

# DRINKSTONE

**NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN** 

**Summary of Questionnaire Responses** 

# **Drinkstone Neighbourhood Plan Summary of Questionnaire Responses**

Questionnaires delivered247Completed205 Including 23 onlineCompletion Rate83 %

1 completed questionnaire returned too late to be processed - only textual responses used (just D5)

#### Notes

- 1. **Number Answered** is expressed as a percentage of the completed questionnaires. So, for instance, at least one of the A1 options was selected by 98% of the 205 total respondants
- 2. Responses to **Multi Choice** and **One Choice** options are expressed as a percentage of responses to the question as a whole. So 83% of the 98% who answered A1 selected 'Footpaths'.
- 3. **Matrix** options are expressed as percentages of responses for each heading. So 13% of the 91% who answered the 'Affordable Housing' question of B2 selected 'Strongly Disagree'
- 4. The **Approval Rating** for Matrix questions gives a visual indication of the overall level of Disagreement or Agreement. A blue bar indicates overall agreement, red is overall disagreement. Approval Rating is calculated as the weighted average of the four headings adjusted to produce a value of zero if all four are 25%. So for B7 'Have Gardens':

The weighted average is  $(1\% \times 1) + (3\% \times 2) + (43\% \times 3) + (53\% \times 4) = 1\% + 6\% + 129\% + 212\% = 348\% = 3.48$ 

This is then adjusted by subtracting 2.5 because that is the weighted average if all four are 25% ((25% x 1) + (25% x 2) + (25% x 3) + (25% x 4) = 250% = 2.5) so the final Approval Rating is 3.48 - 2.5 = 0.98 - blue because the rating is positive.

#### C1 'Play equipment':

$$61\% \times 1 + 25\% \times 2 + 7\% \times 3 + 7\% \times 4 - 2.5 = 61\% + 50\% + 21\% + 28\% - 2.5 = 1.6 - 2.5 = -0.9$$
, red because negative

- 5. **C1** is a different type of Matrix to the others because it is centred around 'Never' rather than between 'Disagree' and 'Agree'. It is treated in the same way but is adjusted by subtracting 1 (rather than 2.5) from the weaighted average whilst calculating the 'Useage' column. 'Useage' cannot then be negative so the bars are always blue.
- 6. All textual responses are only in the Textual Responses Appendix
- 7. **Single Value numeric** questions are represented as the number of responses against each different value entered. **Numeric List** questions are expressed similarly but as tables with a row for each question in the list.

### Section A: What do you value most in the village



88% Open and green spaces Access to countryside 86% Peace and quiet 84% 83% Footpaths Rural character 81% Friendly and safe environment 81% Local wildlife and habitats 80% The village hall 78% Sense of community 71% The church 56% The allotments 42%

Number answered = 98%

**See Text Appendix for textual responses** 

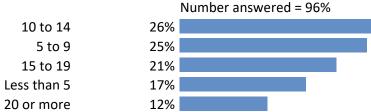
A2: What do you feel are problems in the community? [Multi Choice]

Number answered = 94% Poor broadband 71% Speed of traffic 61% Poor mobile phone reception 42% Dog fouling 38% Capacity of sewers 30% Pedestrian safety 29% Volume of traffic 16% 15% Light pollution e.g. exterior or security lighting 11%

See Text Appendix for textual responses

### Section B: Your views on housing development in the village

B1: Apart from the Cherry Tree site (15 houses) the village has grown organically over the last 15 years, with 11 new houses built and around 4 conversions. In your opinion, how many new houses should be built in the village in the next 15 years? [One Choice]



B2: If new homes are to be provided in the parish, which type of dwellings are needed? [Matrix]

Number answered = 96%

		Str			Str	Num.
	<b>Approval Rating</b>	Disag	Disag	Agree	Agree	Ans.
Smaller family homes for purchase (2-3 bed)		3%	2%	53%	42%	90%
Affordable housing		13%	6%	42%	39%	91%
Homes for downsizers		11%	15%	48%	27%	82%
One storey accessible housing		14%	15%	48%	22%	80%
Sheltered accommodation		31%	21%	34%	14%	76%
Larger family homes for purchase (4+ bed)		30%	28%	28%	14%	77%
Social housing		37%	23%	25%	15%	72%
Private rented housing		42%	30%	26%	3%	73%

B3: How and where should any building development be located? [Matrix]

Number answered = 96%

Str

	Approval Rating	Disag	Disag	Agree	Agree	Ans.
On brownfield sites, ie where there is previous or existing industrial activity		8%	10%	46%	37%	88%
On sites within Drinkstone's settlement boundaries?		12%	9%	49%	30%	95%
By conversion of agricultural buildings		9%	12%	53%	26%	90%
In gardens of existing properties		37%	19%	33%	11%	87%
By conversion of existing properties into apartments		40%	19%	36%	6%	82%
On greenfield sites outside the existing settlement boundaries		55%	24%	13%	9%	85%

Str Num.

#### B4: What form would you prefer any future developments to take? [Multi Choice]

Number answered = 95%



B5: Are there any sites you consider suitable for development? [Single Value]

Number answered = 28%

**See Text Appendix for textual responses** 

B6: Should new housing be phased over the 20 year plan period or built in one go? [One Choice]

Phased over 20 years

Built in one go

Number answered = 93%

#### B7: What principles should influence the design of new houses? [Matrix]

Number answered = 96%

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		Str			Str	Num.
	Approval Rating _	Disag	Disag	Agree	Agree	Ans.
Use of modern efficient energy and eco-friendly technology		0%	2%	32%	66%	93%
Have off street parking		1%	2%	33%	64%	93%
Be limited to 2 storeys		2%	7%	29%	62%	90%
Have gardens		1%	3%	43%	53%	94%
Have hedges on roadside boundaries		3%	15%	45%	36%	86%
Be innovative in design		7%	24%	48%	21%	82%
Have pavements and kerbstones by the roadside		13%	29%	36%	23%	86%

#### **Section C: Your views on services and amenities**

C1: Do you use the following parish amenities? [Matrix]

Number answered = 96%

			Some-		Very	Num.
	Useage	Never	times	Often	Often	Ans.
Village hall		11%	44%	23%	23%	99%
Playing field (The Cricket)		32%	39%	12%	18%	95%
Church		35%	52%	7%	7%	92%
Play equipment		61%	25%	7%	7%	94%
Bus service		66%	27%	3%	4%	93%
Allotments		86%	4%	1%	9%	91%

2%

C2: Have you had problems with the following: [Multi Choice]

No answer Getting a GP?

Getting a place in the school of your choice?

Number answered = 10%
90%
9%

### Section D: Your views on the environment and our green spaces

D1: What are your views on the natural environment? [Matrix]

Number answered = 97%

Str

	50		36	ivaiii.		
	<b>Approval Rating</b>	Disag	Disag	Agree	Agree	Ans.
Tranquility: It is important to conserve the peace and rural character of the village.		0%	1%	18%	81%	96%
The open views across fields and woods are important assets to the village.		0%	1%	21%	78%	97%
I value the wildlife and biodiversity around the village		0%	2%	23%	76%	94%
Our hedgerows and mature trees need to be protected		1%	3%	19%	77%	96%
Drinkstone's dark skies are an asset to the village		3%	7%	23%	66%	91%

Str Num.

# **D2: Please identify any that you believe are particularly important [Multi Choice]**Green spaces: formal green spaces (eg allotments, the playing field (Cricket) and

churchyard) must be protected from development

Footpaths: It is important that our footpaths are well maintained

It is important to retain the open space and agricultural land betweenDrinkstone Green

and Drinkstone Street

It is important to retain the open space and agricultural land aroundother settlement clusters in Park Road, Garden House Lane, Hall Farm and Burts Farm

It is important to maintain the existing settlement boundaries aroundDrinkstone Green and Drinkstone Street to protect their character and identity

We need more footpaths and bridleways

See Text Appendix for textual responses indicating where

D3: In your opinion are the following features important in defining Drinkstone's character and thus merit conservation. [Multi Choice]

Mature trees
Species rich hedgerows
Drinkstone Mills
Roadside hedges
Streams (The Black Bourn)
Ponds and moats
Roadside verges
Small meadows
Drinkstone park and lake

. Others

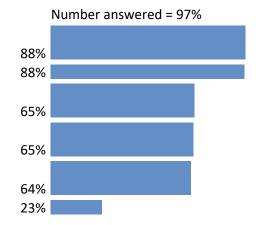
See Text Appendix for textual responses for others

D4: Have you been affected by flooding? If so where? [Single Value]

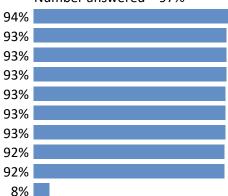
**See Text Appendix for textual responses** 

