CREATING A NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN FOR EYNSHAM
Final Themes - Initial Community Engagement Themes March - July 2015

ENVIRONMENT & GREEN ISSUES INCLUDING SUSTAINABILITY

31/7/15

Themed by Richard A and Angie building on the theming Sharon started during the Launch itself (see photo1)

Unless otherwise stated, data comes from Launch event. Themes developed initially from the Launch “Don’t Like”/”Like”/Big Ideas Walls, handbills and the Community Engagement Task Group. Post-it notes from Infrastructure theming and Community Day, Carnival, Primary School and Brownies are included as indicated by use of comment boxes. The original thematic framework developed from the Launch data withheld data collected at the later community engagements above.

No new major themes emerged, they were only confirmed or elaborated.

Other themes identified at the Launch were sent to other Task Groups and have been omitted from this version (see 1/4/15 if want to see these).

Photo 1: Theming began during the Launch itself.

SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT
Residents highly prize the supportive community spirit and sense of real community in Eynsham as well as the friendliness of the people. They also like the good social mix and appreciate the wealth of activities and community facilities the village has to offer, like exercise classes, a gym, coffee groups, clubs and societies. Some new activities and facilities are suggested, for example, a swimming pool, tennis courts, an arts space, a therapeutic community, more volunteering, a museum and more restaurants. However, there is a concern that facilities and amenities are being overstretched by the new housing developments. Young people like the primary and high school. Many people like the village atmosphere and feel that people care for, talk to and notice each other. They love Eynsham’s traditional events. The size and compact layout of the village plays a part in creating and sustaining Eynsham’s social environment. Suggestions are made concerning social links with nearby villages and virtual linking within Eynsham and with nearby towns. Fears about antisocial behaviour occasionally surface.

Community Spirit
- Community Spirit +3
- Excellent community spirit! +2
- Strong sense of community
- Very good community spirit
- Community Spirit
- Sense of community
- The community
- The community spirit
- The community spirit
- The community spirit
- The community spirit
- The sense of community
- Sense of community
- Sense of community
- Community atmosphere
- Sense of community
- Great community
- The sense of community
- Sense of community
- Good community
- Community is quite strong
- Community
- Community spirit
- Great Community
- Community spirit
- Community spirit
- The community
- Sense of community
- Community
- Community
- Sense of community.- lots of Community events- Friendly!
- Community spirit x2
- Sense of community.
- Village community! Priceless.
- The youth work
- Community spirit
- Village atmosphere. Where we live- caring and responsible for each other
- A real village community
- Great community- very friendly
- The community x3

People care for, talk to and notice each other
- Community spirit in Eynsham is fantastic people talk to each other you know what's happening with your children
- I like that Eynsham is a self-contained community you know what is going on and your children are noticed

Size enables community spirit
- Current population allows for good community spirit!
- Village life and community spirit is with us (just)
- It is still just about a community spirited village
- Village community
- Village community
- Strong caring community
- Compact, friendly

Friendliness (28)
- Friendliness
- The lovely, friendly people
- Friendly people
- Friends
- Very friendly
- Friendly community with lots on
- The very friendly people (Hitach & Anita) at the post office and are always helpful (not to be lost)
- Friendly community
- Friendly community
- Friendly
- Friendly
- Friendly community
- Friendliness
- Friendly lively population
- Friendliness of village
- Compact, friendly
- Friendly
- Friendly
- Friendly people
- My friends
- The inhabitants!
- People
- My neighbours
- My neighbours
- The people!
- People
- Local folk
- Friendly lively
- Most welcoming village
- The people!
- Such a lovely village & everyone is so friendly!
- Friendly people- with drawing of 2 stick figures and speech bubble-“Having a nice day?”
- Friendly people +2
- It’s very friendly
- Peace- no conflict. V few people make trouble.
- Nice people and church.
- The church. The good neighbour network. They talk to me & are like my family & sort out my problems.
- Friendly.
- I can walk to the shops/services and chat along the way!

**Fears about antisocial behaviour occasionally surface**
- Annoying people
- Anti-social behaviour
- Getting told off
- School children at lunchtime dealing in drugs!
- All the fights!

