

Kirby-le-Soken Parish Plan and Village Design Statement



2015

A Community-led Project



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1. FOREWORD

Village plans have become a critical part of local governance and the planning system. They provide a document for residents to express collective views on the character of their community, draw attention to the features they most value, and have a stronger voice in shaping the place they live.

Kirby-le-Soken has a unique identity to preserve and enhance. It possesses a rich and natural heritage that includes a conservation area, the Millennium Wood which operates under the Woodland Trust, and is bordering an international nature reserve the Walton Backwaters recognised for the outstanding quality of its environment and wildlife i.e. an area of Special Scientific Interest.

The history of the village dates back to Roman and Saxon times, while the stories of more recent generations past, lie preserved in its listed buildings and unspoiled country vistas. Today it remains a fiercely independent community, distinct and separate from the encroachment of its neighbours Frinton-on-Sea, Walton-on-the-Naze, and Kirby Cross.

This document has been a number of years in the making, and is the result of many careful hours spent gathering the opinions of residents. The committee wish to thank everyone involved in the creation of this document, and all who took the time to contribute their views.

The Kirby le Soken Parish Plan and Village Design Statement documents and records details of the village in the present, the views of its people, and a shared vision for how Kirby-le-Soken should evolve in the future.

We hope that you enjoy reading it.

The Village Preservation Society sub-committee

Victoria Burgoyne – Chairman
Joe Webster – Secretary
John Beale – Treasurer
Luke Webster
David Wood
Andrew Burgoyne



2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Purpose of this document

It has been the policy of successive Governments to devolve greater powers to local level and strengthen the role of communities in their own development. The role of Parish Plans and Village Design Statements is now well established, and the 2012 National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) set out how these policy plans should contribute to the achievement of sustainable forms of development.

It is intended that the Kirby-le-Soken Parish Plan and Village Design Statement, when adopted by Tendring District Council, will become a supplementary planning document and a material consideration in the assessment and determination of future planning applications in the village. It will also provide a valuable resource for policymakers and local bodies charged with other decisions that affect residents.

2.2 Aims and scope

The preparation of this document has been overseen by a sub-committee of Kirby le Soken's Village Preservation Society, comprised of volunteers. The document and subsequent action plan represent the views of the Kirby's residents obtained through a survey distributed to all households in the village as well as meetings held throughout the process. In producing this document we have taken every effort to reflect the views of the whole village.

This document does not set out to crystallise the village in its current time, or downplay the pressure for change within the wider Tendring area. It does, however, make clear that future changes must reflect the special identity of the village, the real constraints that exist to further development and the voice of all who live here and contribute to the life of the community. It intends to seek and to stimulate practical action to improve the experience of residents living in Kirby le Soken, and businesses which trade within the village.





Our Village

- On the Tendring Peninsular
- Nestled between Frinton on Sea, Walton on Naze, Kirby Cross and Thorpe le Soken
- Access to the Walton Backwaters
- Access to the Millennium Woods, planted in 2000 for the Millennium by The Woodland Trust
- The Village Shop and Post Office
- Two Pubs – The Ship and The Red Lion
- A Garage
- Two Churches St Michaels, and The Kirby le Soken Evangelical Church
- St Michael’s Church Hall
- The Kirby Playing Fields with a Tennis, Football, Cricket Club and Bowls Club
- A number of village events during the year
- Other business include Silverton’s Aggregates
- Three Care Homes
- Essex County Council Civic Amenity and Recycling Centre

3. SUMMARY OF KEY FINDINGS

- Kirby-le-Soken is an older community, but one that has a strong sense of community spirit. Residents are typically proud of the area they live in and want to contribute to it.
- Residents are broadly satisfied with the quality of the local services, and existing facilities within the village receive strong support.
- Preserving the village identity is a key priority, and an overwhelming majority of residents are concerned about the capacity of the village to cope with further significant housing developments.
- Transport infrastructure is also seen as a major challenge, with the volume of traffic including HGV's and pinch points within the village presenting a particular safety concerns.
- Residents are keen to ensure that the village retains a strong appeal to all ages, but acknowledge that there are limited facilities for the younger population.



4. OUR VILLAGE AND IT'S HISTORY

Kirby-le-Soken is a small village in the Tendring District of North East Essex, England, in an agricultural and increasingly residential corner of the county. Although the village has managed to stay distinct and separate from the growing conurbations of Frinton-on-Sea and Walton-on-the-Naze (formerly Walton-le-Soken).



Kirby-le-Soken today still has the feel of a traditional English village; it is situated in an area of land called the Le-Sokens in Essex and is isolated from Kirby Cross, Frinton-on-Sea and Walton-on-the-Naze by fields. Kirby was originally a scattered farming community with an upper and lower road. Many people still refer to the village as lower Kirby with the upper road now known as Kirby Cross. The village can be entered by three routes, from the West or East on the B1034 or from the South by coming down Halstead Road from Kirby Cross.

