A
18	Resident	Appendix 4	'Crossed Swords' should be 'Cross Swords'. 'Holly House' should be 'Holly Hill'. 'Ashfield' should be included as same style as 'Holly Hill'. Jackson's House and Jackson's Barn are separate houses.	Accepted in part. List of Positive Unlisted Buildings (PuBs) has been reconsidered and amended	Amend Appendix 4 as follows: The Square: Delete 'Other houses on SE corner', Delete 'West House', Delete '1847', Delete 'c.1850'. Insert 'Shepherd's Barn', Insert 'Stone House', Insert 'Stone Cottage and barn'. Middle Street: Amend 'Jackson's House and Barn' to read 'Jackson's House'. Delete 'Holly House'. Insert 'Stone Cottage' Church Street:

		General	We fully support and agree with the Plan	Noted	<p>Delete 'Houses on... Square', delete 'Shepherd's barn'. Insert '1-3 Church Street'</p> <p>Buckminster Lane: Delete 'Chapel House', delete 'West side... Blacksmith's'. Insert: 'The Post Box', insert: 'Christian's Barn', insert: 'Molland's Cottage'.</p> <p>Back Lane: Delete 'Meads House'. Insert: 'Jackson's barn'</p> <p>Add footnote to Appendix 2 : 'In the blue Positive Unlisted Buildings shown on the map above, Jackson's Barn is wrongly marked; it should be the second, not the first building on the north side of Back Lane. N/A</p>
19	Resident	General	No objections	Noted	N/A
20	Resident	General	I support the Plan	Noted	N/A
21	Resident	General	The Plan appears to address the possibility of future development while protecting the conservation of the village.	Noted	N/A
22	Resident	General	I am happy that the draft plan supports the aesthetic qualities of the village and appreciate the time that has been taken to ensure that the village retains its historical roots and appearance.	Noted	N/A

23	Individual Stakeholder	1.4	Area does not border Rutland which is 5km away	Noted	N/A
		6.4	Propose Vision should say 'sustainable' instead of 'tranquil'.	'Tranquillity', reflects the views of many residents as an important characteristic of Skillington. It is felt that the Vision and Objectives are adequately phrased.	N/A
		Policy 1 (d)	Questions how this policy meets NPPF definition on sustainability by guaranteeing that it will not ' <i>compromise the ability of future generations to meet their own needs</i> '	This policy meets the first part of the NPPF sustainability clause ' <i>meeting the needs of the present</i> '. It does not compromise future needs.	N/A
		Objective 4	Location and importance of ridge and furrow fields is challenged.	Comments on ridge and furrow fields were drawn from the Skillington Conservation Area Appraisal, which was subject to public consultation before adoption. The fact Skillington's fields were not listed in the top 40 does not make them unworthy of note or protection. There seems to be a discrepancy between the location data cited by SKDC for the CA Appraisal and other data.	Add footnote to Appendix 2: 'Location of ridge and furrow fields south of Back Lane cannot be confirmed at present.'

		7.23, 7.32	7.32 ignores the final sentence of 7.23 that <i>'individual circumstances are likely to differ in each settlement'</i> .	The two paragraphs are not contradictory; either of each other or of the emerging Local Plan. The point is that the latter specifies no housing quota for any specific smaller settlements.	N/A
		General	<i>'Overshadowing / loss of outlook'</i> is a Material Planning Consideration. Equally, <i>'Loss of view'</i> isn't. There are numerous references to 'View' within the SNP. Could the Steering Group kindly make clear the difference between an 'outlook' and a 'view'?	References to 'Views' are explained in 7.82 as important to the overall look and character of the village. The word 'outlook' is not used in the Plan.	N/A
24	Resident	Policy 6	Stonepit Lane needs a road safety plan.	This suggestion is not in conflict with Policy 6. Road safety issues are the responsibility of LCC Highways.	N/A
		Key Views	I would like the open views from Stonepit Lane in the plan.	View 4 provides this.	N/A
		General	Areas like Chapel Row, Stonepit Lane, Buckminster Road, Bluetown must be considered in the Plan. These are key areas to the village and its active life.	All areas of the village were consulted in preparation of the Plan.	N/A
25	Resident	General	A comprehensive plan	Noted	N/A
26	SKDC	7.34	Which 'guidance' is referred to?	The second bullet point in para 7.2 states that 'Planning Practice	Insert words 'Planning Practice Guidance' at start of para 7.34 to make clearer.