D5: What other locations are subject to regular flooding in the parish? [Single Value]

**See Text Appendix for textual responses** 



Number answered = 97%



Number answered = 65%

Number answered = 42%

### Section E: Your views on communications and business opportunities

#### E1: Please tell us if you agree or disagree with the following statements [Matrix]

Str Str Num. **Approval Rating** Disag Disag Agree Agree Ans. There would need to be improvements or changes to roads to support increased residential or commercial building 10% 17% 27% 46% 90% Our mobile phone network needs to be improved 9% 18% 33% 40% 86% I would be more likely to work from home if my broadband connection was improved 79% 14% 26% 42% 17% We would welcome the conversion of redundant farm buildings for business use 20% 52% 10% 95% 18% We need to increase local employment opportunities 20% 25% 45% 10% 93% 30% 34% 30% 6% 94%

Number answered = 95%

Drinkstone needs to attract more small businesses

We would welcome the building of small business units

E2: Do you run your own business in the village? [One Choice]

Number answered = 94%
86%
14%

27%

20%

4%

92%

48%

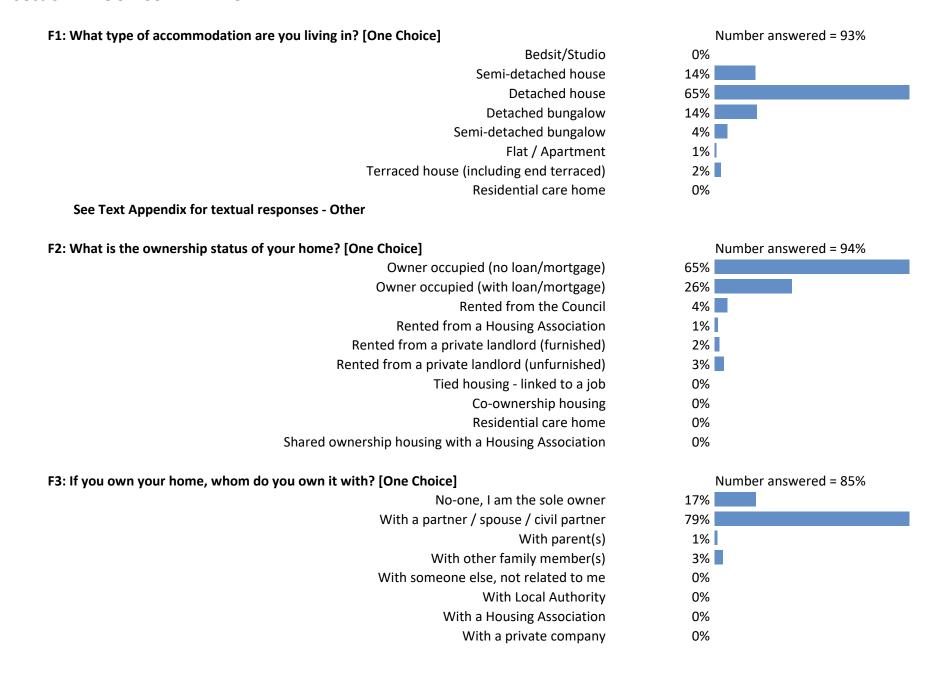
E3: If YES how many employees do you have? [Single Value]

Number answered = 11%							
Number	Frequency						
0	12						
1	5						
2	4						
3	1						

No

Yes

#### **Section F: YOUR CURRENT HOME**



F4: How many bedrooms does your home have? [Single Value]

Number answered = 85%

Frequency	
6	
17	
50	
72	
22	
4	
2	
1	
1	
	6 17 50 72 22 4 2

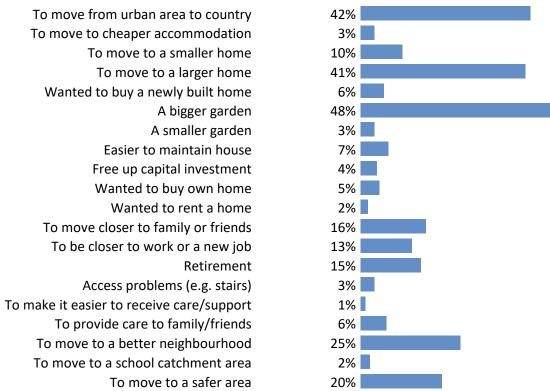
F5: How long have you lived at your current address? [One Choice]

Less than a year				
1 to 2 years				
3 to 10 years				
Over 10 years				

Number answered = 96%



# F6: If this is not your first home, what factors influenced your decision to move to your current home? [Multi Choice]

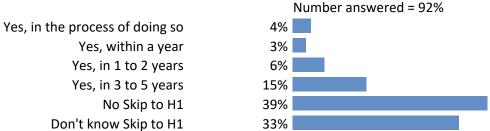


Number answered = 85%

See Text Appendix for textual responses - Other

#### Section G: YOUR FUTURE HOUSING CHOICE

# G1: Do you think you will need to move to a different home or extend your property in the future? [One Choice]



#### G2: If you are thinking of moving, would you like to move to: [One Choice] Number answered = 22% Specifically within Drinkstone 27% Within Drinkstone or surrounding parishes 40% A parish surrounding Drinkstone 11% Outside Drinkstone and surrounding parishes Skip to H1 22% G3: What type of house you like to move to? [Multi Choice] Number answered = 16% 38% New build Existing property Skip to G5 50% Self build Skip to G6 25% Part of co-housing development (community of self contained homes with shared facilities managed by residents) Skip to G6 9% G4: Why do you intend to move to a newly built property? Once completed skip to G7 [Multi Choice] Number answered = 4% Lower maintenance costs 67% Range of mortgage schemes 0% Better build quality 22% Special offers or discounts 11% Better energy efficiency 56% Better overall design 44% More adaptable / accessible home 22% G5: What type of existing property would you like to move to? [Multi Choice] Number answered = 7% Bedsit / studio 0% Flat / Apartment 0% Terraced house (including end terraced) 13% Semi-detached house 27% Detached house 80% Detached bungalow 40% Semi-detached bungalow 27% Mobile home / Caravan 0% 13% Self built Part of co-housing development 0%

# G6: Ideally, how many bedrooms would you like, and how many do you expect to have when you move? [Numeric List]

#### Number answered = 13%

#### **Number of bedrooms**

Would like to have
Expect to have

1	2	3	4	5	>5
	9	6	8	3	1
1	7	8	6	1	1

#### G7: If you will be moving, what ownership status would you expect to have [One Choice]

Owner occupied (no loan/mortgage)

Owner occupied (with loan/mortgage)

Rented from the Council

Rented from a Housing Association

Rented from a private landlord (furnished)

Rented from a private landlord (unfurnished)

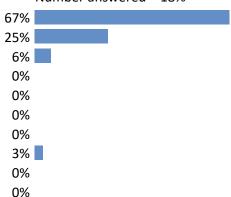
Tied housing - linked to a job

Co-ownership housing

Residential care home

Shared ownership housing with a Housing Association

#### Number answered = 18%



### G8: Has something been preventing you from moving within Drinkstone? [One Choice]

No Skip to H1 Yes, for less than a year Yes, for 1 to 5 years Yes, for over 5 years

#### Number answered = 16%



### G9: What has been preventing you from moving within Drinkstone? [Multi Choice]

Cannot afford the monthly cost of a mortgage

Cannot afford the deposit on a house

Cannot afford moving costs
Cannot find right property

Local education choices

Family reasons

Location of employment

Lack of affordable rented housing

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Rent/Mortgage arrears

Unable to sell

Negative equity

Unsure of options available to help you move (eg Shared Ownership, Help to Buy) Would need emotional and practical support to move house, from friends or a third

party organisation

# 0% 11%

0%

11%

0%

44%

11%

44%

11%

0%

0%

0%

0%

#### G10: Would you consider any of the following options to help you move? [Multi Choice]

Move to a cheaper area within Mid Suffolk

Move to a cheaper area within Suffolk

Using Help to Buy scheme

Buying with a share in a property with an organisation (eg Housing Association)

Buying with a friend / relative

Renting with a friend / relative

Using more of your disposable income to pay mortgage / rent

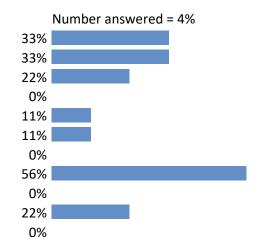
Moving to a smaller house

Moving into family/friends home

Self building a home

Being part of co-housing development

See Text Appendix for textual responses - Other



Number answered = 4%

# G11: What are the main reasons for wanting or needing to move to a different home? [Multi Choice]

To move to cheaper accommodation 7% To move to a smaller home 43% To move to a larger home 21% Wanting to buy a newly built home 7% A bigger garden 21% A smaller garden 36% Easier to maintain house 36% Free up capital investment 0% Wanting to buy own home 21% Wanting to rent a home 0% To move closer to family or friends 0% To be closer to work or a new job 0% Retirement 14% To move to an adaptable/accessible home 14% To make it easier to receive care / support 0% To provide care to family / friends 0% To move to a school catchment area 0%