In 1870-72, John Marius Wilson's *Imperial Gazetteer of England and Wales* described Kirby le Sokens:

KIRBY-LE-SOKEN, a village and a parish in Tendring district, Essex. The village stands adjacent to the Colchester and Walton railway, 2 miles W by N of Walton steam boat pier, and 12 by road SSW of Harwich; and has a station on the railway, and a post office under Colchester. The parish contains also the hamlets of Kirby-Cross, Sneating, and Upper-Street; and includes several islands and marshes on the N. Acres, 4, 757. Real property, £5, 880. Pop., 879. Houses, 182. The property is divided among a few. There is a wharf on a creek. The living is a vicarage in the diocese of Rochester. Value, £240. Patron, Three Trustees. The church was partly rebuilt in 1833, at a cost of £1,200; and it retains the original chancel and tower. There are chapels for Wesleyans and Primitive Methodists, a parochial school, and charities £13.*



It is believed the creation of the village started back in the Neolithic times. Evidence of occupation during Roman times has also been identified. There have also been a good number of medieval pottery shards found and continue to be found, therefore it is suspected that pottery was being made in the village

In 1066 Kirby, together with Walton and Thorpe, formed part of St. Paul's Cathedral's great estate or soke of Naze. Leases suggest that there were three sub-divisions of the estate, later the manors of Kirby-le-Soken, Thorpe-le-Soken, and Walton-le-Soken. Kirby-le-Soken was first recorded as a separate unit in 1222. There were two other manors in Kirby-le-Soken, Birch Hall in the north of the parish, had been created before 1066, the second and probably in existence by the late 11th century later known as Sneating Hall.

The principal manor of Kirby-le-Soken, otherwise Kirby Hall, was granted by the crown together with Walton Hall and Thorpe Hall to Lord Darcy of Chiche in 1551 and thereafter ownership continued to descend with the rest of the Sokens. However, the lands of the manor had been alienated in the mid-17th century, probably to pay the debts of Elizabeth, Countess Rivers (d. 1651). It descended in the Honeywood family of Marks Hall (Marks Hall) from the late 17th until the early 20th century.

Most manorial lords, lay and ecclesiastical, were non-resident, having their principal residences and estates elsewhere. However, there was an important local connection with St. Osyth abbey, both through the abbey's ownership of Birch Hall in the Middle Ages, and later because the site of the former abbey became the seat of the barons Darcy of Chiche and earls of Rochford. All three manors and estates in the parish, Kirby Hall, Birch Hall and Sneating Hall, were typically leased in the Middle Ages. In the mid to late 19th century both Birch Hall and Sneating Hall were temporarily held by members of the Foaker family, prominent in the administration of the Soken manors, who may have lived on their estates.

As at the other Soken manors of Walton Hall and Thorpe Hall, neither the lords of the manor nor the new owners of the landed estate after it had been sold were resident. The dean and chapter of St. Paul's leased their estates in the Middle Ages, a policy probably continued by Lord Darcy of Chiche in 1581. The Honeywood family of Marks Hall, new owners of the landed estate in the later 17th century, also leased the manorial demesne. The tenant farmers, such as Robert Mumford in 1840, typically occupied a central position in the social and political life of the community. The house, Kirby Hall, was occupied by the lord of the manor, C.J. Honeywood, Bt., between 1906 and 1908, but it was afterwards leased again to private residents. No manor house was recorded at Kirby in 1222 or 1297 despite the creation of a demesne farm in the intervening period; presumably there was no need for one as the land was typically leased with other parts of the Naze estate. Neither does there appear to have been a domestic residence in the mid-15th century, although by 1457 there were agricultural buildings, a kitchen and a small house with a cellar in which the court of the Soken (*curia del Sokne*) was held. The existing red brick house of c. 1700, located south of Lower Kirby Street immediately behind and south west of the church and vicarage, was presumably a rebuilding by J.L. or Robert Honeywood on an earlier site.

The manor descended with Walton Hall and Thorpe Hall as part of the lordship of the Sokens, passing from the dean and chapter of St. Paul's to the barons Darcy of Chiche, the earls of Rochford, and their successors including Richard Rigby, Charles Pearson, and Benjamin and Edward Chapman. Emma Elizabeth Freeman of Chertsey (Surrey) and Clara Freeman of Canterbury (Kent), 'ladies of the manor' in 1928, were the last owners to exercise manorial rights. At Walton Hall and Thorpe Hall, J.L. Beaumont of Coggeshall served as the last steward of the manor, and the firm of Beaumont and Sansom sold it to Leslie Maddock of Mettingham Castle (Suff.) c. 1963, presumably on behalf of the Freemans' heirs.

Access to the Sea

Originally there were two quays in the village. The first at the end of Coalies Lane, perhaps called this because coal was imported to here? But it was also called Old Quay Lane. This was the first Quay and it is thought to date back to the 17th century. The other quay is at the end of Quay Lane and was used commercially until around the 1920's. Barges would bring horse manure and timber from London and take straw, hay; grain and bricks back to London, and also trade to ports around the east and south coasts of England. The Quay at the end of Quay Lane still exists as a private quay where pleasure craft are moored.



The Public Houses

There have been four public houses in Kirby-le-Soken The Red Lion, The Ship Inn, (formally the White Elm) The Royal Oak (an Ale house) was part of Street House, and the Old Anchor situated where White House and Red House now stand.