**Social mix**
- Mixed age profile
- The equable community and blend of age-groups
- Good mix of people
- Mixed community with all kinds of people
- The mix
- Relatively class-free interaction possible
- Friendly lively and mixed population
- Diverse social fabric of our community

**Wealth of community facilities**
- Outstanding secondary school.
- I like the school
- I like eynsham primary school
• I like scall. the igh scall
• School pool
• Great thanks to litter pickers in the village. Much appreciated.
• It has its own Fire Station!
• Easy access to other parts of the county- very central.
• Street scene local
• Love the fact that so much is within walking distance including kids and adult clubs- no need to drive!
• Community spirit (added above), Facilities, Friendly people (added above), Cinema & DIY, Library, Folk.
• Mostly good pubs
• I like eynsham because it has a café & a wine shop
• The Parks

Wealth of community activities

Amount
• Lots going on
• Lots on
• Lots of things going on
• Lots going on
• Activities and groups for everyone
• Plenty of activities
• Plenty of activities
• All the activities on offer
• Lots of things to do
• There’s lots going on
• Chess – so much going on – all ages, 0-100, clubs, activities, sports, arts …social activity
• Plenty of clubs for most interests
• Plenty of activities with village
• Lots going on. Groups with diverse interests run by volunteers.

New community facilities people would like
• More people volunteering for the Fire Service in Eynsham!
• More volunteers needed especially young ones!
• More activities for teenagers needed
• A museum x2
• Need more restaurants x2
• Keep it local- don’t allow the corporations to move in

Something for everyone
• Exercise classes
• There is something for everyone if you care to look for it
• Range of clubs and societies for interest groups
• The variety of organisations, groups, clubs cater for a broad range of interests
• Good range of activities for most interests and age groups
• Wide variety of activities
• Clubs
• Gym
• Community activity
• The varied coffee groups
• Social activities adolescents
• Stuff going on!

Energy/Flow/connectedness
• Flowing water, not only in rivers and streams but symbolically as social flow
• Connectedness
• Very lively X2
• Activities and groups for everyone
• It buzzes
• The community spirit resulting in so many clubs & activities

Suggestions for more activities
• Creative and therapeutic community (in a heart)
• Arts space
• Monthly Ceilidhs in the village hall

Leisure & Recreation
New facilities people would like
• A swimming pool please X3
• Accessible swimming pool
• Cycle club
• Gardening club
• Village community pool & tennis courts would be good
• Xbox 360 games and a Xbox 300

• Spa and swimming pool
• Holistic treatments
• Spa, gym, swimming pool, jacuzzi, steam room, sauna and alternate therapies
• Healthy and tasty food café
• Home-made food for local people by local people
• To have more local clubs
• Make clubs for adults
• Having more things like the barn dance
• Public tennis courts and club for men
• More facilities for teenagers needed
• New large park and playground

Dislikes
• The amount of equipment in the playground
• They don’t have a art & craft club
• Facilities/amenities being over stretched by the big housing developments

Allotments
• We love our allotment (picture of carrot)
• Lots of allotments please on both sides of the village X2
• Allotments on west side of village

Accessibility
• All above accessible to all regardless of difference

Village atmosphere
• Good atmosphere
• Nice village atmosphere
• A real place not just a chocolate box village
• It is not just a dormitory
• Amazing place to bring up children
• Beautiful village, great community, wonderful place to bring up a family.

• I like living here.
• Great place to live.
• Love living here
• Every thingk
The fact that it is a working village
Being able to work in the village

Not too much traffic!
How quiet it is on the roads in the evening
Quiet
Peace and quiet

Clean

Size/location
People like the size of Eynsham “not too big not too small” – it’s rural village feel and location close to Oxford and Witney.

The location
It’s location on a bus route
Great location
The best I’ve seen for a village this size
Large village feel and facilities – not too big or small
Its size
Not too large
Its village feel but still has everything one needs
That it is a village, but so close to Witney and Oxford. Don’t want it to become part of them.
Proximity to oxford
A pleasant village and close to the developing town of Witney with its free parking
Close to Witney and Oxford
Easy access to oxford and Witney
Proximity to oxford, Witney, London, Southampton
Getting too big
I like eynsham bcos it is big

Old Eynsham traditions are thriving and much loved
Morris Men
The Shirt race & Carnival.
Eynsham Carnival.
Great Community Events.