See Text Appendix for textual responses - Other

G12: Where will your deposit / rent bond come from? [Multi Choice]

Multi Choice]

Your own savings

Help from parents

Government scheme eg Help to Buy

Number answered = 4%

88%

0%

13%

No textual responses for Other

#### Section H: FUTURE CHANGES TO YOUR HOUSEHOLD

H1: Are any existing members of your household looking to move into their own accommodation in the next 10 years? [One Choice]

Number answered = 95%
31%
69%

Number answered = 7%

Yes

No Skip to I1

H2: How many are likely to look for accommodation in the next 3 years? [Numeric List]

Number answered = 18%

Num	ber	of	pe	qo	le
	~~.	•	~	~ ~	

	Total People	1	2	3	4	5	>5
Parent / Grandparent	5		1	1			
Child who will be over 16	50	16	12	2	1		
Other	8	5		1			

H3: How many are most likely to move: [Numeric List]

Number answered = 19%

#### **Number of people**

	Total	1	2	2	4	_	\r
-	People	1	2	3	4	5	>5
Within the next two months	1	1					
Within a year	4	2	1				
In 1 - 2 years	4	4					
In 3 - 10 years	63	11	18	4	1		

H4: How many people hope to move within Drinkstone [Numeric List]

Number answered = 17%

#### Number of people

		The state of the s										
	Total		_	-		_						
_	People	1	2	3	4	5	>5					
within Drinkstone	18	4	7									
elsewhere	48	13	12	1	2							

#### H5: How many people are likely to own / rent as follows: [Numeric List]

Number answered = 19%

#### Number of people

	Total People	1	2	3	4	5	>5
Own outright	9	1	4				
Own with a mortgage	28	10	7		1		
Part own / part rent (eg shared ownership)	9	2	2	1			
Rent from the Council	6	2	2				
Rent from a Housing Association	4	2	1				
Rent from a private landlord / letting agent	24	6	6	2			
Rent from a relative / friend of household	2		1				
Rent from a tied property / linked to a job	0						
Share a flat / house in the private rented sector	10	2	4				

#### H6: How many people expect to move to the following types of property? [Numeric List]

#### Number answered = 18%

#### **Number of people**

	Total People	1	2	3	4	5	>5
Bedsit / studio	4	2	1				
Flat / Apartment	29	8	9	1			
Terraced house (including end terrace)	22	8	5		1		
Semi-detached house	16	4	4		1		
Detached house	8	4	2				
Detached bungalow	2	2					
Semi-detached bungalow	1	1					
Mobile home / Caravan	0						
Self built	7	1	3				
Part of co-housing development	0						
Other	2		1				

H7: How many people will get their deposit / rent bond from: [Numeric List]

Number answered = 18%

#### Number of people

	_						
	Total People	1	2	3	4	5	>5
Their own savings	31	6	9	1	1		
Help from parents	39	8	10	1	2		
Government scheme eg Help to Buy	16	1	4	1	1		
Other	10	3	2	1			

H8: If you are in a position to predict, how many people will be able to pay the following maximum WEEKLY costs in rent or mortgage at today's prices? [Numeric List]

Number answered = 16%

#### Number of people

	Total People	1	2	3	4	5	>5
Don't know	35	11	7	2	1		
Prefer not to say	1	1					
Under £50	0						
£50 - £99	2		1				
£100 - £149	7		2	1			
£150 - £199	3	3					
£200 - £249	5	3	1				
£250 - £299	2	2					
£300 - £349	0						
£350 +	2		1				

#### **Section I: CARE AND SUPPORT NEEDS**

I1: Do you, or anyone else in your family have a long term illness or disability? [One Choice]

Number answered = 92%

Yes

20% 80%

No Skip to I10

#### 12: How many people have the following conditions: [Numeric List]

Number answered = 15%

#### Number of people

	-1				•		
	Total People	1	2	3	4	5	>5
Long term limiting illness	15	15					
A physical disability	18	13	1	1			
A sensory disability	2	2					
Learning or development disability	1	1					
Mental health problem	6	3		1			
Cognitive impairment (brain injury)	0						
Autism	0						
Dementia	4	4					
Other	5	5					

# 13: How many receive care and support from the following? If none apply, please leave blank then skip to 16 [Numeric List]

Number answered = 11%

#### Number of people

	Total People	1	2	3	4	5	>5
Family member	16	12	2				
NHS	19	12	2	1			
Private care / support provider	6	4	1				
Family friend / neighbour	8	1	2	1			
Voluntary body	0						
Community group	0						
Other	0						

### 14: For how many people is the support sufficient? [Numeric List]

Number answered = 9%

#### **Number of people**

_	Total People	1	2	3	4	5	>5
Sufficient	18	14	2				
Insufficient	4	2	1				

#### **I5:** How many people need further support with: [Numeric List]

#### Number answered = 4%

#### Number of people

	Total People	1	2	3	4	5	>5
Claiming benefits or managing finance	4	2	1				
Having someone to act on your / their behalf	3	1	1				
Help with participating in social activities	4	2	1				
Personal care	5	3	1				
Establishing personal safety or security	3	1	1				
Looking after the home	7	5	1				
Looking after the garden	11	5	3				
Preparing meals	3	3					
Respite care	1	1					

### 16: Has your home, or the access to it, been built or adapted to meet the needs of someone with a disability [One Choice]

Yes Yes, but no longer needed No, but adaptations needed No, no adaptations needed Skip to I10

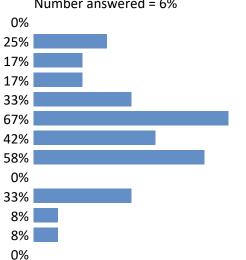
# 17: Which facilities do you already have in your home? [Multi Choice]

Wheelchair adaptations Access to property / ramp Vertical lift / stair lift **Bathroom adaptations** Ground floor wet room Ground floor toilet Downstairs bedroom Handrails / grab rails Kitchen adaptations Safe access to garden / external area Assistance maintaining home / garden Extension / extra room Alarm system

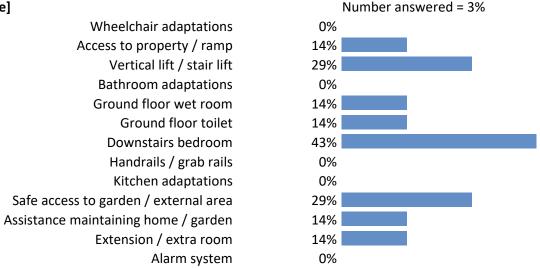
#### Number answered = 15%



#### Number answered = 6%



#### 18: Which facilities need to be provided? [Multi Choice]



19: If your present home is not adequate for you, or for another household member, do you need to move to resolve this difficulty? [Multi Choice]

Yes, because I cannot afford adaptations
Yes, because my home cannot be adapted
Yes, I need to be closer to healthcare facilities
Yes, I need to be closer to family / friends
Yes, for another reason
No, I do not need to move

I10: Do you have elderly relatives who may need to move to Suffolk within the next 3 years to receive support? [One Choice]

Yes No Skip to J1 Don't know Skip to J1 Number answered = 5%



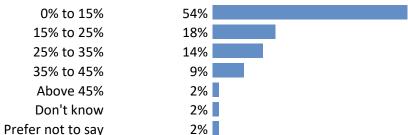
Number answered = 88%
7%
77%
16%

#### I11: What kind of care and accommodation might they need? [Multi Choice] Number answered = 6% Live independently (without adaptations) 17% Live independently (with adaptations) 42% Live independently (with care in own home) 42% Live with relatives (existing home adequate) 0% Live with relatives (next extension /adaptation) 42% 0% Council / Housing Association property 25% Nursing care Extra care housing (purpose built housing scheme for independent living) 33% Other purpose built supported housing scheme 8% Private sheltered housing 17% Association sheltered housing 17% Residential care 42% I12: What sort of property would they be looking for? [One Choice] Number answered = 4% Bedsit / Studio 11% Flat / Apartment 11% Terraced house (including end terraced) 0% Semi-detached house 0% Detached house 0% Detached bungalow 78% Semi-detached bungalow 0% High spec village style retirement complex 0% See Text Appendix for textual responses - Other **Section J: MONEY MATTERS** Number answered = 90% J1: Do you wish to answer any questions about your personal money matters? [One Choice] Yes 29%