Other Buildings and Employment

Set back behind Little House and Waterloo House formally (Wagstaff's Stores) were a group of cottages making up the Work House dating from c.1815 to the 1930's. Oxborrow Engineering Works in Malting Lane was formally a Slaughter House around 1920, and the building opposite Horsey Road in Halstead Road was also a Slaughter House.

Oxborrow Forge, formally a blacksmiths shop and later an automobile repair garage and Filling Station survived from the 1800s into the early 2000's, two houses now stand on its site.

Over the years Kirby le Soken has had two Filling Stations and Garages, a number of shops, a post office, Apple Orchard opposite Quay Lane, Market Garden in Halstead Road, public houses, carpenter, Agricultural Engineering, Dairy, Upholsterer, Motor Spray Paint Shop, Taxi Co and Agriculture including a Turkey Farm. Kirby Brick Fields employed a number of men digging clay by hand and making bricks by hand, for local use and export, a brick marked Kirby can be found in the brickwork of Low Barn.

The Water Supply

Kirby-le-Soken had its own water supply, piped in 2" wrought iron pipe, from a bricked spring at the top of Victoria Avenue which served seven Stand pipes; these were spread throughout the village. It was installed by Col Blanchard in 1877 and survived until the mid 1990's about 116 years, when it became too rusty and leaky to continue. Walton folk would come to Kirby for water because it was much softer and sweeter than their own, as did the people living on Horsey Island.

Schooling

There was a National School on the site of Kirby Church Hall but was pulled down in 1901 and a new school built in Upper Kirby / Kirby Cross, which is now a new Academy.

1953 Floods

During the severe sea water floods only three properties were flooded, these were Quay House, Pilots Cottage and Thatched Cottage, there was no loss of life.

Village Growth

During the 1960's and 1970's Kirby-le-Soken expanded its population to twice its size, with the building of the Horsey Road Estate. Houses were also built in a number of other areas including the Sparlings, Briarfields, Crabtree and Malting Lane.



5. CONSULTATION PROCESS & METHODOLOGY

Production of this plan has been overseen by the Village Preservation Society, and its creation was prompted by Councillor Robert Bucke and the Rural Community Council of Essex (RCCE). After some initial preparatory work in 2013 Victoria Burgoyne, a member of the Village Preservation Society, was appointed to lead a sub-committee to complete the process. The sub-committee continued to take advice from the wider membership of the Village Preservation Society.

The major piece of data collection was the questionnaire distributed to all 687 households within the village. This was prepared by the sub-committee, with input from members of the Village Preservation Society, the public, and relevant local stakeholders. The survey was delivered in January 2014, with returns received by the end of February 2014. Completed questionnaires were placed in boxes in the Village Shop and The Ship. Raffle prizes were donated by the Village Preservation Society, Silverton's and the Ship Inn to incentivise returns, with the draw being made at the May 2014 Kirby le Soken, Village Preservation Society AGM.



Input of the survey results and data analysis were carried out during 2014, with a view to holding a public presentation of the conclusions to give residents a further opportunity to contribute views to the process. This took place in the Church Hall on 31st January 2015. It is thought approx. 200-250 villagers attended the exhibition.

Following further analysis of the feedback, the final report was prepared by the sub-committee during Summer 2015.

6. RESULTS OF THE CONSULTATION

This section gives an overview of residents' views determined through the survey conducted at the beginning of 2014, and the feedback given at public display in January 2015. Surveys were delivered to all 687 households within the village, with responses received from 167 households, containing 312 residents. Approximately 200 residents attended the feedback session in January 2015.

5.1 Demography and profile of respondents

Those responding represented all age groups (Figure 1.1). The majority of people in the survey were older, with two thirds (64%) of respondents over the age of 60.