Social links
Links with nearby villages
Linking of related neighbourhood facebook pages. ‘Witney and Chipping Norton and Oxford’
Creation of a virtual (digital) Eynsham village linking all aspects of our community (education, future vision etc) with the people
Need to be more independent (sic)

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT
Theme description: Residents value the beauty of the natural environment, the rural feel and green, open spaces and footpaths in the village and connection with, and easy access to, nearby fields, woodlands, streams and the river Thames. They enjoy walking and cycling in the surrounding countryside and want to see eco-friendly footpaths and cycle paths maintained and improved in new development to encourage more and safer walking and cycling and well-being. But there is a concern that green space in the village is disappearing quickly and people want all these things and particular areas protected, like the Fishponds and the Fruitlands wood, as well as views of the surrounding countryside protected. They want nature in the village further encouraged by, for example, allocating space for a park, planting hedges and trees to preserve, maintain and increase wildlife like birds and wild flowers. People also feel that new development should provide more natural, open spaces,
support wildlife in the village itself and maintain green connections between these spaces and the
countryside. Community projects are also mentioned as a way of maintaining, for example, dry stone
walls. People want the arrival points into, and edges of, the village to remain rural and defined.

Views on rural feel/green spaces in village

- Close to the river
- Being close to the Thames
- Flowing water … in rivers and streams
- Bridge and countryside
- The rural feel of the village
- Protect the rural feel of the village
- Footpaths
- Countryside greenery, trees
- Close to beautiful countryside
- Countryside, space
- Beauty
- Something of beauty – spiritual element
- People interacting in a forest church and communing with nature
- Fruitlands forest
- Green spaces, allotments, parks
- Trees and greenery
- We love the fishponds!
- We like the fishpond!!!
- Millennium wood – being part of it as helped with planting
- I like the Millenium woods

Walking/cycling

Walking/cycling

- Footpaths like Pug & Wastie Lane. Add similar to every new development.
- Eynsham’s footpaths and countryside must be protected against creeping development – they
  are essential for the health and well-being of everyone
- Attractive, raising, eco-friendly walkways connecting developments where flood plains come
  in-between
- Much re-surfacing work needs doing to encourage cycling and walking
- Cycle path to Botley
- Safer cycling for general health benefits
- Eynsham to Witney via Chibridge and South Leigh to become a recognised and signed
  leisure cycle route
- Encourage more walking/cycling – especially to schools
- The streets aren’t too busy even though it’s almost a town!

- Easy access to countryside walks & river
- Access to countryside, footpaths etc
- Pretty good access to countryside
- Being able to enjoy the countryside safely
- Lovely walks
- Lovely walking on the doorstep
- Easy access to countryside
- Easy access to country footpaths for walks
- Nice walks
- Walk, access to Eynsham wood
- Areas of walking
- Good walks
- Easy access to the outdoors and nature
- More countryside cycle routes near village
- Signposted walks (or guides) to get out of village
- Keep Cassington Road for walking
• Footbridge over A40 so countryside is accessible
• Keep footpaths open
• Keep green spaces for walking and nature X2
• Green infra-structure connections
• Natural world/walking through leaves/green spaces
• Can we do more with the river?
• Areas for sitting by the river +1
• Decent path down to riverside

Open space very important
• Emptiness is full
• Need more open space
• Space to see the sky ... light
• Open skies and dark skies i.e., no street lights or have LED street lights instead
• Dislike encroachment on our space
• Lack of good trees
• Lack of decent trees – need planting of big, street trees (not just flowering cherries
• Fields.
• Load’s of Field’s.