No Skip to K1

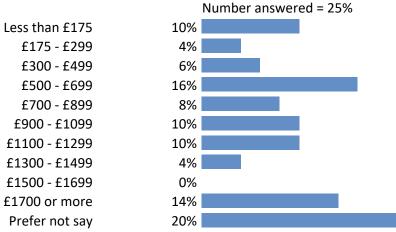
71%

J2: How much of your net household monthly income (ie after tax and benefits) do you estimate is spent on your rent or mortgage? [One Choice]

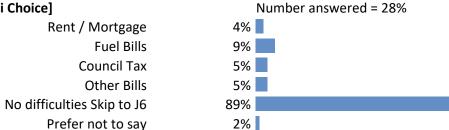


Number answered = 28%

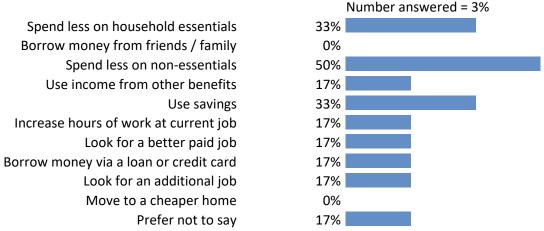
J3: What would the maximum monthly cost in rent or mortgage at today's prices that you would be willing and able to pay for your home (after any help received through housing benefit or income support)? [One Choice]



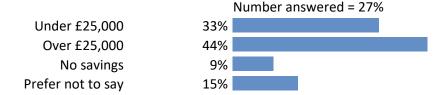
J4: Do you have difficulty meeting any of the following costs? [Multi Choice]



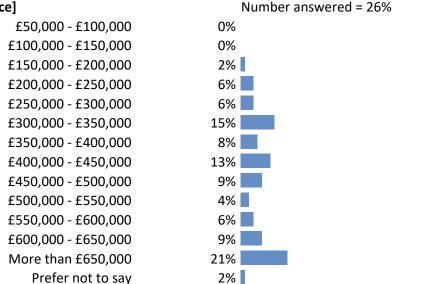
# J5: If you are struggling to afford your housing costs, do you intend to do any of the following to help resolve this? [Multi Choice]



#### J6: Please estimate your total savings [One Choice]



#### J7: If you own your home, please estimate its current value [One Choice]



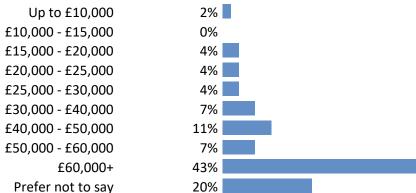
# J8: If you own your own home, how much money (equity) would you get if you sold your home after paying off your mortgage (or debts)? [One Choice]

Less than £0 (negative equity) 0% Up to £9,999 0% 2% £10,000 - £29,999 £30,000 - £49,999 4% £50,000 - £74,999 4% £75,000 - £99,999 0% £100,000 - £199,999 14% £200,000 - £499,999 36% £500,000 or more 30% Prefer not to say 10%

Number answered = 24%

Number answered = 27%

J9: Please estimate your household income. Annual gross (before tax) income, including any income from investments and benefits [One Choice]



#### **Section K: PERSONAL DETAILS**

K1: How many people in your household fall into the following age ranges? [Numeric List]

Number answered = 94%

#### Number of people

	Total People	1	2	3	4	5	>5
Under 11	38	14	6	4			
11 to 17	42	18	9	2			
18 to 24	33	20	5	1			
25 to 34	20	9	4	1			
35 to 44	38	16	11				
45 to 54	82	30	23	2			
55 to 64	88	36	26				
65 to 74	94	38	28				
75+	55	31	12				

K2: How many people identify as the following gender? [Numeric List]

Number answered = 91%

#### **Number of people**

_	Total People	1	2	3	4	5	>5
Male	231	121	27	12	5		
Female	239	124	35	15			
Prefer not to say	7	1	3				

# K3: How many people in your household would you describe as having the following ethnic origins? [Numeric List]

Number answered = 90%

### Number of people

		, and the second					
	Total People	1	2	3	4	5	>5
White British	440	30	86	20	26	6	7
White Irish	10	5				1	
Any other white background	4	4					
White & Black Caribbean	0						
White & Black African	0						
White & Asian	1	1					
Other mixed ethnic background	1	1					
Caribbean	0						
African	0						
Any other black background	0						
Indian	2	2					
Pakistani	0						
Bangladeshi	0						
Any other Asian background	0						
Chinese	0						
Gypsy, Roma or Traveller	0						
Arab	0						
Any other ethnicity not listed	3			1			
Prefer not to say	15	3	6				

Other Issues Number answered = 18%

## **APPENDIX - Textual Responses**

### Section A: What do you value most in the village

#### A1: What do you think are the positive features of our community? [Multi Choice]

Absence of light pollution is highly valued

general beauty

A small village shop would be very handy. More street lighting particularly on the Gedding Road as in winter the bus drops the children off in complete darkness and not on a path. The roads in and out of the village are tricky in the bad weather and there are increasing numbers of pot holes.

The fact that planners have, up to now, taken decisions maintain the village character

Just the sheer beauty if the openness of the views of the surrounding landscape, skyline and countryside

We don't feel the village has an overall rural character as there is no village green and no pub.

History and heritage. Active farming and agriculture area - able to hear and see cows and sheep, and enveloped in the changing agricultural seasons from bare earth to harvest.

No street lights/light pollution

Its history and heritage

unspoilt, ie no street lighting - established village - active community - lots of events/meetings

Dark skies

Access to good schools

Low density housing. No street lights (well almost)

Nice neighbours

low-traffic lanes

Restricted development

Jungle drums for network and support

Not a "through road" village. Vodafone has excellent mobile phone coverage. 4G is leagues better than our Wifi!

Good neighbourliness

Community spirit in respect of village activities, which are many and varied.

Great sense of community. Neighbors and villagers are kind

#### A2: What do you feel are problems in the community? [Multi Choice]

Insufficient dog waste bins on popular walking areas

Lack of parking in Woolpit

Pedestrain safety compromised by cars parking on paths; lack of pavements

Lack of community shop (similar to Rattlesden)

Dogs continual barking at 4 Chapel Lane

narrow road with poor visibility entering the village

Lack of village shop

The biggest issues is the terrible broadband speed - you cannot get what you pay for.

The volume of heavy goods vehicles. Vehicles parking for lengths of time on the path in Gedding Road

Lots of promises to improve broadband but no action. Signs (speed) need to be kept clear of vegetation.

Lack of affordable housing for low income families. No accommodation for frail elderly..

Poor or non existance of enforcement of traffic in Drinkstone and Beyton

Vodaphone reception is good

Require fibre broadband and faster mobile signal

Parking

Lack of bridleways for those with horses thats on e of the reasons for living in a country village, there are none in Drinkstone

No main sewer connection around Blacksmiths Corner

Light pollution is not within our own community but from neighbouring Woolpit, particularly the transport depot. Noise from A14

No Gas

Have noticed increase in volume of traffic since Cherry Tree homes built

Cycle path to Beyton and cycle path to Woolpit.30mph speed limit on Park Road (road to Beyton)

Something for children - improved play area

A14 traffic noise. There needs to be a better sound barrier

Narrow roads to the village. Most cars have to pull into the verge to go past

Maintenance of our hedgerows, ie Park Road!

20's plenty. With proposed development in adjoining villages local infrastructure could be compromised, ie doctors, schools

Noise from housing re-development on Cross Street

Capacity of sewers??

Speed of traffic - especially tractors

Not enough younger residents.

Mid Suffolk Planning enforcement are rather perplexed into the behaviour of certain parish members connected to the Parish Council when they received seven complaints within three days of construction work begging at xxxxxxxxxx. Fortunately a third party provided evidence to prove two issues were blatant lies, furthermore it was clear to the enforcement officer when on site a further four issues were also untrue. The only issue which held any merit was in relation to fencing which i had not erected in respect of neighbouring properties. It saddens me to think that certain people live in such a lovely area and fill there time attempting to cause trouble for others. To eliminate problems rather than being deceitful surely is it not easier to speak to one another!!.

Light pollution from Woolpit Business Park.Need for better landscaping to screen Woolpit Business Park when viewed from C432 in the vicinity of Deadman's Lane

Litterin the verges less of a problem since Nigel Gale started his Tuesday round. Maybe more of us should get out there?

Little safe riding for horses. "Club" cyclists through village - dominate road & rude!