Figure 1.1 Demography

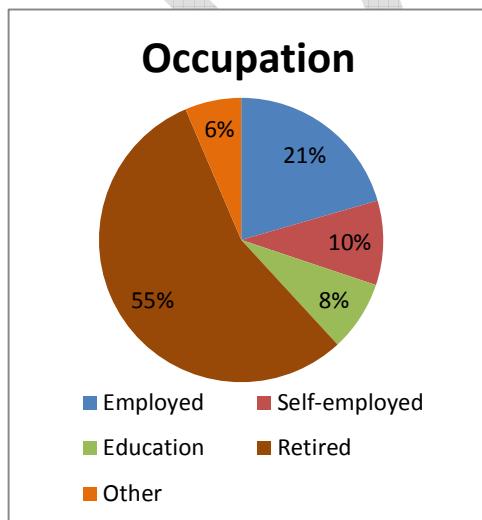
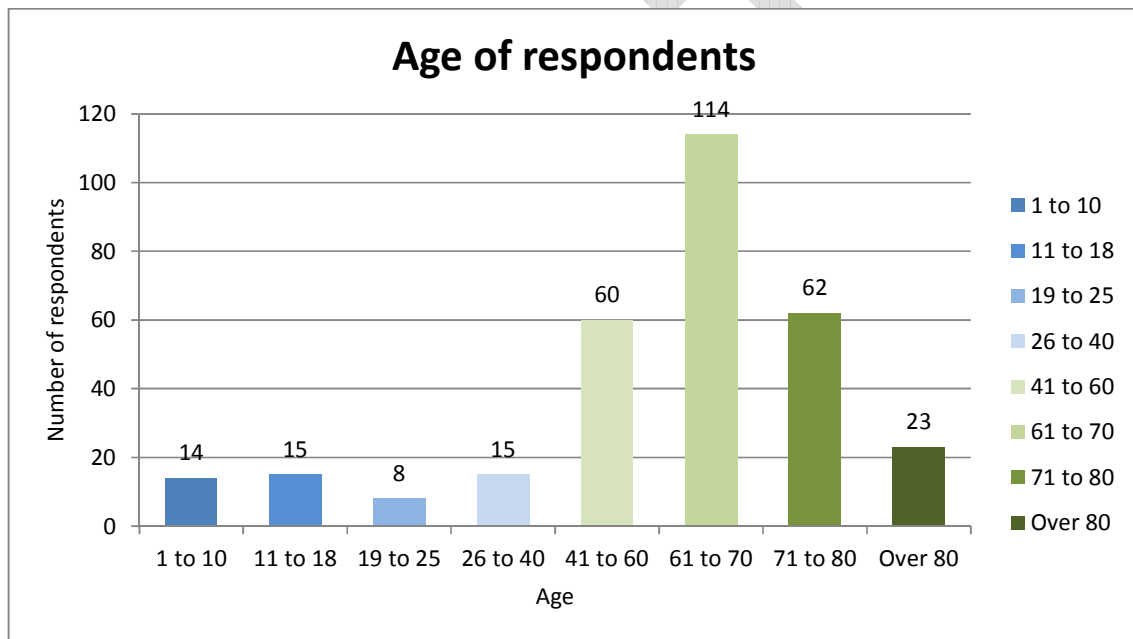


Figure 1.2 Employment

Figure 1.2 shows the employment status of respondents. More than half of adults surveyed were retired; 31% were in work and 8% in education. The majority (57%) of those in work held jobs within 10 miles of the village, with the remainder commuting further afield (although few as far as London). A third of those in work were self-employed.

The biggest factor attracting residents to Kirby le Soken is the appeal of the village itself; the look of the village, life within it and the pleasant surroundings were more important than factors such as employment or proximity to the coast. Almost a third of respondents have lived in the village over 25 years, with most having been in the village at least 6 years.



5.2 Transport and traffic



Kirby-Le-Soken sits between Walton-On-The-Naze, Kirby Cross and Thorpe-Le-Soken. There are three entrances by road to the village. Walton Road is the approach from the east, Halstead Road is the southern entrance to the village from Kirby Cross and the third entry to the village is along The Street to the west, the Thorpe-le-Soken end.

Nearly all (94% of respondents) of Kirby-le-Soken's residents rely on cars as their primary means of travel. A small number of residents expressed concern about the lack of viable transport alternatives for the area, and in particular a desire to see improved local bus services. More regular services on the Clacton-Walton route, and direct routes introduced to Thorpe-le-Soken and into Frinton-on-Sea. Concerns were also raised about the unadopted road surfaces, in Vista, Edith Road and

Victoria Avenue particularly.

Figure 1.3 *Halstead road bus stop*

However, the management of traffic through the village was identified as a major challenge within the survey. Many residents expressed concern about the volume of through-traffic during the day and the capacity of the village to cope with HGV movements. Residents overwhelmingly agreed on the need for more action to stop cars speeding through the village, particularly late at night. A number of danger spots were identified – including the western/Thorpe End entrance to the village, the turning into St Michael's Church, Maltings Lane, and the corner leading to Turpin's Barn and Turpin's Farm cottage.

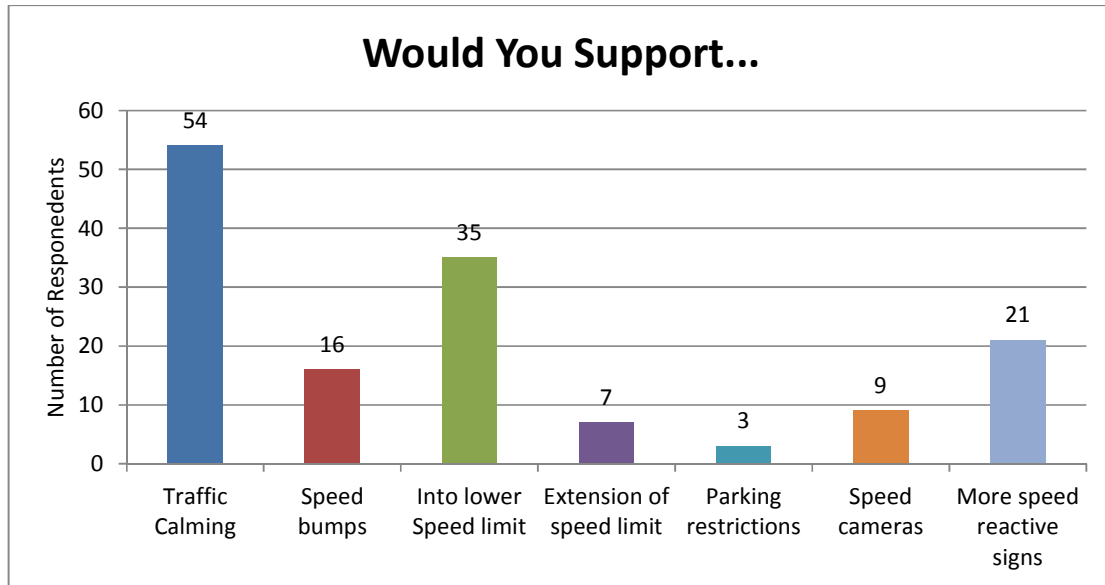


Figure 1.4 *Thorpe end entrance*

A lower speed limit received strong support, rather than more aggressive measures such as speed cameras.