		7.13	<p>New 5 year housing supply is in draft and will be available in the next few weeks.</p>	<p>Guidance hereafter referred to as 'Guidance')</p> <p>Checked SKDC website but updated figure still not available.</p>	<p>Will include updated figure if available before date of submission.</p>
		Policy 1	<p>Criterion (a) House extensions are generally acceptable in principle and the main considerations for such applications are design and impact on the streetscene and the impact on residential amenity. You would not generally consider a house extension to be new residential development.</p> <p>Criterion (1): You cannot require all of the forms of residential development identified as being acceptable to be infill and within the built up part of the village, e.g. this is not appropriate for agricultural workers dwellings (note Policy 9 permits these in the open countryside). Farm buildings, in some instances, can also be converted to residential under prior notification.</p>	<p>As most of the village is designated as a Conservation Area, any extension to an existing property is covered in the last para of Policy 7.</p> <p>There are two working farms in the village and it would be sensible to encourage any agricultural workers dwellings to serve them to be located within the village rather than the surrounding open countryside.</p>	<p>Delete a) in Policy 1 and renumber policy accordingly.</p> <p>Add to last para of Policy 7 '4) it does not have an adverse impact on the street scene or residential amenity.</p> <p>Add to 7.33: 'The Skillington Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan prepared by the District Council pointed out that the village has a strong rural and agricultural character with a number of working farms. The provision of a new isolated dwelling to meet the essential need for an agricultural worker close to their place of work is normally acceptable in the open countryside, but might be preferable within the actual village itself close to the existing working farms subject to it meeting all the relevant</p>

		Policy 2		This approach could apply to every adopted policy in the Development Plan. However SKDC clearly suggest that this particular policy cross reference be future proofed.	design criteria. This protects the surrounding landscape and retains the agricultural character of the village by supporting the viability of the working farms.'
		Policy 5	Policy SAP2 will not be in force forever. It may be prudent to refer to the adopted SKDC policy or list the criteria from the SAP2 in Policy 2.	All affected landowners were informed of the proposed designation.	Add to Policy 2: c) meets the criteria listed in Policy SAP2 in the Site Allocation and Policies Development Plan Document or listed in a replacement policy on rural exception sites adopted by South Kesteven District Council.
		Policy 7	Please ensure that you have consulted all landowners. Please also ensure that the boundaries are accurate. Criterion 1 – the word 'natural' should be removed, as it potentially places unnecessary burden on development.	The wording of the last para in the policy was taken verbatim from the draft Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan undertaken by SKDC, so there appears to be some inconsistency in their advice. All of the listed criteria in this part of the policy solely apply to house extensions or alterations.	N/C Delete 'natural' and replace with 'building' in criterion 1.
		Policy 8	Criterion 2 – this would	This comment is correct as currently worded but it is a proposal to undertake further	N/C

