Lavenham's Neighbourhood Plan



Have your say by completing this questionnaire

Introduction and Guide to the Questionnaire

A fortnight ago we wrote to you to say that following a new Government initiative to encourage more local people to have a say about what goes on in their area, we want to put together a neighbourhood plan which will help us shape our housing, educational, commercial and leisure needs for the future.

Our **first** step in this process is to ask you a series of questions about how you live now and how you would like to see the future. The questionnaire is anonymous and the answers will be used to help us develop a neighbourhood plan based on the views of the entire community. Remember there are no right or wrong answers; we are simply interested in <u>your</u> opinion.

This is your opportunity to present your views; don't miss the chance to have your say. The questionnaire should take not take you too long to complete.

Please encourage all members of your family over the age of 11 to complete a <u>separate</u> questionnaire, <u>preferably online</u>, at <u>www.lavenham-np.co.uk</u>

You can complete the questionnaire in various ways:

1. If you have access to a computer, the questionnaire can be **most easily** completed online by going to <u>www.lavenham-np.co.uk</u>

If you do complete it online, you can return this blank copy to any of the drop off points listed in point 2) below for recycling.

- 2. You can also complete this paper copy of the questionnaire. You can leave your completed questionnaires at any of the following locations in the village: Lavenham Newsagents, Café Knit, the Village Hall, Sparling & Faiers and Heeks. *If you are unable to drop the completed questionnaire at any of these locations, please return it to us using the pre-paid envelope included in this pack.*
- 3. You can also access the survey using the terminals at the library during opening hours.

Help and additional copies of the survey:

- 1. If you require further paper copies of the questionnaire for other members of your family, please contact one of the people below.
- 2. If you need any help in filling in the questionnaire please contact one of the following and we will be happy to help you:

	Telephone Number		Telephone Number
Victoria Beech	249406	Bryan Panton	247893
Philip Gibson	248417	Carroll Reeve	247674
Lyn Gurling	247009	Tony Sheppard	248588
Moi Mathieson	07951 601569	Doreen Twitchett	247987
Jack Norman	249084	Roy Whitworth	248178

Please follow the instructions to each question and put a tick in the relevant box. Please try to answer all the questions. If you have any additional comments about a particular topic, please put them in the comments box at the end of each section.

Please complete this questionnaire by Sunday 20th October 2013.

Thank you for your time. The more people who get involved, the more influence we may have with Babergh District and Suffolk County Councils, so please let us know how you feel.



Housing





By far the topic of greatest concern to those residents who attended the October village forum was the provision of housing, the possible location of new housing and the design of accommodation.

1. What do you think about the amount of housing currently available in Lavenham:

Need a lot more	
Need a few more	
About right	
Too many already	

2. What do you think about the current composition of housing in Lavenham:

	Too many already	About right	Need a few more	Need a lot more
Flats	C	C	C	C
Bungalows		0	C	C
Houses	C	C	C	C

3. If a new development takes place, what tenure do you consider most important? (Public housing = housing provided by a local authority or housing association at below market rent)

	Not at all important	Fairly important	Very important	Essential
Privately owned	C			
Privately rented				C
Public Housing				C

4. What are our housing requirements for the future?

	Not needed	Not needed very much	Needed	Very much needed
Flats	C	C	C	
Bungalows	C	8	0	C
Houses	C	C		
Residential Care Homes for the Elderly/Infirm			0	C
Energy efficient Housing	C	C	C	
Single Bedroom Houses	C		0	C
2-3 Bedoom Houses	C	C	C	C
4/4+ Bedroom Houses		0	0	C
Privately Owned		C	C	
Privately Rented			0	0
Public Housing	C	C	C	C

- 5. Do you think the village should be allowed to expand outside the already built-up area of the village into adjacent areas?
 - \bigcirc Yes
 - 🖸 No
 - C Don't Know
- 6. In your opinion how many new homes should be built in the village in the next 20 years? (Please tick)
 - C 0
 - **C** 1 50

 - **C** 51-100
 - **C** 101-200
 - C 201+

7. If additional housing was to be built, which would you prefer? Please rank in order of preference, where 1 is your first choice, and 4 is your least favourite choice

One large estate	
A number of smaller developments	
Individual released plots	
Garden infill development	

8. Please tell us how much you agree or disagree with the following statements:

	Definitely Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Definitely Agree
Without a village school the fabric of our community would be undermined	С	C	C	C
All new buildings in Lavenham should be sympathetic to the surroundings	C	C	8	C
Any construction or alterations should be built to at least current best practice	C	C	C	C
A minimum of 35% of all new housing developments should be earmarked for housing for local people	0	C	0	C
Alterations to existing buildings within the conservation area should be done sensitively and taking into consideration the character and location of the property	С		C	

Getting Around and About





Traffic, transportation and associated topics were the second most important area of concern listed by those who attended the village forum.