Figure 1.5 Support for Alternatives



5.3 Village Life and the Environment

The third section of the survey sought views on the local environment, facilities the village has to offer, as well as the look and feel of the village.

The survey revealed that there is a strong sense of community spirit – residents are typically proud of the area they live in, and want to contribute to it. Nearly half of respondents indicating willingness to give time (47%) or money (52%) to support the village. Existing events such as the fete are widely enjoyed, and almost half of residents supported the idea of more community activities, such as a May Day celebration, open air concert or village walks.



Protecting the village environment is essential to respondents. The coastal protection strip, the conservation area, the agricultural land surrounding the village and ensuring the village is kept detached from surrounding areas were all hugely important to respondents. Just over a quarter of households thought that the conservation area should be extended. Further environmental measures received a mixed reception, with strong opposition to initiatives that could change the character of the village such as wind farms.

Residents supported efforts to increase the greenery of the village, and improved standards of cleanliness through more litter and dog waste bins and better upkeep of verges and hedges.

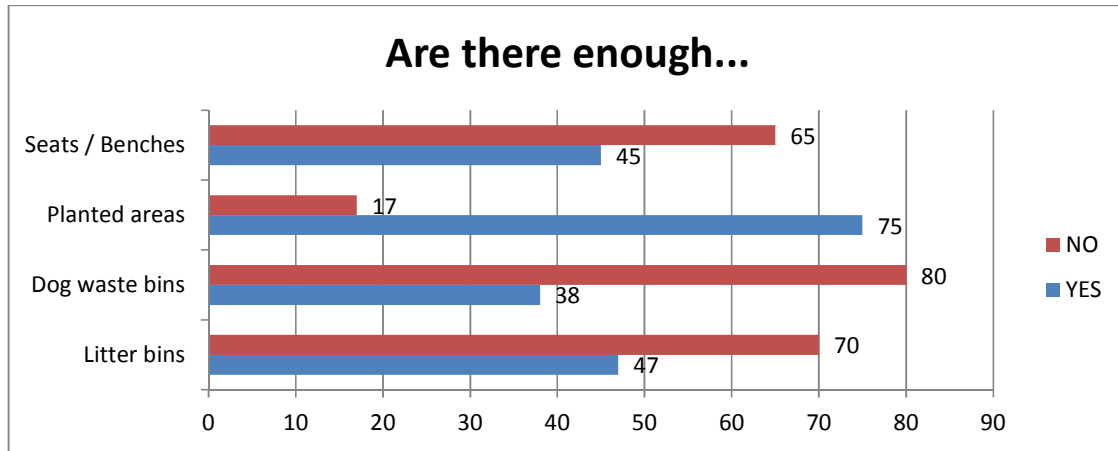
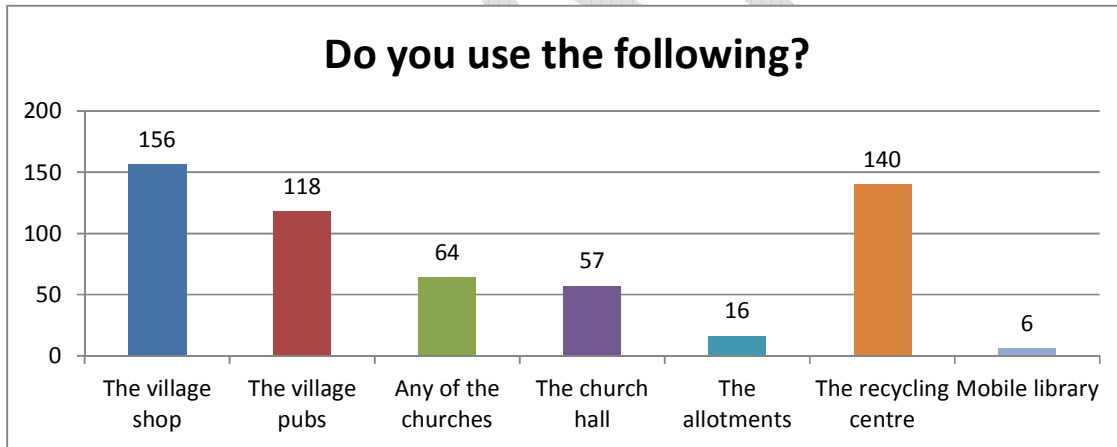


Figure 1.6 Are There Enough...

5.4 Local Services, Facilities and Security

The village shop, pubs, churches and Maltings Lane recycling facility are all used by significant numbers of residents.



