

Thaxted Neighbourhood Plan

LET'S KEEP THAXTED SPECIAL

Support your neighbourhood plan by
completing this questionnaire

Residents' Survey

February/March 2017



THAXTED RESIDENTS' SURVEY

Dear Local Resident,

On behalf of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group and the Parish Council, we are asking all Thaxted residents to give their views on the future development of the village. This is a questionnaire for your entire household. Responses to this questionnaire will influence the focus and direction of the Thaxted Neighbourhood Plan, and your views will also inform future decisions made by the Parish Council. All responses will be treated confidentially.

The Neighbourhood Plan will be crucial to the development of Thaxted over the next 20 years. The Neighbourhood Plan, once made, will form part of the statutory Development Plan for Thaxted, so any decisions about whether or not to grant planning permission in the parish in the future must be made in accordance with our Neighbourhood Plan.

Please complete and return this questionnaire by **Monday 6th March**. Forms can be returned by:

- Hand or postal delivery to: The Community Information Centre (CIC), 7 Town Street, Thaxted, CM6 2LD;
- Scanning and emailing to **thaxtednp@outlook.com**;
- Visiting the CIC to complete the document and to inspect the other documents referred to in this questionnaire.

Alternatively, you can fill out this questionnaire online, at:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/Thaxtedneighbourhoodplan>

For further information about the Thaxted Neighbourhood Plan, and to view the documents referred to in this questionnaire, please visit our website at www.thaxtednp.com, or drop by the CIC/library.

If you require more space to write comments, please use the space provided at the end of this questionnaire.

In order for the future of Thaxted to meet the needs and aspirations of its residents we need your input, so please take a few minutes to complete the questions below.

