

## 5. VISION AND OBJECTIVES

- 5.1 The vision provides the link between the views of the community and the planning policies. Some of the issues and priorities expressed by the community cannot be achieved through the Neighbourhood Plan (NP). For example some components of the community have expressed opposition to the strategic site allocation for approximately 8,000 to 9,000 Waterbeach New Town homes which is set out in the SCDC Local Plan. But this is a strategic site allocation crucial to the delivery of the district wide plan and it does not fall within the remit of the Waterbeach NP to oppose this.
- 5.2 Other issues do not fall within the scope of the NP simply because they are not planning issues (they do not relate to the development and use of land). For instance, community groups have expressed their concerns regarding the cost of housing. The NP cannot control the cost of market housing but, alongside the Local Plan it can explore ways of delivering more affordable housing (housing which is subsidised).

### Neighbourhood Plan Vision

"Our Neighbourhood Area will continue to be a great place to live and work by ensuring that the identity and character of the existing communities within the Parish are respected and protected. The plan will ensure that any new development in the Neighbourhood Area will provide sustainable infrastructure. It will ensure the improvement of the overall quality of life of every resident. New development should not be overbearing or overwhelming and should complement the rural vistas and existing Fen Edge landscape"

5.3 Seven themes and ten objectives underpin this vision.

**Table 5.1: Neighbourhood Plan Themes and Objectives**

Theme	Objective	What do we mean by this?
A Sustainable Community	1. Create a mixed, balanced and diverse community where people can realise sustainable work-life patterns	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="700 439 1396 546">i. Parish residents should have opportunities to work within the parish or within close commuting distance</li> <li data-bbox="700 595 1396 703">ii. People who work in the parish or in the immediate vicinity to the parish should have more opportunities to live within the parish</li> <li data-bbox="700 752 1396 900">iii. Existing services (including doctors, pharmacy, shops, school places) in Waterbeach village should be maintained and enhanced.</li> <li data-bbox="700 949 1396 1057">iv. Waterbeach village will retain its own character, distinct from Waterbeach New Town</li> <li data-bbox="700 1106 1396 1214">v. There should be safe, attractive and direct non-motorised vehicular routes between the two communities</li> <li data-bbox="700 1263 1396 1442">vi. There should be convenient motorised vehicular routes between the two communities but, in order to minimise rat running and congestion, this access should not be direct.</li> </ul>
Transport	2. A safe, attractive and accessible cycle and footpath network providing good connections within the village, from home to workplace and key services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="700 1449 1396 1641">i. Excellent connectivity between Waterbeach village and New Town and between Waterbeach village and other key destinations ensuring non-vehicular routes or public transport routes are prioritised.</li> <li data-bbox="700 1691 1396 1883">ii. The design and layout of new development should be designed to allow residents to easily walk or cycle along safe and attractive routes to shops, services and school and neighbouring estates</li> <li data-bbox="700 1933 1396 1989">iii. A greater network of footpaths within the parish including the provision of a</li> </ul>

Theme	Objective	What do we mean by this?
		connection between Waterbeach village and Denny Abbey and Chittering
	3. There should be good provision for mobility impaired people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="699 291 1394 517">i. There should be special provision for mobility impaired people so that they can travel easily from home to transport interchanges like the relocated railway station as proposed in the local plan (e.g. special parking provision).</li> <li data-bbox="699 562 1394 712">ii. There should be special provision for mobility impaired people so they have convenient access to shops and services in the parish.</li> <li data-bbox="699 757 1394 869">iii. Cycle infrastructure must be designed to improve provision for mobility impaired people.</li> </ul>
	4. There should be effective management of traffic impacts so that pedestrian safety is maintained, the quality of the residential environment is protected, and rat running and congestion in the village are minimised.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="699 875 1394 1025">i. Work with stakeholders to minimise through traffic (either A10 through traffic or those looking to access the planned relocated station)</li> <li data-bbox="699 1070 1394 1256">ii. Seek street scene enhancements in locations where the quality of the residential environment is vulnerable to the adverse impacts of current or increased traffic movements</li> <li data-bbox="699 1301 1394 1451">iii. Seek junction improvements to ensure pedestrian &amp; cyclist safety is improved</li> </ul>
	5. The public rights of way network (including bridleways) in the plan area will be protected and enhanced	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="699 1458 1394 1503">i. Existing network will be protected</li> <li data-bbox="699 1536 1394 1648">ii. Improvements to the network will be sought when development comes forward (where applicable)</li> <li data-bbox="699 1682 1394 1765">iii. Quality of provision will be improved.</li> </ul>
Village Heart	6. Amenities along village High Street to thrive and continue to provide essential services to the local community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="699 1771 1394 1854">i. Retention of shops and services along the High Street and village green</li> <li data-bbox="699 1888 1394 2036">ii. Encouraging the provision of new shops and services along the High Street and village green.</li> </ul>

Theme	Objective	What do we mean by this?
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>iii. Traffic management and parking measures to facilitate local car-based trade (for those that need to) in Waterbeach Village Heart</li> <li>iv. Public realm improvements in Waterbeach village centre</li> </ul>
Jobs	7. Develop a balanced economy with a variety of jobs at a scale appropriate to the size of Waterbeach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Protect and enhance existing employment sites in the village</li> <li>ii. Range of employment opportunities in the New Town</li> </ul>
Design, Conservation, Heritage and Green Infrastructure	8. Retain distinctive rural character of existing settlement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Maintain and enhance tranquillity of Waterbeach village</li> <li>ii. Promotion of development that maintains or enhances distinctive rural character of existing settlement</li> </ul>
Green Infrastructure	9a. Increase access to informal and formal green space	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Ensure appropriate amount of land available for recreation and sporting facilities</li> <li>ii. Ensure non-vehicular access to these areas</li> </ul>
	9b. Maintain and increase biodiversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Identify and protect existing areas of biodiversity value</li> <li>ii. Ensure appropriate management plans in place to protect and enhance areas of valuable natural environment/biodiversity</li> </ul>
Housing	10. Enable local residents and workers to access appropriate local housing provision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. A quantity and range of affordable housing tenures (eg. subsidised rent, shared ownership) that meets identified needs</li> <li>ii. Community led housing (where local people take the lead in actively commissioning and building homes)</li> <li>iii. Support and encourage self-build homes</li> <li>iv. A local connection policy on some affordable housing (giving priority access to people with a connection to Waterbeach parish)</li> <li>v. A range of sizes for market housing</li> </ul>

Theme	Objective	What do we mean by this?
		vi. Retaining our mobile home parks which provide an important element of housing choice to the village

The planning policies are all in Chapter 6. All the planning policies flow from the themes and objectives provided in Table 5.1 above. There are no planning policies which sit directly under the first theme and first objective of the WNP. This is because the theme cuts across the other topics. All the planning policies in the NP will contribute towards meeting objective 1 in the NP.