Residents are satisfied with the quality of most local services, including water, electricity, telephones and refuse collection. However, concerns were raised in a number of categories - broadband, verge maintenance and roadside cleanliness were each rated as poor by around 40 people.

The Doctors surgery in Walton was also highlighted as a significant concern. 62 people ranked the service as 'poor', compared to just 19 rating it as 'good'. A desire for improvement was evident in more than one section of the survey.



Nearly all respondents supported keeping the existing recycling facility at Malting Lane.

While facilities within the village are widely used, respondents wanted to see more recreational space: further benches, a children’s play area and picnic area all received support, as well as cycle paths.

A question on street lighting, answered before recent changes, revealed around half of respondents favouring the status quo, with a third backing the restriction of lighting past midnight

By far, the biggest anti-social concern was cars speeding through the village late at night (see 5.2 above). However, there is broad-based support for more visible policing measures such as a village constable or neighbourhood watch schemes.

5.5 Local Government, Planning and Development

A majority of households in all age brackets felt under informed about the actions and activities of the Town, District and County Councils, and in particular that insufficient publicity is given to planning applications that affect the village.

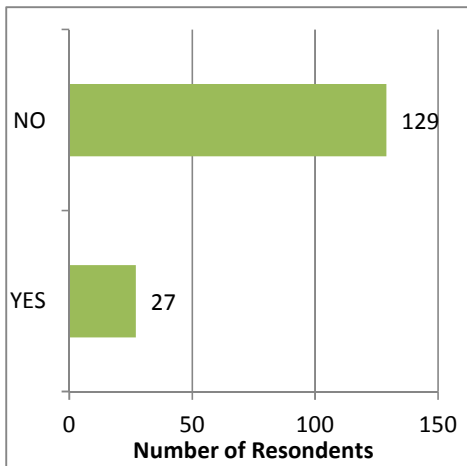


Figure 1.7 *Do You Think Kirby-Le-Soken Can Accommodate new housing?* (Left)

77% of respondents think Kirby-Le-Soken cannot accommodate new housing, and a range of potential developments proposed in the survey were met with concern. If new houses were to be built or existing properties extended, a strong majority felt they should be built in a traditional style in keeping with the rural character and surrounding buildings.

A recurrent concern was that future planning decisions may threaten the identity of the village, by eroding the boundary between Kirby-le-Soken and Kirby Cross, or in the direction of Frinton and Walton. Others questioned the ability of local infrastructure to cope with new development, particularly in areas such as health where there is already concern as to sufficient local provision (see 5.4 above).

Figure 1.8 *The Village* (Right)



5.6 Young people

Many residents were concerned to ensure that the village retains strong appeal to all ages, but it was widely acknowledged that there are limited facilities for the younger population.

A range of ideas were put forward, including new clubs and social activities to ensure that young people from across the village were able to make friends locally, and the suggestion that better use could be made of recreational space within the village, such as the Kirby playing fields near the tennis club.

As detailed in the action plan, more work needs to be done to assess what initiatives might be beneficial for young people, and how this could be delivered.



DRAFT

7. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Luke Webster
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The Ship Inn
The Village Shop
Silverton's Aggregates
The Kirby le Soken Village Preservation Society
The Kirby le Soken Village Preservation Society

For funding and donations to enable us to complete the process

Data Analysis
Data Analysis
Data Input
Data Input
Prize for Draw / Collection Point / Support
Collection Point / Support
Prize for Draw
Prize for Draw
General Support and Encouragement

The committee would like to thank all those who contributed to the production of this document, displaying notices, delivering forms. Finally a big thank you, to all the residents of Kirby le Soken who answered the questionnaire and gave their thoughts and ideas to the plan.



8. APPENDICES

Appendix 1 - Detailed Survey Results

Total number of surveys delivered 687. 167 Households replied, containing 312 people who responded to the survey. All questions required an answer per household member unless otherwise stated.

1. Personal Section

1.1 Gender

Male	145
Female	167

1.2 Your age

1-10	14
11-18	15
19-25	8
26-40	15
41-60	60
61-70	115
71-80	62
81+	23

1.3 How long have you lived in Kirby le Soken

Under a year	10
1 – 5 years	35
6 - 15 years	94
16 – 25 years	57
26 – 50 years	77
All of my life	5

1.4 Where did you live before

Within 1-11 miles of Kirby le Soken	109
Within 11 – 30 miles of Kirby le Soken	30
Over 30 miles of Kirby le Soken	127
Overseas	7

1.5 Why did you choose to live in Kirby le Soken

Born here	19
Work in the Area	18
Relatives in the area	53
Marriage	10
Proximity of employment	13
Village life	83
Came with parents	17
Like the look of the village	92
N/A	7

1.6 What to you is the most important thing about Kirby le Soken

The village community	65
The surroundings and environment	151
Proximity to the sea	47
Proximity to the Walton Backwaters	26
Proximity to employment	2
The Church of St Michael's Building	5
The Church Community	4
N/A	12

1.7 Are you at present

An employee or contractor	64
Unemployed	1
Self employed	30
In full time education	25
Unwaged partner	3
Retired	175
Carer	2
Long-term sick	3
Registered disabled	3
Under school age	3
Unpaid / voluntary Worker	3