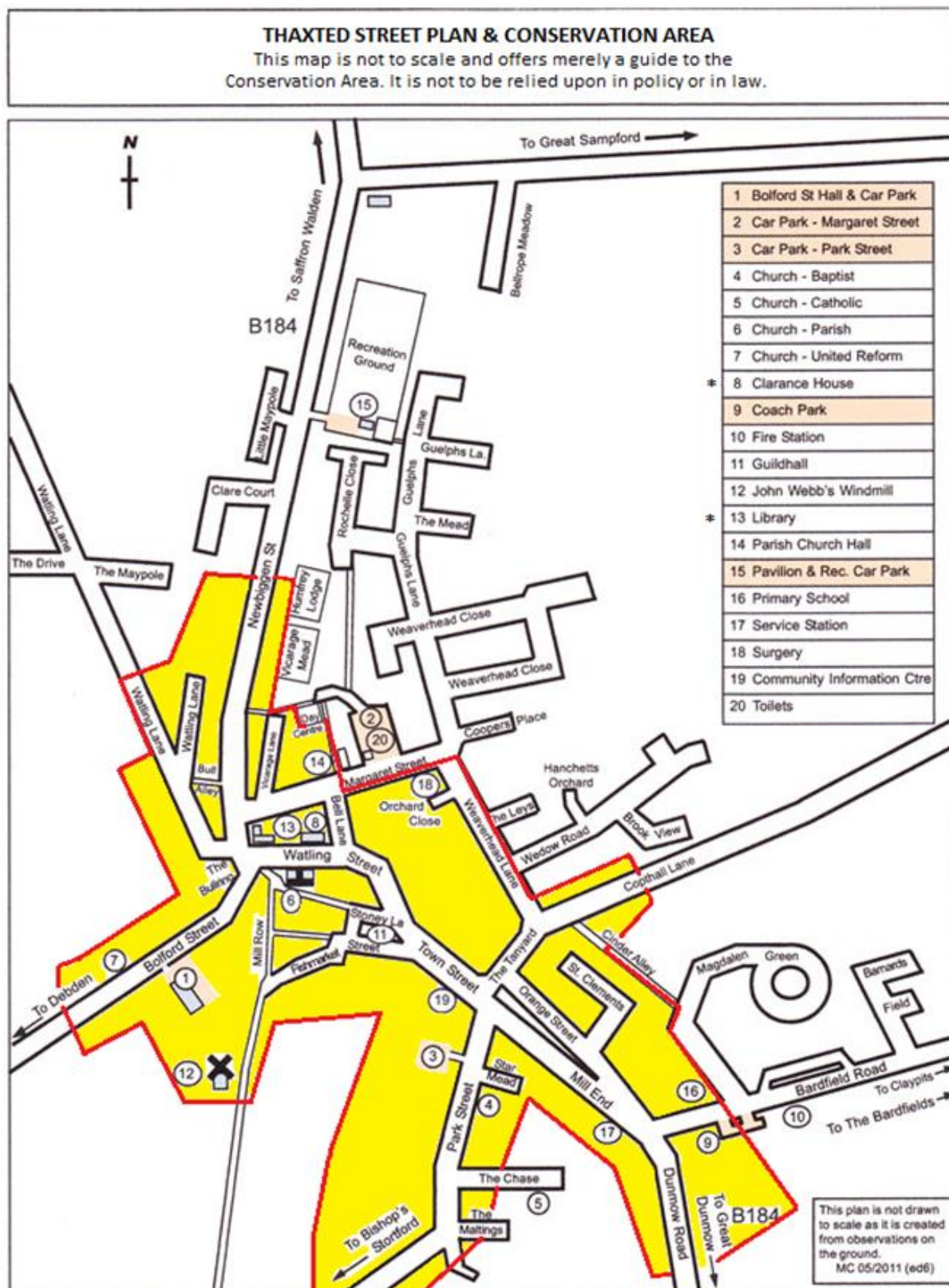
Many thanks, and yours faithfully,



Chairman, Thaxted Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group



Chairman, Thaxted Parish Council



* Since this Plan was first published, the library has moved to the Community Information Centre and Clarance House has reverted to its original use as a private residence.

An accurate representation of the Conservation Area boundary can be found on page 46 of the Grover Lewis report at <http://www.thaxtednp.com/documents>.

ABOUT YOU

Please tick in the circles provided or comment where appropriate.

1.	Please indicate the age and gender of those in your household (Please indicate number as appropriate)		
		Male	Female
	0-18		
	19-50		
	51-64		
	65+		
2.	Where in Thaxted do you live? Please refer to the map at the beginning of this questionnaire.		
3.	How long have you lived in Thaxted?		
4.	How many people in your household work in the following locations? (Please indicate number as appropriate)		
5.	What do you like best about Thaxted?		
6.	What do you like least about Thaxted?		

PROTECTING OUR VILLAGE AND COUNTRYSIDE

Please tick in the circles provided or comment where appropriate.

7.	Specialist landscape and heritage reports can be found on the Neighbourhood Plan website and hard copies can be viewed at the Community Information Centre (CIC) / library. Do you agree that the Neighbourhood Plan should reflect the findings of the reports on protecting the village's character and landscape setting in policies?					
<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Not of interest to me / I have not read these reports						
8.	A Central Area Assessment report can be found on the Neighbourhood Plan website and hard copies can be viewed at the Community Information Centre (CIC) / library. Do you agree that the Neighbourhood Plan should reflect the findings of the assessment and draw on these in its policies?					
<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Not of interest to me / I have not read these reports						
9.	How important to you are the protection and enhancement of the following local heritage and natural environment features?					
		Very important	Fairly important	Fairly unimportant	Not important	No opinion
Historic buildings & features		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Green spaces and gardens		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Natural environment (woodlands etc.)		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Views and vistas		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Foot/cycle paths & bridleways		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
10.	Please give details of any particular buildings, places, or views within the parish which you believe should be protected.					
Comment:						