Poor maintenance including pot holes, failure to maintain speed restriction signs and to repaint 30mph speed roundels

Mobile reception is extremely poor. Blacksmiths Corner traffic can be dangerous due to speeding vehicles

Paper leaving dog poo on the side in a bag

The 5 am thunder of v large lorries belting along Gedding rd during sugar beet harvest. All traffic drives too fast along Gedding rd, especially large vehicles. Uncut hedges with brambles overhanging/impedingthe pavement

50 years ago this was a very good village. Now people want to dictate what can and cannot be done. They forget if new houses were not built they would not live in this village!!

On road parking in Gedding Road.Poor access roads, lack of maintenance and flooding

Poor broadband. Speeding buses. Buses designed for towns not for narrow roads. Come at you in the middle of the rd.

Lack of public transport.Lack of cheaper housing for younger people

#### Section B: Your views on housing development in the village

#### B5: Are there any sites you consider suitable for development? [Single Value Text]

So many properties have land and access, suitable to build on, but the villagers seem so unreasonable and anti this. In our opinion it would keep the green areas there.

Rattlesden Road

Infill favoured, subject to land-owner's preferences.

Area between Gedding Road and the street (towards church) - If there has to be development

N/A. Not Chapel Lane

Land opposite the Village Hall

No - leave Drinkstone alone

On the corner of Park Road, at Gedding Road junction. This could prompt alterations concerning the regular flooding a little further down on Park Road

The field beside Green Farm/Cross St. The field beside the Village Hall. The field next to High Gables.

Paddock on corner of Cross Street and Rattlesden Road. Sheltered accommodation better suited to a larger village with more amenities and better transport links

Rattlesden Road / Cross Street. Hill Farm Lane.

Part of field opposite village hall

Opposite and adjacent to the village hall.Rattlesden Road beyong the allotments.The Street - from the sub-station towards the Village Hall

Park Road nearing Gedding Road

None

No

None

Opposite village hall. Park rd

Meadow next to village hall and land opposite. Meadow opposite The Meadows, Rattlesden Road

Meadow next to Village Hall with area given to Village Hall. Next to Cross Street and Green Farm

Land on the North West side of Gedding Road.

The concrete slab just passed Cora old house

Cross St. Rattlesden Road towards Boundary.

Move playing field next to village hall and develop the old playing field and the other side of the road.

None at the Drinkstone Street end of the village. Not familiar enough with potential sites in Drinkstone Green.

Venacular one off dwellings that will fit in with the village ethos built to enhance the environment and quality of resident's lives. Larger 'off the peg' developments are inappropriate for the Drinkstone location.

Immediately to the north of the village hall (ie extending Drinkstone Green towards the Church end of Drinkstone)

None in particular

Rattlesden end of Rattlesden Road

Gardens - ideal place as already within village. In between Drinkstone and Drinkstone Green to link the two together

Drinkstone Park hamlet/settlement

No preference

Along Rattlesden Road or Gedding Road or Beyton Road. These 3 roads are the only ones wide enough for passing traffic.

None. Hence the reason for moving to a RURAL village

1. Possibly two or three dwellings between Home Farm and Whitegates along road edge but not further back into the meadow.2. Possibly small group of bungalows [up top 5] between Treaclebenders and Green Farm along Cross Street Rattlesden Road.

None!

Area north access to A14 - land that butts up to the A14.

Arch field and next to substation

Rattlesden Road

I think you should expand out directly off the existing building line i.e. keep the developments close and local to existing properties

Gedding road/ park road

1. Opposite village hall.2. Rattlesden road

None

Chapel lane. Garden plots Rattlesden rd

Field opposite the cricket.

Birch Meadow, Entrance onto highway has already been granted for further development, in my opinion and consensus of others a single dwelling would have no negative effect on neighbouring properties, having said that i remain open minded as to what the village would prefer. Conversion of farm building adjacent to allotments along Rattlesdon Road.

Off Cross Street

The field at the junction of Cross Street and Rattlesden Road may have some potential

Chapel Lane

Rattlesden Road.Near the Village Hall.

Deadmans lane. Around Peggs Farm area

Scrub land between village hall and chapel lane

There are several sites but as I stated before, people who move here suddenly do not want any more houses. Why, nine times out of ten it does not affect them but must put their noses in and complain.

Meadows, paddocks within village next to roads

The land around and beyond the north end of Gedding Road. i.e extend the community in the vicinity of the Village Hall and the sewerage pumping station

Along Rattlesdon Rd/ Cross st area. Area around village hall and opposite.

Filed opposite the village hall

As the majority of the village is greenfield sites I cannot think of any suitable sites

### Section D: Your views on the environment and our green spaces

D2: Please identify any that you believe are particularly important [Multi Choice] - Where we need more footpaths and bridleways

Footpath from the street North to A14

Ideally from here to Tostock and Hessett

Drinkstone Lake

There are no bridleways in Drinkstone. Horse riders need them for safety and it is unfair because there are many footpaths.

Drinkstone Green to Drinkstone Street. Gedding Road heading towards Drinkstone Hall (near farm)

chapel lane to the playing field, drinkstone green to drinkstone street

I agree that we want to maintain the open space and agricultural land around the village but do not have specific views as to which areas.

Park Road

The wider footpaths (especially those on open land) could be changed to dual-usage i.e.footpath/bridle path

Not necessary

Not needed

1. The option of a footbridge over ditch connecting existing footpaths; from footpath on Gedding Road (down from Village hall), follow path straight until met with copse and path veers left then right. Footbridge placed over ditch to meet path opposite. 2. A footpath made accessible behind No. 1 Cross St and Cora Munfords previous home, to connect with existing footpath further down. 3. Footpaths made accessible possibly from Chapel Lane to top end of Park Road and Drinkstone Road would be a great asset! 4. Footpaths connecting to Hessett, Hubbards Lane, also surrounding the lake.

A footpath beside the Blackbourne between The Street and Park Road would be an asset to the village. Drinkstone Lake could be opened up by creating a footpath around it.

The starry skies and lack of light pollution, due to no street lighting, is particularly valued. Anynew developments should follow the same ethos ie - no street lighting

Bridleways. Around the village and across the village possibly linking up with the old Roman Road and leading on for access to Pedars Way. They need to link up with other local villages. Currently there are NONE.

We need 3 footpaths and 4 bridleways. There are no actual bridleways at present - but lots of horses in village and roads are getting less safe.1. (can't read input) Across land extending from end of Cross Street .2. Hannants house to up (can't read input).3. Across from Burts farm.4. Across from top of Pegg's Lane to Rattlesden - around and above Pegg's Lane

Footpath from Blacksmith's Corner to Woolpit, rather than mostly walking along road without pavement. Footpath from Blacksmith's Corner to Tostock. Footpath from The Street to Beyton.

Plenty of footpaths but need more bridleways

The foot path from Drinkstone Park to Hessett should be rerouted around the edge of the field. The section of the footpath that passes through the centre of the field is often unpassable due to farming practices and the weather. I am sure this would also be more beneficial to the farmer as well as the walker. There is a footpath from Hubbards Lane, Hessett which ends in a field behind the lake on the edge of a field leading to nowhere, if this footpath was directed down by the lake and exiting along Park Road it would link the villages with a circular walk and give access to observing the wild life around the lake.

To remain a small village.

Bridleway network is required - footpaths are well serviced.

I would be pleased to see properties built on fields close to the village hall

Footpath to Hessett from Drinkstone Green.

Another footpath from Hessett to Park Lane (south of existing footpath), and Park Lane to The Street (north of Village Hall).

Grid reference TL947605 Footpath from Hessett stops at Drinkstone Parish Boundary..Important views:.To Drinkstone Church from Park Road and FP5.To Drinkstone Church from FP 2 and 3.From FP4 at the corner of Buck's Wood.Blackbourn valley from C432, C430 and FP5

Where possible turn footpaths into bridleways as they were in the past.

A more direct link between Drinkstone Street/Drinkstone Green, walking along the road is not safe.. through the fields?

Unfortunately the tranquility is shattered as early as 5am by huge sugar beet lorries, driving too fast along Gedding Rd. Also other farm vehicles drive v fast, which means risk to life and tranquility. Dogs left barking in gardens for long periods is a big irritant.

Route to Hesse's from Park rd

Good to easily walk to other local villages without walking on roads

# D3: In your opinion are the following features important in defining Drinkstone's character and thus merit conservation. [Multi Choice] - Others

The Church and its setting. Maintain existing woodland areas and field patterns. Conserve views across the countryside from various viewpoints in the village.

Maintenance of existing pathways and bridleways

our small country roads maintain the character of the village

Drinkstone Lake if very private and although a feature of the village it is not accessible.

Stewardship schemes to create and protect meadows and woodland to benefit flora and fauna, especially insects.

Local place and place names

No

Farm, hedges and ditches

Church and paths leading to church. Detached houses and flint buildings

Red phone box.Red post boxes.nb. Drinkstone Mills should be more accessible for all to appreciate. Have lived in the village for 14 years and have never been able to see them up close.