10. Please tell us how much you agree or disagree with the following statements:

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
The speed limit in Lavenham should be 20 miles per hour				
Traffic calming measures should be introduced	C		C	C
Parking in the Market Place should be forbidden	C			C
Signage within the village should be improved				
Pedestrian crossings should be provided	C			
Parking should be allowed on pavements in appropriate places	C		C	
Traffic enforcement is adequate				
The signage to Lavenham from the main roads needs updating	C		C	
Large vehicles should be tolerated where they service a local need				
There should be provision for more cycle parking in the village	C		C	
Public transport needs to be expanded to evenings and Sunday's				
Lavenham needs more footpaths	C			
The village requires a minibus service			C	
There is a need for a service to local hospitals for the infirm and elderly	C		C	C
The 'A' road through the village should be downgraded to reduce heavy traffic	C		C	C

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
Footpaths & bridleways should be kept in good order		C	C	C

Our Environment





Our local landscape and environment provides the backdrop to our daily lives.

12. Please tell us how much you agree or disagree with the following statements:

	Definitely Disagree	gree	Agree	Definitely Agree
Dyehouse Wood should be expanded	C	C	С	
Too much emphasis is placed on Lavenham's historic environment	C	C	C	C
Roadside verges should be enhanced	C	C	C	
It is important to manage wildlife habitats in the parish	C	C	С	C
We need to improve the image of the Market Place	C	C	C	C
I feel privileged to live within such a historic & beautiful environment	C	C	C	C
There should be additional tree planting within the village	C	C	C	C
Lavenham needs public allotments	C	C	C	C
More benches should be provided in public spaces			C	

Shopping





14. Listed below are various things that most of us spend money on. Please tick what proportion of your household spend for each of the following categories is spent within the village

	None at all	A little	About half	Most	All
Groceries/Food	C				
Gifts/Cards/Books/stationery			C		
Clothing	С	С	C	C	C
Galleries	O		C		
Post Office	С		С		
Pubs / Restaurants	C		C		
Health and Beauty	C		С		
Local tradesmen (electricians/builders/plumbers/gardeners etc)	C		C		

15. What would encourage your household to spend more in the Lavenham businesses? Please comment in the space below

Employment

16. How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements:

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
There is adequate and suitable employment for young people in Lavenham		C	С	C
Lavenham will never be a provider of employment for all its inhabitants	C	8	C	8
Tourism is a good source of employment	C	C	C	C
Pensioners should be provided with opportunities to supplement their income	C			8
The lack of jobs means people must move from Lavenham		C	С	C
We need more industry in Lavenham		C	C	C

Wellbeing and Leisure





18. How important to you, individually or as a family, is preserving the following village facilities/amenities?

	Not at all important	Fairly important	Essential
Village Hall	C	C	C
Play equipment	6	B	8
Sports Pavilion & Playing Field	C		C
Public footpaths/bridleways	0	E	8
Allotments		C	C
Post Office		C	0
Groceries/Food shops		C	C
Gifts/Cards/Books/stationery shops	8	e	C
Clothing shops		C	C
Pubs / Restaurants		B	0
Health and Beauty shops		C	C
Local tradesmen (electricians / builders / plumbers / gardeners etc)	C	E	
Primary School	C	C	C
Churches/place of worship	8	B	8
Cemetery	C		C
Preschool	8	E	0

	Not at all important	Fairly important	Essential
Village groups, clubs & associations	C	C	C
Doctors Surgery	G	0	C
Dyehouse Wood		C	C
Lavenham Walk	C	C	C
Library	C	C	C
Dental Practices	C	C	C
Pharmacy		C	C

19. Bearing in mind the implications of potential new buildings, parking, traffic etc, which of the following shops, services and amenities would you like to see in the village? (Please tick)

	No Preference	No	Yes
Greengrocers		C	
Additional family-friendly, affordable restaurants	0	C	
DIY shop		C	
Opticians		C	
Additional takeaway restaurants	C	C	
Day nursery for working parents	C	0	
More recycling facilities	C	C	
More sports/exercise facilities		C	
Learning centre for training courses		C	
High speed internet access	G	0	
Public allotment plots		C	