11.	Does the existing Conservation Area boundary include all of Thaxted's area of historical importance?					
<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No						
12.	Thaxted has a high quality built environment. How important is it that the Neighbourhood Plan should aim to protect and enhance this by promoting the following?					
		Very important	Fairly important	Fairly unimportant	Not important	No opinion
Designs to be in accordance with the Thaxted Design Statement		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
New buildings / extensions to be of a scale and design commensurate with the existing look of the village		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
13.	Should restrictions / recommendations be placed on selection of colours on buildings within the Conservation Area?					
<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No						
14.	Over the years, many shops have been lost to residential conversion. Should retail uses be protected to ensure the vibrancy of the village?					
<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No						
15.	The placing of street furniture, signage, and advertising is important to the quality of the built environment. Do you agree with this statement?					
<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No						
16.	Would you like to see more or fewer planters (large plant pots) on Town Street?					
<input type="radio"/> More <input type="radio"/> Fewer						

17.	Should the recreation ground be protected as an open space from future development?							
<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No								
What other spaces are worthy of protection?								
Comment:								
18.	Is it important to manage / protect local wildlife sites?							
<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No								
What wildlife sites should be included?								
Comment:								
19.	Do you agree that in the centre of Thaxted there should be...?							
				Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	No opinion
A 20mph limit in the centre				<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
An HGV weight limit				<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
20.	Is there adequate car parking in Thaxted?							
For residents:			For businesses:			For visitors:		
<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No			<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No			<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No		
21.	Do you use the pedestrian “build-outs” in Town Street?							
<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No								

PROVIDING HOUSES FOR THAXTED

Please circles in the boxes provided or comment where appropriate.

Uttlesford District Council is currently developing a Local Plan to replace the existing 2005 Local Plan. The new Local Plan will determine how much housing will need to be planned for across the district up to the year 2033. The Thaxted Neighbourhood Plan will not be able to cap development within the parish but it will shape and influence how and where housing comes forward. Housing proposals in the parish will be determined against the planning policies in the Uttlesford District Council's Local Plan as well as the Thaxted Neighbourhood Plan (the Neighbourhood Plan will have equal statutory weight to the Local Plan).

23.	Do you think there is enough housing currently available in Thaxted? Need a lot more <input type="radio"/> Need a few more <input type="radio"/> About right <input type="radio"/> More than enough <input type="radio"/>
24.	Do you agree that all new housing in Thaxted shall be of a scale, design, and character to allow it to form part of and blend in with the existing housing? Yes <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> This is unimportant to me <input type="radio"/>
25.	In the last 20 years, in excess of 400 houses have been built in Thaxted. How many new homes should be built in Thaxted in the next 20 years? No more than 10 <input type="radio"/> No more than 50 <input type="radio"/> No more than 100 <input type="radio"/> More than 100 <input type="radio"/>
26.	How should new housing be developed in Thaxted? Tick all that apply. One estate <input type="radio"/> A number of smaller developments of up to 20 houses <input type="radio"/> Small infill developments of up to 5 houses <input type="radio"/>
27.	The Housing Needs Survey and residents' comments have indicated that people consider that further housing developments in Thaxted should have a significantly higher proportion of 1 and 2 bedroom houses than 3 and 4 bedroom houses. Do you agree? Yes <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> This is unimportant to me <input type="radio"/>

28.	<p>Should the Neighbourhood Plan allocate land specifically for rented social housing to meet the needs of Thaxted people on the old allotment site on Bardfield Road owned by the Parish Council?</p> <p>Yes <input type="radio"/></p> <p>No <input type="radio"/></p> <p>This is unimportant to me <input type="radio"/></p>
29.	<p>Should the Neighbourhood Plan allocate land for houses for sale on the open market? (This would be in accordance with existing policies on the private/social housing mix).</p> <p>Yes <input type="radio"/></p> <p>No <input type="radio"/></p> <p>This is unimportant to me <input type="radio"/></p>
30.	<p>The Central Area Assessment indicated that there may be scope for development in some form on some sites. Would you support development on any of the following example sites? (Please tick as appropriate).</p> <p>The Old Telephone Exchange <input type="radio"/></p> <p>Claypits Farm buildings <input type="radio"/></p> <p>Levett's Farm former farm buildings <input type="radio"/></p> <p>Warners Field, Copthall Lane <input type="radio"/></p> <p>The Brethren meeting hall in the Tanyard <input type="radio"/></p> <p>Are there any further sites you would suggest as being suitable for small scale development?</p> <p>Comment:</p>

THE LOCAL ECONOMY

Please tick in the circles provided or comment where appropriate.