Encourage and protect green spaces and nature in the village
• Protect the rural feel of the village
• Protect our green spaces and woodland
• Protect amenities e.g. woodland
• Stop woodland being destroyed for development
• Need boundary between countryside and village
• Preservation of the rural aspects of the village
• Birds, especially swifts nesting in the village – importance of village as nature reserve and
  maintaining wildlife in it
• Streets are a bit plain .....more flowers, nice gardens are needed
• Green space is vital for people’s well-being yet green space is disappearing fast within the vil-
  lage
• To create more places for nature
• To make more nacher (sic)

• Sensitive planting of trees and green areas (? On new developments?) +1
• All developments should have green space
• More trees + 2
• More trees- prettification of areas beyond centre

• Public realm/street scapes improvement (with new surfacing and tree planting)
• Green spaces -trees where people can flourish
• Replacement trees – fruit or nut please
• Plant more trees X5
• Hedge planting

• Community woodland coppiced to provide bio-mass boiler in school/village hall/sports centre
• Tidy up Community woodland
• I would like to see JA Pye, instead of building houses in Fruitlands, to restore “The Orchard” for the entire village to enjoy! +2
• Woodland sculpture trail for children
• People interacting in a forest church and communing with nature

• Plant wild flowers instead of mowing verges (may be grants available from Govt too?)
• More wildlife places
Protect the countryside and preserve wildlife

- Protect an area of countryside to S & SW of village important for setting of CA, LBs & Fishponds
- Conserve views into & out of Fishponds, adjoining Playing fields, around Station Rd & Chilbridge Rd.
- Protect a swathe of countryside to S and SW of village between Oxford Rd, B4044, route of old railway to W & Chilbridge Rd, incl. land to W & E of Station Rd, to create a rural setting for CA, Fishponds and Listed Buildings.

- [Remember] forgotten flowers
- Huge agricultural hinterland – we need wild flower meadows and not only big agri-business fields
- Important to preserve green spaces and vegetation for kids to play and wildlife to survive
- Maintain green spaces X3
- Preserving the distinctive beauty and character of rural life is crucial to regional economic growth and tourism (cut out from magazine in collage)
- Wildness – wild green, birds wild and free, wild flowers
- Doing projects together in nature
- Rebuild every old falling walls. Like the one around the Fishponds.

Edges & entrances (signifiers)

- Village entrances create a sense of arrival
- Arrival points in village to remain rural X2
- Daffodils at entrance to village thanks to the Eynsham Society
- Small holdings and allotments should define the village edges
- Need boundary between countryside and village

ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY FUTURE

Residents suggest that, in the future, Eynsham requires better energy conservation and a sustainable, affordable low carbon transport system. Aware of the need to respond to climate change, people suggest energy efficient housing and street lighting and a reduced number of cars per household. They draw attention to the air and noise pollution caused by car fumes from road congestion during the rush hour in the centre of the village, on the Toll Bridge and A40. To promote future greener living, in relation to local food production (thus reducing road transportation of fresh food), suggestions are made to use the rural edges of the village for co-operative allotments, a community-owned farm producing food for local people and a local food café. Suggestions for greener living in relation to transport include a reduction of car journeys and instead walking and cycling, providing attractive bus shelters and looking at ‘books at bus stops’ idea, a tramline, using the river Thames and bringing back the railway. Sustainable village design is seen as important in relation to, for example, eco-building, flood prevention, expansion of the conservation area, industry providing work opportunities near home, a community solar farm, biomass production and making Eynsham a small market “town”. There is a desire for a new cemetery and a preference for a natural burial site where woodland & wild flower meadows are planted instead of memorials.

Many people are unhappy with the amount of littering or fly tipping and measures are suggested, such as, more recycling bins & surveillance cameras in the car park and a screen fencing off the bins. Messy areas and especially dog fouling (60 comments) are mentioned, as well as light and noise pollution and possible solutions are suggested.

Proposed gravel extraction poses challenges and a resident suggestion is made to allow extraction, but with provisos, for example, a buffer zone and provision of natural wildlife corridors.

Awareness of need to respond to climate change and sustainable futures

Green initiatives

- Green initiatives
- Active green policies
- Transition Eynsham
Popular involvement
Could we have an environmentally sustainable neighbourhood plan?
(Change) lack of care for climate change

New LED street lighting in parts of village is great – bring it on for whole village
More solar panels +1
Community owned solar farm

[Eynsham] as a showcase for sustainable living
High environmental standards
Zero carbon housing
Larger homes are an inefficient way of meeting housing need - and require more land and energy.

