

Village and Community Infrastructure Report

East Hanney Neighbourhood Plan

Appendix B



Village & Community Infrastructure Report – Appendix B

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1 Village and community infrastructure

1.1. Facilities in the village

As a historic rural village which has had a relatively small population and a modest number of dwellings for a prolonged period (only changing after 2014), much of what the village has is old, or requires replacement or upgrade to meet the needs of the increase in population that the village is now experiencing.

There has been no or little need previously for investment in infrastructure, the community being relatively small and consistent in size. Consequently, although identified by the District Council as 'Larger Village' by technical definition, East Hanney has very limited infrastructure and services akin to a 'Smaller Village'. Indeed, following the loss of the County Council provided mobile library there was insufficient services under the District's own points evaluation system to qualify as a larger village. As a result, because of the expansion that East Hanney is experiencing, it is important that through this plan, the requirement for additional services and facilities is identified, and where possible the infrastructure is upgraded to serve the community.

As part of the community survey, a question was asked about improvements to some of the basic facilities required: noting that residents have subsequently set up a small book sharing arrangement endorsed by the Parish Council, following on from the results of the survey.

4.1 Which of the following items should we seek to provide or improve through the Neighbourhood Plan process? 184 respondents – 318 total choices

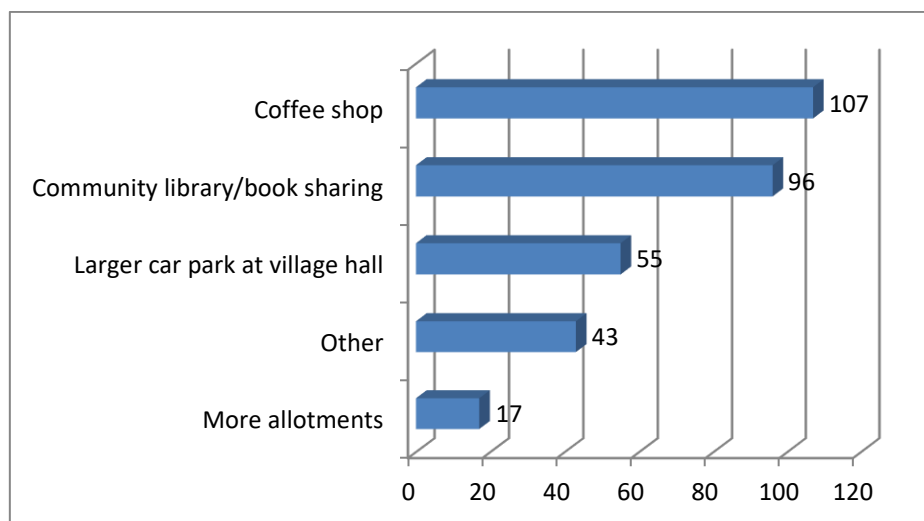


Chart 1- Extract of results from Community Survey

Other recent initiatives following the survey have also included the leasing of a field (Kings Lease) immediately behind the sports field to provide some space for open recreation, part of which has been planted by the community. There are also plans for the improvement of sports and recreation facilities including provision of a Multi-use Games Area (MUGA) at the sports field which has some contribution allocated from recent developments.

Whilst some funds for specified facilities have been received, other facilities needing investment have not been supported, such as for the provision of additional children's play equipment for community use at the sports field, which due to the significant increase in demand has during 2022 needed to be addressed by the Parish Council using Parish community funds.

For the future the Parish Council is also planning to provide additional parking spaces close to the village hall, although no funding support has been provided from developments for this. The village hall has previously sought to provide additional spaces but was unable to raise funds to do so.

1.2. Village Hall



View from front.

Figure 1- Hanney War Memorial Hall

The Hanney War Memorial Hall (HWMH) operates as the village hall jointly for the communities of both East and West Hanney. It is a single building with a main hall stage, meeting rooms, and kitchen, thus offering a number of facilities. The hall is a registered charity and run by volunteers through a hall committee. It was originally built through the fund-raising efforts of villagers in the 1960's. It provides the focus of community activities ranging from film nights to a place where clubs can meet. The facilities include:

- Main hall with stage, lighting, cinema projector and sound system
- Kitchen
- Toilets
- Committee room
- Meeting room with Bar
- Village community shop with its own entrance.