20. Our village requires more: (Please tick)

Strongly Disagree

Disagree

Agree

Strongly agree

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
Parent & toddler groups		C	C	C
Children's breakfast clubs	C	C	C	C
After school clubs	C	C	C	C
Holiday clubs for children	C	C	C	0
Adult learning opportunities	C	C	C	C
Vocational courses to supplement income	C	C		0
Courses and programmes for retirees	C	C	C	C

21. How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements:

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
There is not enough for teenagers to do in the village		C	C	C
The village would benefit from investment in an adventure play and picnic areas	C	0	0	0
There are not enough facilities for the 65+ population		C	C	C

22. To what extent do any of the following cause you direct concern within the village? (Please tick)

N	ot concerned at	all Slightly concerned	Quite concerned	Very concerned
Burglary		C	C	C
Vandalism			D	0
Car crime			C	C
Anti-social behaviour			C	C
Litter	C	C	C	C
Fly tipping			C	C
Dog/horse fouling			C	C
Noise pollution			C	C
Air pollution				C

Not concerned at all Slightly concernedQuite concernedVery concernedHeavy TrafficImage: ConcernedImage: ConcernedImage: Concerned

Keeping in touch





24. Do you have access at home to any of the following: Please tick

	Yes	No
Landline telephone	C	C
Mobile telephone	C	
Broadband Internet	C	
Satellite	C	C

- 25. Regarding communication of Public Notices within Lavenham how would you prefer to receive this information? Please rank in order of preference, where 1 is your first choice, and 5 is your least favourite choice.
 - Website By email Posters Letter Drops Newspapers and Magazines

Getting things done: Our institutions



A shopping list of wants is our starting point. However, we also need a way to implement our desires. We elect councillors to get things done for us. In the case of Lavenham local government is composed of three levels: the parish council, the district council and the county council.

27. Please answer the following questions about their effectiveness and how we can move forward

	Not at all effective	Somewhat ineffective	Somewhat effective	Very effective
Suffolk County Council	C			C
Lavenham Parish Council	C	C		C
Babergh District Council	C	C	C	C

28. In the future should they have:

	Much fewer powers	Fewer powers	More powers	A lot more powers
Lavenham Parish Council	C	C	С	C
Babergh District Council		C	0	
Suffolk County Council	C	C	C	

29. What do you think of the following statements:

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
The parish council should have the power to deal with planning applications		С	C	C
All age groups should be represented within the Parish Council	C	8	0	8
Local government should hold periodic referenda on issues		C	C	C
There are too many tiers of government	C	C	C	C

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
Parish meetings should be called regularly	C	C	C	C
The younger generation needs to be more proactive within the community and its organisations	C	C	8	C

Now tell us a bit about yourself please

31. Were you born in Lavenham?

- C Yes
- C No

32. How long have you lived in Lavenham:

- C 0-5 years
- 6-10 years
- 11-20 years
- C 21+years

33. How many people are there in your household:

O	Live on own
\bigcirc	2
O	3
	4
	5 +

34. Which of the following statements best describes your living arrangements in Lavenham. Tick however many apply:

- □ I rent my property
- I own my property
- □ I occupy my property full time
- □ I primarily occupy my property at weekends and holidays

35. How old are you:

- **11-19**
- C 20-29
- C 30-49
- **C** 50-64
- 65+

36. Are you: (Please tick all that apply)

- Retired
- Employed part time (work less than 30 hours per week)
- Employed full time (work more than 30 hours per week)
- Unwaged housewife/husband
- Self-employed
- Unemployed
- □ Student
- □ Sick/disabled

37. If you have anything further to add to this section, please comment in the space below:

And finally

The purpose of this questionnaire which you have taken the time to fill in is to get your views so that we can draw up a plan for our future. You will probably have found some questions are not particularly relevant and some badly put. No questionnaire, no matter how professional the team that composes it, is perfect. Indeed, a good questionnaire should raise further questions and requires the input of those who have gone to the trouble of answering the questions.

We are sure this is the case with our questionnaire despite having had input from the October village meeting, census data and additional research. This was then put into the format of a questionnaire by about forty people.

We possibly have missed some things out. If something is wrong, not clear or beside the point please let us know. If you need any help in filling in the questionnaire please contact one of the people listed in the introduction.

Thank you

Lavenham Parish Council, Autumn 2013