



Cottingham Parish Plan Steering Group

A draft version of Cottingham's Parish Plan was completed in January 2006, formally capturing and recording villagers' views and aspirations for the future of Cottingham. The Plan is based on villagers' questionnaires which were returned by 48% of village adults (366 people aged 18 to 93 years) representing 58% of village households, between July and October 2005. Separate questionnaires were also completed by 33 under 18s.

The final Parish Plan and associated Action Plan are currently in production. However, in the meantime, the following findings from the Plan have been extracted to enable Cottingham Parish Council to make an informed decision regarding the outline planning application for the proposed development of 90 homes on land to the rear of Cottingham Hall, ensuring that it is based firmly on villagers' views.

Housing and Development

The proposed development represents a 24.5% increase in the size of Cottingham (currently 368 houses).

Development was the third biggest issue highlighted by villagers (after speeding and parking). The key findings with regard to housing need and future development in the village are summarised below:

- More than half (51%) of villagers feel there is no need for any new houses to be built in the village and 91% feel there is no need for any new large executive homes.
- Around a third of villagers say they feel there is, or may be, a need for small starter homes and affordable housing. However, it would appear that this is more of a perceived need than an actual need as less than 1% of households contain people who are considering moving from the village because of high house prices. Interestingly, double this number (ie. 2%) say they are thinking of moving away because of unsuitable development planned for the village.
- In terms of types and location of development, the majority of villagers say they would support conversion of redundant/derelict buildings and, to a lesser extent, single 'infill' dwellings within the village envelope. Views are mixed on the development of small groups of less than 10 houses. However, 87% of villagers would not support a large development bordering or outside the village envelope.

Traffic

- Speed and volume of traffic in the village was villagers' biggest concern. The average number of vehicles per household for Cottingham is 2.02 amounting to approximately 730 vehicles of which 36% (263 vehicles) are regularly on the road between 8 and 10am. If the proposed new development reflects this pattern, this would mean a further 182 cars in the village, 65 of which would be on the road in the peak morning rush hour.

Village Environment/Countryside

- Love of village/country life is the main reason for moving to Cottingham with 54% of villagers having given this as a reason for moving here. Also, the countryside rates as the most important aspect of village life with 86% saying it is very important and 13% saying it is important.
- The Jurassic Way, countryside walks and footpaths are the third most highly used resource in the village (after the village shop/PO and plastics recycling bins) being used by 76% of adults (50% regularly and 26% occasionally) and 83% of under 18s (45% regularly and 38% occasionally).