The HWMH has high utilisation and supports user groups from all aspects of the community, including for example as a place for the older residents to hold coffee mornings. With the community rapidly increasing and projected to double future demands on the hall can be anticipated to increase. The hall is popular, used regularly by many of the village activity and social groups, used as a venue for private parties and often

booked out. The level of use is evidence that it may not have capacity to be able to meet the needs of the projected growth in population, without extension or provision of a complementary community space.

Recent improvements have included new front door system with swipe access and heating system linked to hall bookings.

Planning permission has been granted for an extension to the car park, approximately 8 years ago, but that was not able to be funded. The planning permission has recently been renewed. Without an extension, there is insufficient parking capacity and no spaces to accommodate the needs of the increase in number of residents and is therefore a real sustainability challenge for the community. The need for additional parking spaces is further exacerbated by improvements to the school which is nearby that has increased capacity for pupil numbers but not provided any car parking or drop off facilities.

Use of the hall and its importance to the village is highlighted by the results of the survey as shown below.

4.2 Which of the following facilities do you or a member of your household use and how often?

209 respondents – 1998 total choices

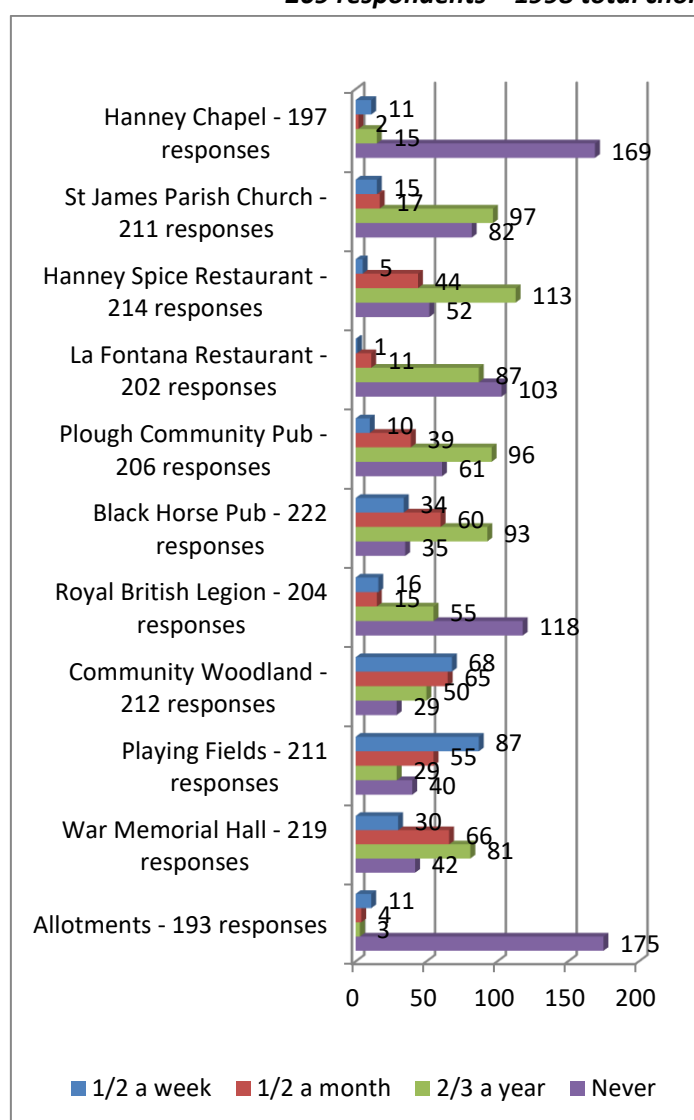


Chart 2- Extract of results from Community Survey

4.3 Which of the following items should we seek to provide or improve through the Neighbourhood Plan process?

184 respondents – 318 total choices

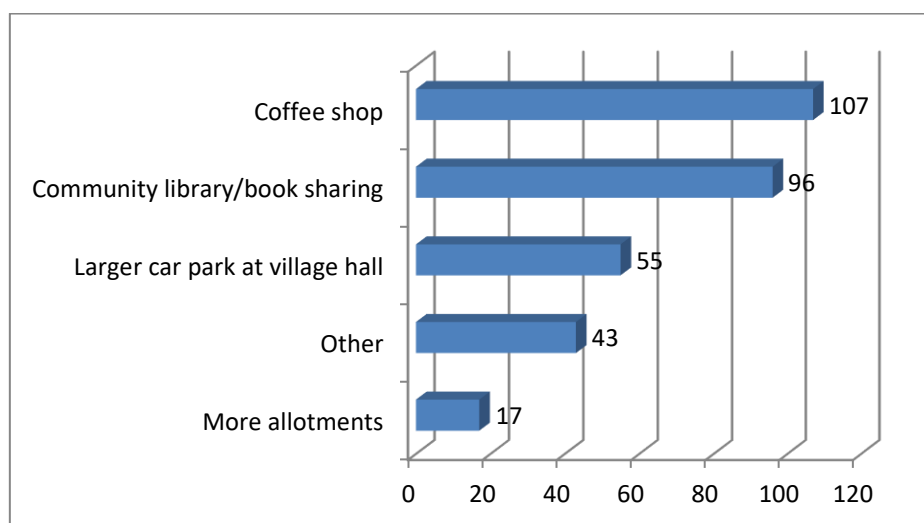


Chart 3- Extract of results from Community Survey

As the chart shows, provision of a larger car park at the hall was identified as a major requirement, the increase in population and user numbers at both the hall and the sports field mean that this improvement is an essential need.

It is now commonplace, as new homes are being occupied, for the car park to be full and cars parked along the streets of the village at weekends or when events are being held at the hall. During the summer, the fields themselves are now regularly required to be opened up for parking; this has been a need since early 2020, simply because there is no longer capacity. The Parish Council has during 2021 applied for new planning permission which has been granted, but to date no funding has been apportioned from the new developments to help fund this essential community infrastructure need, demand for spaces having increased with the increase in population.