1.8 Where is your main place of paid work (where applicable)

Home	10
Within the Village	5
Within 10 miles of Kirby le Soken	40
Within 20 miles of Kirby le Soken	17
Within over 20 miles of Kirby le Soken	16
London	6
Overseas	2
Elsewhere	0

2. Transport & Traffic

2.1 What mode of transport do you own

Car	145
Motorbike	5
Cycle	4

2.2 If appropriate, what is your main means of transport to work, training or study (tick one only)?

Car / Van	91
Bicycle	
Bus	3
Motorcycle	2
Coach	
Train	2
Walking	4

Taxi	1
------	---

2.3 What is your main/preferred means of transport for other journeys (tick one answer only)

Car / Van	125
Bicycle	3
Bus	22
Motorcycle	0
Coach	1
Train	10
Walking	2
Taxi	2

2.4 Would you use the bus and or train if:

More routes	29
More frequent services	48
Regular evening services	11
Cost less	23
Better disabled access	4
Closer to your home	4

2.5 Are you concerned about:

The speed of traffic through the village	99
The volume of traffic through the village	26
The number of Heavy Goods Vehicles through the village	30

2.6 Would you support any of the following in the village?

Traffic calming	54
Speed bumps	16
Introduction of a lower speed limit	35
Extension of the speed limit	7
Parking restrictions	3
Speed cameras	9
More speed reactive illuminated signs	21

2.7 Do you have difficulty in getting to any of the following?

Hospital – Clacton	5
Hospital – Colchester	23
Doctor	3
Chemist	0
Dentist	3

2.8 Do you feel there are any danger spots in the village?

Entrance to St Michaels Church	21
Entrance to the village at the Thorpe le Soken end	70
Access to the Recycling centre in Malting Lane	20

3. Environment and Local Area

3.1 Would you like to see any of the following in the village?

Picnic Area	31
Seating	41
Pelican Crossings	22
Cycle paths through the village	47
Mini roundabout at the bottom of Halstead Road	45

3.2 Should the following be encouraged in the village?

More Jobs	16
Small business development	21
Small scale industrial workshops	13
More Shops	24
More Restaurants	20
Take away food outlets	3
Doctors Surgery	78
More sports facilities	12
Better access to the Backwaters	46
Children's playground / area	50

3.3 Would you assist with the following initiatives in the village if they were to take place?

Looking after woods and trees	
Creation of a village pond	
Help clear up litter	
Help to maintain landscaping and planting	

3.4 Are there enough in the village?

Litter bins	47
Dog Waste Bins	39
Planted areas	75
Seats / Benches	45

3.5 What is important to you?

Removal of litter	121
Keeping verges mown and tidy	97
Letting verges grow for wildlife	22
More footpaths	36
Less footpaths	1
Map of local footpaths	
More signage	13
Less signage	19
Water drainage	77
Removal of overhead wires (electricity, telephone)	63
Reduction of road furniture e.g. signs bollards etc.	

3.6 What do you think is important to improve the environment of the village?

Planting more trees	68
Improved tree maintenance	64

More hedges	23
More allotments	7
Creation of environmental projects	46

3.7 What concerns you?

The recycling centre in Malting Lane	27
The allotments in Malting Lane	7
Noise in the village	17
Heavy goods vehicles travelling through the village	118
Increasing number of large supermarkets in the area	62
Excessive lighting from private houses	16
Excessive lighting from public lighting	13

3.8 Do you use?

The village shop	156
The village pubs	118
Any of the churches	64
The church hall	57
The allotments	16
The recycling centre	140
Mobile library	6

3.9 At present street lights are left on all night would you support any of the following measures?

Leave as now	87
More street lighting	12
Reduction in the number of street lights by 50%	15
Street lights to be only on from sunset to midnight	59

3.10 Would you like to see more village social activities

May Day Celebration	76
Open Air Concerts	74
Village Walks	66

3.11 Do you support / attend any of the following

Village Fete	141
Open Air Concert	66
Kirby Woods	76
Any of the churches	61

3.12 Would you be prepared to volunteer TIME in support of the village

<i>Number of Yes respondents</i>	78
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3.13 Would you be prepared to donate money in support of the village

<i>Number of Yes respondents</i>	87
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3.14 Would you support the introduction of wind turbines in fields adjacent to the village?

<i>Number of YES respondents</i>	30
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3.15 Would you support the introduction of other environmentally friendly solutions e.g. solar power?

Number of YES respondents

4. Local Services and Facilities

4.1 Please state your views on the standard of the following services over the last 12 months:
(1 = good, 2 = reasonable, 3 = poor, 4 = no opinion , 5 = not applicable)

	AVERAGE SCORE
Mains water supply	1.19
Drains and sewers	1.70
Mains electricity supply	1.39
Refuse collection	1.55
Street lighting	1.52
Roadside care / cleaning	1.95
Verge cutting / maintenance	2.07
Removal of items that have been fly tipped	1.87
Postal delivery	1.33
Telephone Service	1.62
Broadband Service	2.06
TV Reception	1.67
Doctors Surgery	2.36
District Nurse	2.38
Health Visitor	1.76
Ambulance	2.54
Maternity care	1.73
Loan of medical equipment	1.48
Counselling services	1.93
Physiotherapy services	2.07
Hospital transport	2.09

4.2 Do you consider there is sufficient police coverage in the village

Number of YES respondents

4.3 Have you experienced any criminal or anti-social issues in the village in the last 5 years? (please tick more than one if appropriate).

