

## NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

### REPORT TO FULL COUNCIL

February 2023

The group met on the 28<sup>th</sup> February and began to go through the responses to the Survey.

John had worked on the statistical side of the survey and I had dealt with the comments made on certain questions.

At the meeting John agreed to do a summary of his first report. The group started with the comments of residents and only managed to complete question 1! This was because the 2 main factors from this question were speed and wildlife, both hot topics in the parish.

It was agreed that providing facilities for Borden, not Sittingbourne, was what we would expect from Developers. The Parish Council should be consulted in the Section 106 Agreement process. KCC rely on Developers to pay for their road schemes. Yet again, the Parish Council is not included in these discussions. We would recommend that both of these are put into the Neighbourhood Plan as being something that Developers must co-operate with.

It was interesting to note in the answers that someone had commented on people who turn bungalows into houses. They said they wanted to downsize to a bungalow but could only do this if they left Borden, and they don't want to.

John has drawn up a Summary of Findings from the Survey and this is attached at the end of this report.

The Group agreed to meet again on the 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2023 when we will continue to pull more information from the Survey.

Nicola

## **SUMMARY OF FINDINGS OF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN SURVEY**

**The figures below specify those percentage of respondents that answered this part of the relevant question in the recent Neighbourhood Plan survey.**

### **Housing**

- 47% prefer to live in Borden because it was a rural location and 20% chose to live in Borden because it was close to family or friends.
- 90% of housing was owner/ occupier and average number of bedrooms in Borden was 3.
- 14% were forced to move away because of lack of affordable housing.
- 37% wanted housing development to use brownfield sites in Borden and a further 37% wanted to use brownfield sites elsewhere.
- 34% wanted to see more bungalows built in Borden.
- Percentages in the high 80's and high 90's were worried about future development in Borden and the loss of identity, loss of countryside, increased traffic, impact on medical facilities, wildlife, and education plus not in keeping with the area and impact on conservation environment.

### **Travel**

- 63% felt that traffic volume was a major problem.
- 68% felt that traffic speed was a major problem.
- 32% felt that traffic calming measures in a 20mph zone would improve road safety and 18% wanted to see more speed indicator devices.
- 80% would be happy for the whole of Borden Parish to be a 20mph zone.
- 72% did not think there was any on street parking problem.

### **Countryside, wildlife, and facilities**

- 99% felt that wildlife habitats were very important features in the landscape.
- 40% used the nature reserve at least once a week and a further 30% used it at least once a month.
- 47% who used the toilets in the Playstool were unhappy with them and this was the highest unhappy percentage for all Parish facilities.
- 63% were happy with the children's play area in the Playstool.
- 45% thought there was a need for allotments in Borden.
- 93% would give a high priority for protecting the wildlife in the Parish.

### **Information about respondents**

- 54% were older than 64 years and 38% were between 45 and 64.
- 53% have lived in the Parish for more than 20 years, 22% for between 11 and 20 years and 17% under 5 years.
- 38% were employed and 57% were retired.