One car per house
Traffic flow/delays over Toll Bridge in Rush Hours, exhaust fumes, pollution X 16
Air Quality - Exhaust fumes in rush hour
Traffic/noise/congestion on A40 x 3
Charging station for electric cars in car park

Sustainability
Sustain[able] services
Model shift to buses, cycling, walking [away] from cars
Better energy conservation
Park & Ride at Eynsham
Sustainable and affordable low carbon transport system required
Space Port

Future greener living as a community

Food
Greener Farming
More permaculture please X2
Space for animals and small-holdings
West allotments site

Locally grown food
Could we be locally focussed for food?
Bring back the Trout farm x2
We need our own food sovereign groups
Space to grow food +1
Local food. Buy locally grown-produced food
Eynsham could work towards being a "food" village or fair trade status

Community focus
Community owned farm
Communal gardens for growing fruit and veg
I would love to see a big cooperative allotment growing fruit and veg where people from Eynsham could go and buy the produce
More smallholdings +1
A village farm +2
Building a Collaborative and Creative Commons, e.g., a community farm on the edge of the village where Eynsham residents share the growing of food for the community
Perhaps another allotment field at the other side of the village- esp if we have to have more housing- this must have good access to the centre of the village. Where??!
Healthy and tasty food café
Home-made food for local people by local people
**Transport**
- Sustainable and affordable low carbon transport system required
- Electrical charging station in car park

**Reduce car journeys**
- Encourage people to work and live in Eynsham
- Better public transport that avoids A40 congestion +1
- Improve public transport

**Walking & bicycling**
- Cycle routes
- Encourage commuting by bicycle
- Walking/Cycling routes to the schools
- Make more friendly for pedestrians & cyclists (edge of village car park, one way/slow speeds
- An off-road cycle path along B4044. Better maintenance of cycle path along A40 to Oxford and Witney
- Cycle path
- Cycle paths in village and to Oxford west
- Cycle path Eynsham to Oxford besides B4044
- Flying bicycles +1
- Cycle path for Eynsham to Oxford
- Cycle route to Oxford
- Cycling friendly +2
- Cycling routes away from traffic
- Cycle route Eynsham – Chilbridge – South Leigh – Witney

**Buses**
- Bus shelters & Timetable/Electronic Times at main stops
- Bus lanes
- Bus service XLNT
- Covered but attractive bus shelters
- I like the books at bus stops idea! More books everywhere!
- Bus shelters

**River Thames**
- Use the river? (NB Eynsham Parish boundary is the north bank of the River Thames accessible only by footpath from Talbot pub across fields to lock. The Thames Path is outside our boundary. Thames speed limit is 4 mph!)
  - What about a water bus from lock
  - A river bus from Eynsham to Oxford. More economy for Eynsham with students coming by boat. +2
  - Ways to travel – river transport
  - And canoes/kayaks for hire to make river more usable resource for all

**Bring back the Railway!**
- Ways to travel- train
- Return the railway
- Railway station +7
- Rail Links +5
- Return the railway +1
- Bring back the railway?!
- Rail links to Witney, Oxford & London
- A light rail system (choo choo!)
- Railway line back
- Back to the Future?!
- A railway between Witney-Eynsham-Oxford +2
Trams
- Tramline
- Tram link to Oxford along the A40

Sustainable village design – THERE IS AN OVERLAP IN THIS SUB-THEME WITH THE DESIGN THEME IN HOUSING. IT IS MORE DEVELOPED AND COMPREHENSIVE THERE BUT I THINK SOME MENTION OF IT IS NECESSARY HERE TOO IN RELATION TO GREEN ISSUES AND SUSTAINABILITY

Eco-building
- Eco build for all new homes and businesses
- Affordable eco-homes X3
- Eco-homes
- New homes + eco-homes X2
- Environmentally sustainable schools
- Self-build low carbon housing using local materials
- More solar panels

Conservation area
- Expand the conservation area to limit the impact of any development on the spirit and atmosphere of Eynsham

Design
- Village design code for new housing
- Design codes for new housing plots guiding green spaces distribution vs size of development plots
- New development needs to be well designed and supported by robust S106 agreements for the whole village
- Find a central space for park-like green square X2
- A community park for all to enjoy +1
- Juxtapositions of different spaces in the village as a whole eg, Industry and Abbey
- Welcoming new
- Comprehensive and diverse opportunities
- Industry – young people huge potential for work
- Living near workplaces
- Any building should not increase any chances of flooding X4
- Preventative flood planning
- Any new house should have gardens and permeable driveway for water absorption = <flooding X4
- Millenium wood – doing more with it (like Logs for Labour) and plant more woodland and coppice it
- Community owned solar farm
- Green infrastructure connections
- New LED street lighting
- Make Eynsham a small market "town"
- Footpaths like Pug & Wastie Lane. Add similar to every new development.