The number of paddocks and the views across them was one of the main things which attracted us to Drinkstone

Park Road/Lane

Not only are the Mills deserving of conservation but Drinkstone has a number of listed buildings, some of vernacular construction, so of special merit. Such heritage properties and in particular their settings are deserving of better protection. Though the buildings themselves are given protection under planning & listed building statutory regulations, their setting or immediate surroundings are often as not ignored or given little consideration, Drinkstone not being a designated as a conservation area. In-filling, inappropriate adjacent development, destruction of tree and/or hedgerows in their close vicinity, each can cause irreparable harm to the appearance and character of a heritage property. In-filling, in particular, can also destroy the group value where there is of a cluster of two or more heritage properties. Mature trees are also in need of better protection. TPOs are almost impossible in a non conservation area so the local tree warden needs to step up to the mark. For example, the felling of healthy mature trees because they are considered an inconvenience should be challenged.

Drinkstone Lake is a great asset to the village, the land owner should be encouraged to allow some access to observe the wildlife and enjoy the tranquillity of the site. The possibility of gaining grants to allow this should be explored but not to be commercialised and exploited.

Drinkstone Park / Lake: Why should this be protected - can't walk round it, notices to keep out etc. yes, it's a wildlife rich area but if like minded people can't enjoy it, why throw money at it!! for one person's benefit i.e the landowner

I think we should cut back hedges close to roads and give better view across open farm land. Overgrown hedges stops light and air and natural drying.

Conservation in terms of retaining natural features but not by imposing total restrictions on landowners freedoms.

The church.Old farmhouses

Hedgerows flanking Rattlesden Road. Belted Galloway cattle and meadows along Blackbourn Valley and Rookery Farm

Winding lanes. Public footpaths.

Church/ churchyard

The church. Old properties.

Some of these things (mills, ponds, moats, Blackburn certainly merit conservation but not particularly on the grounds of defining the character of the village.

### D4: Have you been affected by flooding? If so where? [Single Value Text]

On the road past stoney Cottage

Chapel Lane.The Street, by the Bridge.Park Road dip

no

Access to and from village especially Park Road

Yes, though not majorly at our property - only when rain runs off Rattlesden Road and is heavy. Cannot use Park Road in times of heavy rain. Quite often flooded and it is a pain when you came from Beyton and dont know about it until you reach Drinkstone end,

No only in our garden

Yes, Park Road. And poor drainage along Gedding Road oppoiste Cherry Tree, which floods our drive.

Park Road

Park Road

a couple of years ago our garage was flooded due to a burst water pipe

Park Road

No, but the increasing tendency for extreme climatic events makes the maintenance of all rainwater courses increasingly important. For example, Chapel Lane has flooded in the past, including some houses, as a result of a blocked culvert along the field between Gedding Road and Mrs Ivor Jones' farm; it is vital that this ditch is kept clear.

No

Chapel Lane, serious internal flood affecting 8 rooms. The ditch can't cope with waterflow.

chapel lane

no. though I know chapel lane has in the past

Chapel lane (far end). Park Road

Front Garden

Driving from Drinkstone Green to Woolpit

No

Gedding road floods beyond the village hall in the direction of the church. Park road has also been a problem, as has flooding near the bridge in the village. The road also gets bad just before you turn left onto what was Plough road to Woolpit.

Roads awash between the Lodge and the Church

Nο

Yes, on Park Road

NO

NO

Gedding Road in several places. Overflow from Drinkstone House pond ongoing. The farm track entrance near Thurmond and The Cottage. Lack of maintenance.

Yes - Marsh Green. Poor maintenance of stream forming boundary of property on North side

Flooding at Blacksmiths Corner is quite common in winter

Park Road and Parish Corner - 2 bridges

YES! PARK ROAD - in a bit of a dip at the Drinkstone end of the village. At/near to junction by the old blacksmiths

No

Yes - in back door

Route out of village via Park Road

No

Frequent flood at south end of Park Road about 200m from junction with Gedding Road.

Blacksmiths Corner.Park Road

no No

Yes. Park Road, beyond Stone Cottage and at junction with Gedding Road

By bridge at beginning Woolpit Rd.By bridge outside old rectory

Cross Street where the ditches are not maintained any longer

Never

Park Road

Park Road. Drinkstone Road

Yes. Park Road is often affected. Drinkstone Street.

Park Road

Lower end of The Street by hump bridge

Not near house but occasionally around 2 deer ponds near footpath Rattlesden Road to Gedding Road.Park Lane often at Rattlesden Road end, coming off fields.

No

The ongoing farce that is Park Road

No

No

Park Road. Gedding Road ditch at entrance to Drinkstone House

Flooding around Blacksmiths Corner and along The Street.

Blacksmith's Corner - flooding of the Black Bourn on a number of occasions, making roads to both Woolpit and Drinkstone Green impassable.

Yes - The Street

Yes, Our garage has been flooded several times. This is caused by the ditches running beside the paddocks on Cross Street not being cleared. We have had to build a soakaway to deal with the problem.

Park Road

At the T-junction - past the church when turning right to Woolpit

no

Nο

Blacksmiths Corner.Park Road.bottom of hill on Rattlesden Road

Junction going left to Beyton, right to Woolpit.Park Lane, by horse fields

No

No

Yes - junction of Chapel Lane/Gedding Road

Yes. The brook/stream in Chapel Lane, a tributary of the River Black Bourn, floods from time to time and affects several properties in the lane including my own. This immediate area is identified by the Environmental Agency as a medium flood risk zone. Park Road, not far from Stone Cottage No Crossroads down past the church No Park Road - too many times Yes Park Road No Park Road near Stone Cottage. Gedding Road near Drinkstone House Yes; Park Road No Park rd No yes, bottom of Green Close There is a need to improve drainage for rainwater coming down from Rattlesden Road to Gedding Road following heavy rain No Had one flash flood run off the road, along the drive over the door threshold into the hall Park Rd.Drinkstone rd corner/bridge No No Yes, Park Road, The Street/Woolpit Road junction impassable at times No NO Not applicable Occaisional flooding in park road, junction of the street/Drinkstone road - affects light traffic Park rd floods regularly Park Road.Stream at end of The Street No N/A No.Opposite. Water level dropped - could be related to drought or new lake at Down the Lane Park Road

Yes, Park Lane especially. (Last winter it was closed due to flooding more often than it was open).
No
No
Yes. Park Road and Church (vicinity of). Affect: Travel/access
No
Park Road
Park Road
Park Road
No
No
No
Rattlesden Road.Park Road.Beyton Road.Rattlesden village approach
No. (Maybe not applicable to Drinkstone but near Thurston Sixth Form Campus - Drinkstone Road)
No
Various places along the roads when river and ponds overflow.
Drinkstone end of Park Road.Bridge over Black Bourne
Park Road.Gedding Road, near Drinkstone House
No
Park Road
Park rd. sometimes for long periods
Park rd
Park rd
Only on access roads
No
Not where I live but where I travel
No, however it has complicated access to work as roads flooded in surrounding area on occassion.
No
No
Yes. Woolpit. Park Road. Bottom of Rattlesden Road (South) near junction with Felsham Road
Park Road
Yes.at Park Road, Parish's Corner, junction of Chapel Lane and Gedding Road
Yes, our back garden from dew pond at rear of property unable to run off
Park Road

D5: What other locations are subject to regular flooding in the parish? [Single Value Text]

Down by the T junction past the church

The road to Woolpit near the windmills

By the bridge coming from Woolpit before the church

As above

The Street

Park Road. Woolpit Road between the T-junction with The Street and the bridge.

Footpath from Gedding Road to Chapel Lane. The ditch beside it needs digging out - it has never been done.

Park Road.Junction of the Street/beyton Road (white railings). Woolpit Road

park road

chapel lane

Chapel lane (far end).Park Road

Chapel Lane

Park Road

At the bottom of The Street where it meets Drinkstone Road

1. Bottom of Chapel lane after heavy rain (as pumping station can't cope with volume of surface water from stream).2. End of Park Road near livery yard.

Park Road

Park Road by Gerald's Stone Cottage and junction of Park Road/Gedding road

Park Road on a regular basis. Just before the T Junction near The Old Post Office

As above

Park Road, Blacksmiths Corner

By Blacksmith's corner

Around the bridge north of the church.

All roads serving the village

Park Road - again as no-one maintains the ditches properly as they did in the past

Park Road. Woolpit Road (Blacksmith's Corner)

Park Lane

Round the corner from Drinkstone to Woolpit (down past church)

I don't know

Bottom of Rattlesden Road in The Street

Rattlesden Road, bottom of hill leading to Rattlesden

Park Road

The junction of Gedding Road and Park road.