House Theft	2
Theft from the garden or outbuilding	11
Mugging	0
Vandalism	11
Drunkenness	8
Illegal drug use	5
Car theft or damage	12
Noise	19
Speeding cars	93
Late night speeding cars	57

4.4 Do you think any of the following are needed in order to reduce crime? (please tick more than

one if appropriate)

CCTV	34
Greater police presence	57
Village special constable	90
Street lighting	34
Education	24
Neighbourhood watch scheme	75

4.5 Do you think the Recycling Centre should continue to be operated in Malting Lane?

<i>Shows number of YES respondents</i>	145
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4.6 Do you think the council is doing enough to recycle our waste ?

Would you like to see better recycling options	100
Would you like to return to the previous recycling system which was in operation	51

5. Local Government Planning & Development

5.1 Do you feel your elected representatives in local government are sufficiently aware of local concerns and feelings? (shows number of YES respondent's)

Parish Council	86
Town Council	66
County Council	29

5.2 Do you feel you are sufficiently informed about the actions/activities of your elected representatives in local government? (shows number of YES respondent's)

Parish Council	50
Town Council	44
Country Council	26

5.3 Do you think sufficient publicity is given to planning applications which affect the village?

<i>Shows number of YES respondents</i>	43
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5.4 Would you like to see any of the following developments in the village?

Starter Homes	26
Flats	5
Housing Association / Rented Accommodation	9
Small Business Units	27
More private housing	17
More infill housing	13

5.5 Do you think that Kirby le Soken can accommodate new housing?

<i>Shows number of YES respondents</i>	27
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5.6 If new houses were to be built in the village would you like to see them built ?

In a traditional style	69
In a style compatible with surrounding buildings	95
In a modern contemporary style	5
As smaller lower cost houses at higher densities	2
As larger houses on larger plots	22

5.7 When considering planning applications for extensions to existing properties should planners ensure?

They are built of any style/ material at the owners discretion	11
Compatible with the rural character of the village and surrounding properties	144

5.8 Do you feel that the following features are vital to Kirby le Soken ?

Coastal Protection Strip	112
The conservation area	111
Do you think the conservation area should be extended (YES respondents)	74
Detachment from surrounding villages	108
Being surrounded by agricultural land	126
Village Green	113
Maintenance of properties by their owners	109

5.9 Do you think that the current regulations protect sufficiently the character of the area?

Shows number of YES respondents	63
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6. Young People

6.1 Do you feel that the village caters for young people? (*Number of households stating YES*).

Sufficient Activities	5
Clubs and or societies	2
Sports Facilities	3

6.2 Do you think transportation links meet the requirements of young people?

<i>Number of Households responding YES</i>	8
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7. General

We all have different ideas about the changes we would like to see in Kirby le Soken. Each member of the household is encouraged to suggest the single most important change that they would like to see:

Details of the comments made have been recorded however they were too numerous to include in this document.

Appendix 2 – Action Plan

The action plan will be an evolving document, below are some of the issues, which the committee understand from the respondents that require action. There may be more. What is clear is that moving forward everyone in the village needs to be involved in helping to preserve and maintain the village, in line with the results of the survey..

Action	Who / How	Timescale	Notes
TRANSPORT AND TRAFFIC			
Speed of Traffic – look at options for traffic calming			
Danger Spots -			
VILLAGE LIFE AND THE ENVIRONMENT			
Tidiness - Clearing and tidying of pavements, verges and footpaths – to remove overgrown grass			
Waste - Clearing and tidying of the village, better upkeep of areas			
Waste - Provision of more dog and litter bins			
Trees and Plants - Look at improving the greenery in the village, all to look at their own properties, and identify potential green improvements	All villagers and residents Kirby in Bloom	Ongoing	Speak to local landowners
Community Activities – approach village societies to identify how we ensure we continue to develop events in the village	Village Societies / Clubs / Village Website	Ongoing	Look at how village communication can be improved, use of the website created in 2016
Village Shop – encourage everyone to use the village shop	All villagers	Ongoing	
Financial Support for Village Projects/Initiatives – investigate the possibility of setting up a fund			
Environmental Projects – look at the possibility of what if anything the village can do.			
LOCAL SERVICES AND FACILITIES			
Doctors – talk to the Thorpe Surgery who have just opened a surgery in Kirby Cross about communicating with the village			
Security – look at the various options for improving security in the village e.g.			

Neighbourhood Watch			
Waste – liase with council regarding recycling			
Local Government, Planning and Development			
Planning – improve communication about proposed planning			
Umbrella Group for Planning in Tendring	Members of the Village Preservation Society to attend the Umbrella Group		
New Developments			
Extending the Conservation Zone etc. – to provide protection in the future			
Young People			
Activities for Young People – investigate what is available and whether more is required and improve communication			
General			
Village Identity – explore what is meant and how can it be maintained.	Change names of the Village Preservation Society to Kirby le Soken Society. Set up a website for the village and involve more villagers		

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