31.	<p>Do you use the local shops and retail outlets in Thaxted?</p> <p> <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No </p> <p>If not, why not?</p> <p>Comment:</p> <p>If not, what additional retail provision or facilities could be provided in the village to encourage you to shop here?</p> <p>Comment:</p>
32.	<p>Do you use the Friday market in Thaxted?</p> <p> <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No </p> <p>If not, why not?</p> <p>Comment:</p> <p>If not, what additional market stalls or facilities could be provided, if any, to encourage you to use the market?</p> <p>Comment:</p>
33.	<p>Do you wish to encourage visitors to Thaxted?</p> <p> <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No </p> <p>Do you think that the provision of facilities for visitors in Thaxted is adequate?</p> <p> <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No </p>

	<p>How could the visitor-experience be improved in Thaxted and more visitors be encouraged to come to the village?</p> <p>Comment:</p>
34.	<p>Do you have any ideas for additional facilities that would encourage the economy in the village?</p> <p>Comment:</p>
35.	<p>Have you or a member of your household ever searched for a job in Thaxted?</p> <p> <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No </p> <p>If yes, were you or the appropriate member of your household able to find appropriate employment?</p> <p> <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No </p> <p>If you or a member of your household has had employment in Thaxted, on what basis was it held?</p> <p> Permanent <input type="radio"/> Temporary <input type="radio"/> </p> <p> Full time <input type="radio"/> Part time <input type="radio"/> Part time (student) <input type="radio"/> </p> <p>If you have never searched for a job in Thaxted, do you believe it would be possible to find suitable employment in Thaxted?</p> <p> <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No </p> <p>Please give reasons for your answer:</p>

IMPROVING SERVICES AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Please tick in the circles provided or comment where appropriate.

36.	<p>How important to you is it that Thaxted children can attend primary school in Thaxted?</p> <p>Very important <input type="radio"/></p> <p>Quite important <input type="radio"/></p> <p>This is unimportant to me <input type="radio"/></p>
37.	<p>Thaxted Primary School is already oversubscribed in some classes. This is likely to spread to all primary age groups in the next 2 years. There is not going to be a new school built in Thaxted in the foreseeable future. Please state your preference as to how this problem should be tackled.</p> <p>Build an extension to the existing building <input type="radio"/></p> <p>Bus children to schools in other villages/towns <input type="radio"/></p>
38.	<p>Thaxted surgery has plans to expand on its present site in order to accommodate the increased population of Thaxted and to offer additional specialist services. Do you support such expansion?</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Yes</p> <p><input type="radio"/> No</p> <p>What sort of additional services would you like to see provided by the surgery, and why?</p> <p>Comment:</p>
39.	<p>If public bus services were improved would you use them regularly and frequently?</p> <p>I would like to use them every day <input type="radio"/></p> <p>I would like to use them weekly <input type="radio"/></p> <p>I would like to use them fortnightly <input type="radio"/></p> <p>I do not currently use them and still would not even if services improved <input type="radio"/></p> <p>I already use public transport services regularly and frequently <input type="radio"/></p>

40.	How often do you use the following train stations?					
		never	rarely	monthly	weekly	daily
	Audley End	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
	Stansted Airport	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
	Stansted Mountfitchet	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
	Bishop's Stortford	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
	Elsenham	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
41.	How do you and your household travel to work or school?					
		train	walk	car	bus	other
	Person 1	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
	Person 2	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
	Person 3	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
	Person 4	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
42.	In view of historical flooding in the village, should drainage issues be given far more analysis and examination when planning permission is being considered by the planning department at Uttlesford District Council (UDC)?					
	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No					
43.	What other information should be sought by UDC when considering a planning application?					
	Comment:					
44.	Do you think that the village's mobile signal is adequate?					
	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No					
45.	Do you think the village's Broadband speed is adequate?					
	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No					

IMPROVING COMMUNITY FACILITIES

Please tick in the circles provided or comment where appropriate.