Park Road

Junction of The Street and Beyton Road.
Park road!.Dip in road by chapel lane
Park Road
Park Road

Chapel Lane.Park Road

In Beyton, at beginning of Drinkstone Road

There is often running in Cross Street after heavy rain due to ditches not being cleared.

Junction of Beyton Road and The Street beyond the church

Past the 'lake'

See Above

Road blocks at junction of Drinkstone Road/The Street

Road to Beyton

Chapel Lane.Lower end of Street.Park Road

Park Road - a drainage problem?

Don't know of any

Park Road and Rattlesden Road

Park Road/ Gedding Road

Yes; road to Woolpit and The Street

Bridge area end of Gedding rd

Park rd

**Blacksmiths Corner** 

Bottom of Green Close, Chapel Lane, road outside Drinkstone House, Park Road

1) Blocked drains on Gedding Road cause storm water to drain down Green Close. This can cause flooding at end of Green Close.2) Junction Gedding Road/Park Road. Water from pond can flood road.3) Park Road - Flooding of road occurs near horse field

Park Road. Drinkstone Street.

Park Road is always flooded, which is problematic if you forget

Park Road

Not aware

Woolpit Road

Park Road

Corner of The Street.Up near Beyton School

Blacksmiths Corner

chapel Lane - Road.Park Road.Road next to the Rectory and junction

See above

Near Stone Cottage Park rd Park Road and some spots on Rattlesden Road - already well known Park Road.Junction with Chapel Lane.Bridge Farm Gedding Road / Park Road junction Rattlesden Road at the bottom of the hill. Woolpit Road. Park Road Park Road: A nightmare in Winter See answer to D4 + .The Street.Gedding Road Top of Park Road The Street.Entrance to Chapel Lane.Park Road Park Road. Near The Rectory park road Park Road, Gedding Road north end. The other flooding locations are on access roads, but not in the Village Park rd due to blocked drain Near church/woolpit rd. park Rd Park Rd. (too frequently)

1. Park Road just near newly developed Stone Cottage.2. Near Gedding Rd/Woolpit Rd junction

Park Road

Gedding Rod between Drinkstone Green Close and telephone box - water constantly runs across the road in winter, freezes and is dangerous

Bottom of The Street, at white railings

Park Road

As you enter the village from Woolpit at Gedding Road by the electricity sub station

# **Section F: YOUR CURRENT HOME**

### F1: What type of accommodation are you living in? [One Choice] - Other

Chalet bungalow
Detached cottage
Granny Annex
Link detached
Barn conversion
Bar complex of 3. Could respondent mean barn?

Bungalow/chalet
caravan
Semi-detached barn conversion

# F6: If this is not your first home, what factors influenced your decision to move to your current home? [Multi Choice] - Other

To provide more space to carry out hobbies

small quiet village

We liked the area

Minimal light pollution. Open countryside. Small community. Plenty of footpaths.

Divorce necessitated a move. 4 bedrooms was the deciding factor

Returning from abroad

Bred and born here

Walks for dogs, peace and quiet, not overlooked

To move to a village in the countryside and to a place where we could keep horses, chickens etc

Quieter more friendly neighbours in the countryside

Worked at WSH and had to live within 10 miles as part of contract. Just loved the house and its environment.

Moved for work - wanted to live in the countryside.

Could not afford a 3-bed house in our last village (cost).

Lower market prices than area previously lived in (West Suffolk) - more house for same money. Bigger house to start a family - moved from 2-bed to 3-bed.

To be less affected by noise from A14. Cat friendly road!

Moved in with parents

Land

Very noisy neighbours

to a quieter area with dark skies and footpaths

Retirement

To move to a small village

Had no choice but to move

Converted a barn

Repossession of own house

Character house in local style

A peaceful village location with a community spirit.

The character of the house

Move to a more friendly village

To live somewhere rural and beautiful

More energy efficient home

To move away from aircraft noise

More Rural, quieter location, safer for our son, dark skies

Drinkstone school

Moved with partner who is house owner but no longer living here

#### Section G: YOUR FUTURE HOUSING CHOICE

G5: What type of existing property would you like to move to? [Multi Choice] - Other

Barn conversion

G10: Would you consider any of the following options to help you move? [Multi Choice] - Other

Once our child finishes education

smaller garden, say half an acre with room for boat storage shed

G11: What are the main reasons for wanting or needing to move to a different home? [Multi Choice] - Other

To move to what would be my dream home. End of a road, house backing onto fields. Views of countryside

Mobility problems

# **Section I: CARE AND SUPPORT NEEDS**

I12: What sort of property would they be looking for? [One Choice]

Either a bungalow near to us, or a granny annex extension, or garage conversion

House with annex.

# **Other Issues**

Not enough housing available for the younger generation to be able to stay in the village in which they were born and grew up.

We feel very strongly that car users disregard the speed limit of 30 mph. Every day drivers use excessive speed through the village, in fact, two have just gone past. Speeding drivers cause a real danger to pedestrians, horse riders, dog walkers, pets and wildlife. Speeding drivers also cause noise pollution disturbing the quality of village life.

Prefer individual houses or up to three houses to be built, and renovations (e.g. barn conversions).

Some gardens (front) in the village, resemble scap yards. It doesn't create a very good impression to people visiting, and am not sure how they get away with it.

In response to question E1 - Performance and reliability of telephone land line needs improvement especially on the end of long runs. I am the last on a long run.

Whilst not against development, we strongly believe that the character of the village must be maintained - this is why we moved here. Avoiding road development self regulates village size and character

Q G9 - what has been preventing you from moving within Drinkstone - Council not making property available. I feel very strongly that allowances (as to provide roadside repairs) are not made with regards to cyclists and motorcyclists concerning road side verges being worn away by heavy vehicles. In some places i.e. along Park Road, along Drinkstone Road, the verges have gone leaving dips on the side of the road surface, not to mention potholes! When darkness comes this proves exceptionally dangerous with on-coming traffic's light beams. Hedges used to be cut well beyond a verge - now the hedgerows meet the road in some places. I've often been caught with overhanging branches, brambles and they hurt, even at low speed!!. I am a regular cycle user out of choice - with the environment in mind - and see other regular users that must have the same issues. Roadside paths (Gedding Road, Rattlesden Road) narrowed majorly because of house owners minimal efforts in keeping grass verges and hedges in line with the edge of the pathway (which should legally be 1 m minimum). The hedges are mainly kept tidy, but because the grass verge grows over the path, people cut to the line of verge, hence narrower pathways. Its a challenge if you have a small child and a push chair to keep from stepping into the road. I have two dogs I walk together and one regularly steps down into the road with no warning - one day a car will be coming! This occurs along Gedding Road and Rattlesden Road.

A village shop would not be viable without an expansion of the village that would totally alter its character. My wife and I anticipate that in due course we will have to stop driving. At this time we will have to move for better access to facilities. As Drinkstone and Elmswell are flat (unlike Rattlesden) we will probably go there..There seems limited point in building bungalows in the village as there are few facilities and little prospect of any material improvement. Elderly people are unlikely to be attracted to the village..Provision of low-cost housing would help young people but unless there is increased employment in the village, they will need to travel to work; probably by private transport. If both of a couple are in work, they will probably both need transport. So any development will need generous provision for parking..The emphasis should be on providing a mix of ages to have a living community. If it becomes merely a dormitory, it will not change but it will not thrive.

I am cynical about consultations etc. Decisions are made much higher in the chain of responsibilities/actions. But it might make local people think that their views are listened to! e.g. Woolpit, Thurston, Elmswell planning decisions.

The parish council tend to have a strong bias to deal with the concerns of the wealthy retired in Drinkstone. This needs to be corrected so that families and the issues of the young people of the village are given equal status.

(Question K3). White British - on all forms there is no mention of White ENGLISH. We as a nation are losing our English way of life and our HERITAGE.

Relating to Section B.B1. We should say none, even if the council say this is not an option, we should still say we want no development.B2. We should say no dwellings are needed. Once you start saying which type of housing is acceptable you are agreeing to development. If you are being told there will be development when you didn't want any. What makes you think you can influence the type of development. Hold your ground on development otherwise you've already lost control.

I have difficulties in getting a GP appointment. Small businesses should be directed at those that serve the village of Drinkstone, rather than bringing in extra traffic into the village to serve a wider community

No more 4-5 bed houses - the village has enough. It attracts people who do not want to be part of the village. They drive big cars and hide behind security gates. Meanwhile, youngsters who belong to the village cannot afford to stay, let alone buy one of these houses. Any houses to be built in the village should be affordable; give the youngsters a chance to stay in the village. Rant over!