Natural burial site

The need
- Please consider having a new cemetery on land in the village of Eynsham
- Cancel some of the proposed new houses- what is desperately needed is a cemetery

Type of cemetery
- Humanist cemetery +4
• Woodland cemetery +2
• Natural burial site to help ease pressure on space (There’s one at Leafield, I think) +3... and ‘Sunrising’ near Shipston-on-Stour

Litter & rubbish
Litter/Dirt: The problem
• Litter (x14)
• broken glass in lanes after pub closure.
• Too much dirt

Litter: Solutions
• More litter awareness X2 Yes, I live near the car park!
• Litter awareness – maybe local schools can be involved in trying to encourage greater awareness about this problem
• Encourage more litter pickers to join Eynsham ‘Litter Pickers’ once a month
• Less people smoking
• More litter bins +1
• More Rubbish bins please

Bins: The problem
• Unsightly recycling boxes on pavements and in car park.
• People leaving bins out.
• mess round recycling bins in car park
• Fly-tipping in car park (X2).
• more bins needed
• Bins on pavements (x 3)
• Dumping things in Back Lane car park
• Car park is not a tip.
• Fly tipping in Back Lane car park

Bins: Solutions
• Consider closing re-cycling in Car park or CCTV it
• Add CCTV to recycling area in Eynsham car park
• Prevent re-cycling area in car park from being trashed (possible cameras)
• (Fly tipping in car park) I suggest a CCTV camera be installed
• Put cameras by bins in car park
• Better cleanliness in the future/ better management of re-cycling bins in car park
• Remove the recycling bins (in Car Park) to discourage tipping- we have kerbside collections so why do we need it?!
• Put a fence around re-cycling bins
• Better recycling facilities
• Empty bins off the pavement

Messy areas
• More public toilets
• More Police at lunchtime
• Footpaths desperately need repair +1
• A facelift for the Spar area- it’s ugly!! +1
• Tidy up the area with the Spar and the Fish & Chip Shop and the Hairdressers! +1
• Tidy up the car park including the edges as it is a mess.
• Hedges need to be cut because of over looking the path and you cannot get by

Pollution
Light pollution
• Measures to reduce, whilst keeping safe, levels of lighting

Noise
• Brize Ntn flight path.
• Loud music from pubs (x 2)
• Too much noise
• Noises from the Red Lion

_Dogs: The problem_ (60)
• Dogs
• Dogs in playingfields
• Dog fouling (27 responses)
• Dog poo (X15)
• Dog poo on pavements
• Car park and dog poo
• Too much dog poo
• Too many dogs and don’t clear up after them.
• dog poo on pavements and in black plastic bags in hedgerows
• Uncontrolled dog poo
• Less dog poo on the street +1
• People don’t pick up dog poo
• Too much dog poo
• Too much dog poo - it makes the place smelly
• Dog poo unhealthy
• Dog poo is a real problem
• People don’t pick up their dog poo

_Dogs: The Solution_
• One or two more dog poo bins
• More freedom for dogs & more dog bins (& more bins!)
• Fine dog owners who let their dogs foul the village

Proposed gravel extraction poses challenges
• Allow gravel extraction to the west (sic) PROVIDED:
  1. countryside buffer for villagers on the western edge
  2. post-extraction plans to provide local and wildlife amenities specific to local conservation needs
  3. respecting the integrity of natural corridors for wildlife
  4. once housing market has been properly stabilised we would consider good quality development within the buffer zone

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RA & AT 31/3/15
Refined AT 3/4/15 ie added in “Don’t likes” and “CEG”
Refined AT 22/4/15 ie added in Likes, Big Ideas, handbills,
Refined AT 31/5/15 added in Community Day, Carnival, Brownies, School