46.	In terms of community buildings we have the Guildhall, Bolford Street Hall, the Church Hall, the sports pavilion, and the Day Centre. In your opinion, is there a need for additional community facilities?			
	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No			
	Comment:			

47.	How important to you individually or as a family is preserving / enhancing the following facilities and amenities in the village?			
		Essential	Fairly important	Not at all important
	Children's play equipment	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
	Recreation ground	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
	Footpaths and cycle ways	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
	Conservation garden	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
	Pharmacy	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
	Churches and places of worship	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
	Youth centre	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
	Others: <i>Please comment</i>			

48.	Are the facilities in the following buildings appropriate for the activities carried out there, and if not, how could they be improved?					
		Yes	No	Suggest improvement...		
	Guildhall	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>			
	Bolford Street Hall	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>			
	Church Hall	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>			
	Day Centre	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>			
	Recreation ground Pavilion	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>			
49.	The village would benefit from the following:					
		Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	No opinion
	Investment in outdoor recreation areas	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
	Adult learning opportunities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
50.	What additional facilities / amenities should be provided in the village?					
	Comment:					

51.	How would you like to receive information about Thaxted? Please tick all that apply.			
	Notices / posters	<input type="radio"/>		
	Letter drop	<input type="radio"/>		
	Regular parish magazine	<input type="radio"/>		
	Website	<input type="radio"/>		
	Facebook	<input type="radio"/>		
	Email	<input type="radio"/>		
52.	How often do you use the CIC and library?			
		Several times a week	Weekly	Rarely
	CIC	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
	Library	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
53.	Would you like to see any additional features or information at the CIC / library?			
	Comment:			

CREATING A SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY

Please comment.

54.	Please tell us what a sustainable community means to you and comment on ways we can create a sustainable community in Thaxted.
	Comment:

AND FINALLY...

Please use the space below if you have any further comments about anything in this survey...

Comment:

If you would to receive further information, please leave us your email address:

FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

The Thaxted Neighbourhood Plan is being prepared by a group of volunteer local residents under the auspices of the Parish Council. Local experts and specialist consultants are also contributing to assessment studies for landscape and historic settings.

The Thaxted Neighbourhood Plan will sit alongside the Local Plan (which is still at the development stage) and national planning policies. It will have statutory weight and, as such, will necessarily be taken into account when the District Council determines future planning applications in the parish.

THE PROCESS FOR COMPLETING THE PLAN

- i. When the first draft of the Plan is completed it will go out into the local community for a 6-week consultation period. During this time, you will be able to make suggestions or correct any inaccurate information;
- ii. After relevant alterations have been made, the Plan will be submitted to Uttlesford District Council (UDC) for a further period of public consultation;
- iii. The Plan, plus letters of support or objection from the public, will then be submitted to an Independent Examiner who will ensure that it meets legal requirements;
- iv. When the Plan is approved by the Inspector, there will be a referendum of all registered voters in Thaxted Parish;
- v. If the referendum shows that the majority of voters support the Neighbourhood Plan, it will then be “made” and will form a major part of the planning process in Thaxted.

You can find out more about the Thaxted Neighbourhood Plan by visiting our website, www.thaxtednp.com, or by emailing us at thaxtednp@outlook.com.

Please remember that the final date for the return of this questionnaire is Monday 6th March 2017.

Thank you for your co-operation in completing this questionnaire.