Lack of hedge cutting on the access roads to Drinkstone needs to be addressed prior to further development taking place.. The road to Woolpit and the A14 needs to be increased to allow two cars to pass (SUV's not mini's) all the way.. Infrastructure needs to be improved prior to development approval. Land should be allocated/sold for self-build development.. Sustainable and Code 6 homes should be a priority/requirement of development.. Q.B2: Sheltered accommodation is not an option due to lack of public transport and footpaths

The village needs a community shop, preferably with post office facilities.. A pub would be beneficial though it is recognised that there are several in neighbouring villages.. In developing any new footpaths, consideration should be given to enabling off-road cycle paths, particularly to Beyton, where a number of older children from the village are likely to attend Beyton Sixth Form College.. The Drinkstone NP team needs to invest (through additional funding available) in having a village design statement drawn up, to defend the village against housing developers imposing inappropriate, soulless housing on a rural village community. New housing needs to be designed with our varied historic context in mind, not designed for an urban or suburban place. Minimum space standards should also be specified for all new housing to ensure buyers/occupiers are not compromised for the sake of profit.. We have concerns about increasing development in Woolpit and how this might expand in future (Woolpit Business Park / Rookery Farm estate) - we appreciate, however, that the Drinkstone NP is unlikely to have any influence over this.. Section E1 - we welcome the idea of people working from home, running their own business. However we do not welcome any business activity that creates increased HGV activity on our narrow rural roads.

Drinkstone is a lovely friendly lively rural community. To maintain it's vibrancy we need to ensure young people and young families are able to stay or settle here. We, therefore, need to ensure that there are some affordable houses. We also need a regular bus service for non-drivers and teenagers. Good broadband and mobile phone services would allow everybody to enjoy a better quality of life, whether they need these services for work, study or social life. Businesses are particularly dependent on good communications. We also need to cater for older members of community. Some may have a house or garden which is a little too large for their needs or difficult for them to manage. Smaller 'downsizing' homes would allow them to remain in their community close to friends and support networks built over many years while living in Drinkstone. Plus many village clubs and social activities rely heavily on the support of older members. Moving to a smaller property within the village would also 'free-up' a desirable larger property more suited to a family. Our view is that the village should be allowed to grow and develop organically. Infill and conversion developments and very small pockets of 2 and 3 new builds spread throughout the village would seem the best way forward.

Development should be allowed.providing:- it's in keeping with character of village.(ie houses/bungalows of similar style/construction).gardens shouldn't be required - or parking as in town centre

Very limited services for children

This community has a dependence on Woolpit and there should be some harmony between the two neighbourhood plans in order to avoid future conflict regarding development plans that could be advantageous to one but not for the other. There is only one school, one health centre, one shopping facility, etc, etc..Q.E1 Bury St Edmunds is increasing the number of light industrial buildings and therefore job opportunities. Woolpit is going to have another business park and job opportunities. Having businesses in Drinkstone may not provide work for local residents but attract more cars/traffic into the area which may be detrimental to traffic situation on the lanes.

Lets face it - you are simply touting for support for plans that have already been at least approved. When it comes to building, anyone seeking to extend or develop their own private property faces a gauntlet of bureaucracy to obtain planning permission while buying a parcel of land and building a tasteful residence on it is almost outlawed. However, for mass house building by commercial developers it is plain sailing and a blessing from the Government. With enough 'bung' money, any village parish council will roll over and sign away every inch of greenery for more of the usual generic breeze block and plasterboard developments which barely pass building regulations. When it comes to profit and cold hard cash, it is build build build. Accompanied by the usual platitudes of 'concern for the environment' the average developer would buildoze a nursery school to whack up yet another housing estate. And lets not forget that old cliche "affordable housing". Affordable for who - lottery winners??? When it comes to snouts in the trough for 'economic growth' no cost is too high. Profit trumps from quality of life, residents wishes, environmental preservation and common sense. So build away, you are going to anyway. I moved to Drinkstone from London for the peace and serenity of Suffolk village life 17 years ago. I knew it would only be a matter of time before The Building Bug went viral here too. The only added expense for the Developers is the PR activities required to spin stories of reassurance with plastic smiles and faux compassion. I am a life long subscriber to the fundamentals of Capitalism but there are limits. I am too old and too cynical to swallow all the spin about 'jobs' and 'growth' and 'prosperity'. These days such terms are merely carrots dangled to placate any objections to officialdom and Government policy. You never know, you may get the public support you want. Greed is as rampant in the public sphere as it is in the Government and Corporate ones.

There is a need to create home offices for people who can work from home. Planning should not inhibit the building of garden offices for 1 to 2 people. Communication needs to be good to allow people to work from their own properties.

1. Park Road flooding must be sorted out. Whoever is responsible should be held to task and made to remedy it.2. Childrens play equipment on The Cricket needs modernising and refreshing.3. More restrictions on open bonfires in back gardens - these reduce air quality and are a nuisance.

We are blessed with numerous footpaths, it would be really good to consider adding some benches to allow less abled people and children to rest halfway and enjoy outside spaces. There are several sunny and sheltered spots that would benefit from this suggestion.

- 1. Could some speed radars be installed in the village to deter speeding cars? eg on The Street (near to the Village Hall) & on Rattlesden Road.2. Extend pavement in Drinkstone Green as far as the Village Hall to improve safety for young families, children & elderly pedestrians in particular.
- B4. A small development of up to 5 dwellings. The village lacks infrastructure and amenity to support all but minimal development. For example, medical services i.e. Woolpit Surgery are coming under increasing pressure from surrounding developments at Woolpit and Elmswell. In transport terms Drinkstone retains its rural character in that the prospects of improved transport services are unlikely given the declining bus use (and Beyton issues with extra cars). The A14 remains the obvious transport corridor for future development. Sustainable development in Drinkstone is therefore limited to minor infill and specific sites such as off Cross Street

A2 Road noise from A14. Highways Agency should be pressed again to resurface the A14 with a quieter, noise reduction surface.

Q.G1 Asked about plans (to move or) to extend, but none of the remaining G section related to extending. Therefore G1 may be erroneous.

Whilst the church and village hall are undoubtedly wonderful assets to the village, I would like to see some other amenities within the village i.e. as small shop or even a pub. The shop could be housed or operated from the village hall and would provide a walkable alternative to Woolpit which has the nearest shop or Rattlesden with its post office, both of which require a car. I believe this would enhance the village and sense of community. I do realise both are extremely difficult to run and logistically challenging but feel these should be on the village's aspiration list.

B7: what is "efficient energy and eco friendly energy?.B7,D3 Hedges on roadside boundary are too often allowed to grow too high and extend too far into the road - HAZARD.D1 Too many move to the country to enjoy a rural life, then set about changing the environment to resemble the urban environment they are escaping from! i.e chopping dow trees, destroying hedges, mowing verges, installing overpowerful security lighting.No mention of poor electricity supply.No mention that there is no way to access health centre by public transport.No mention of the way amenities are disappearing (schools, pubs, restaurants, bank, post offices, general stores etc).Unless the above problems are addressed there is no point in increasing the housing supply

Roadside hedges need to be cut back regularly especially along narrow lanes

Drinkstone needs first time buyers for people in village and bungalows for older people to downsize to. How many village people moved into Cherry Tree site - none.

It is likely that there will be pressure to build in the village. Village must engage with this to have some control. We must identify where development can happen with least impact on the character of the village. We should set out criteria for supporting development, such as:. Energy efficiency. Provision of homes for a variety of needs. Accessibility and facilities. Village may consider engaging proactively with development in return for local benefits (see community land trust examples, e.g., Wilburton and Stretham). If there is interest we can tell you about Haysom Ward Miller's experience.

If development takes place, it should involve a contribution towards infrastructure improvements

QUESTION B2: I have an issue with the principle of 'affordable housing' as it does not remain 'affordable' beyond the original purchase.

Drinkstone is currently dominated by larger detached houses owned by people approaching or at retirement age. Because of a lack of amenities and affordable small houses young people will continue to move out of the village as soon as their finances allow. It is vitally important that our village plan is focused on the future and younger people when consideration is given to future development. Older established residents tend to have a NIMBY mentality without realising the impact this is having on future generations, the generations that will be around by the time the plan is realised. Please don't let Drinkstone become a village that just perpetuates the status quo but be a pioneer in forward thinking about future generations and start to address the issues that will make the village more accessible and affordable and appealing to them. Otherwise it will morph into a glorified retirement village which I'm sure is not a legacy the committee want to be responsible for!

I enjoy Bingo in the Village Hall.I use the bus every week to go into Bury to see my friends.I want to stay in Drinkstone - I don't want to move to Bury



# DRINKSTONE

**NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN** 

**Summary of Questionnaire Responses**