		<p>Policy 9</p>	<p>likely just apply to house extensions.</p> <p>This policy cannot be applied to developments, as it is a statement of what the Parish Council intend to undertake.</p> <p>Criterion (A) is very open and may lead to a lot of development in unsustainable locations. You may need to define what is acceptable in more detail, perhaps through some wording around tourism or rural enterprise.</p> <p>Criterion (B) – It should be considered whether particular uses would be more suitable than others when re-using an existing building. Different uses will have different impacts. Similarly, some things cannot be controlled by Policy (e.g. as they are permitted development or come under prior notification).</p> <p>Criterion (C) – Does this mean for large buildings</p>	<p>work that will influence future planning applications. However it does need future proofing to give status to the guidance once prepared.</p> <p>The District Council feel the policy is not restrictive enough and needs more detail on what is, or is not, acceptable development.</p>	<p>Add to start of Policy 8: ‘A proposal for development in or adjoining the Conservation Area should have regard to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.) the Skillington Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan 2016 prepared by South Kesteven District Council; and 2.) Design Guidance for the Conservation Area prepared by the Parish Council. <p>The District Council feel the policy is not restrictive enough and needs more detail on what is, or is not, acceptable development. Proposals for development in the open countryside will only be supported :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) where it contributes to rural diversification and there is an essential requirement for a rural location; b) where it would involve the suitable reuse or extension of an existing building, and that any increase in size would be subordinate to the original building(s) in terms of floor space or massing;
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			<p>also or pitches with incidental buildings? You need to clarify what is likely to be acceptable in real terms.</p>		<p>c) for outdoor sport or recreation where the rural character and openness of the landscape would be maintained;</p> <p>d) for a new isolated dwelling where there are special circumstances as specified in paragraph 55 of the National Planning Policy Framework, such as the need for a rural worker to be close to their place of work;</p> <p>e) for affordable housing as ‘exception sites’ that are located adjacent to an existing built-up area; or</p> <p>f) for agriculture, forestry or equine purposes.</p> <p>Development will be supported where it preserves and enhances :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) landscape character and quality including individual features of value; 2) sites of ecological value; 3) listed buildings, Scheduled Monuments and other sites of archaeological interest including ridge and furrow; 4) the intrinsic character, beauty and tranquillity of the countryside; and
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					5) the character and appearance of the area in terms of its historic and vernacular built form.'
27	Resident	3.11	Specify which pub is closed.	3.11 to be clarified.	3.11 In third sentence after 'use' insert 'for the Blue Horse'.
		3.37, 3.41, 7.96	3.41 conflicts with 3.37 and 7.96	The distinction is between 'listed' buildings and 'locally listed' buildings. There are none of the latter but the Plan seeks to identify 'positive unlisted buildings' in lieu of locally listed ones.	N/A
		7.9, 7.32	Colsterworth and Woolsthorpe are 3 miles away, not 4.	7.9 and 7.32 to be amended.	7.9 in final sentence change '4' to '3'. 7.32 in 4 th bullet change 'four' to 'three'.
		7.20, 7.23	New housing in last 30 years has failed to maintain village services.	Sustainable services like a shop, doctor's surgery etc. would require much larger growth in housing numbers than the majority of residents want.	N/A
		General	Concern over condition and use of Church of St James.	Noted in plan	N/A
		General	No mention of paddock on Church St that is in village ownership and could be a future usable asset.	The paddock's importance as a green space is acknowledged in 7.85,7.89 and in three key views in	N/A

		General	Village will become stultified without provision of affordable housing for young families.	Appendix 2. The plan seeks to enable appropriate housing development as defined in Policy 1	N/A
		General	... otherwise a brilliant and well considered production. Well done!	Noted	N/A
28	Resident	Policy 7	Need for heritage funding and support for Church of St James.	Noted in plan	N/A
		Policy 1	Need to attract young people to the village through affordable housing	The plan seeks to enable appropriate housing development as defined in Policy 1. The additional consultation on this point is described in 4.16, 4.17.	N/A
29	Resident	General	'Agree with the Neighbourhood Plan'	Noted	N/A
30	The Easton Estate	Policy 5	Objection, by the land owner, to designation of the playing field as Local Green Space. The playing field is essentially agricultural land provided for village use for sporting purposes. It is protected by a 100 year lease to the village hall and requires no additional protection.	Accepted	Delete 7.71 (3) and Policy 5 (c) and amend map in Appendix 1