The hall and sports field are located more than 5 minutes walk from most of the new developments, which has resulted in increased car journeys through the village and increase in parking needs at the village hall. During busy periods cars are left spilling out of the hall car park, onto surrounding roads, and causing congestion. If there a popular community event held at the hall it is no longer possible for all to be able to park.

It is not a practical basis for the community to operate. No provision has been made for this core requirement within the section 106 funding allocated from the new developments. Nor has extra provision been made for facilities generally at the Hall by way of financial support, or any other community facility improvement initiative to accommodate the increased number of users arising as a consequence of the new developments.

Of existing residents who completed the survey, 219 used the hall regularly, as evidenced in chart 2. New residents will also want to use the hall and the sports fields, but there is no increase in parking or financial support to enable this.

Whilst East Hanney Parish Council is not responsible for the hall, it does own the playing fields behind and to the right of the village hall; accordingly, within this Neighbourhood Plan, there is a Community Action to

review the sports fields facilities, including consideration of space for the provision of additional parking spaces close to the hall which as noted above has been progressed, and for which planning permission was received during 2021. Following confirmation, the Parish Council has during 2022 put in place a project plan to address this need. Assistance with funding from developments would assist with this.

1.3. Village shop

The village has a community shop which is run by volunteers. It is very small and has limited choice, but it does serve many residents who have limited transport and as a social venue.



Figure 2- Village Community Shop – volunteer run

The shop is located/attached to the village hall. Other than this volunteer run facility there is only a farm shop in the village. The village shop is essential to the community, especially for the old or those who are unable to access provisions from outside the village. The shop also accommodates a post office. The periods of lock down highlighted the importance of the shop to the community.

The shop has very little space and is therefore limited in what it can stock and sell.

4.4 How often does your household use the community shop?

251 respondents

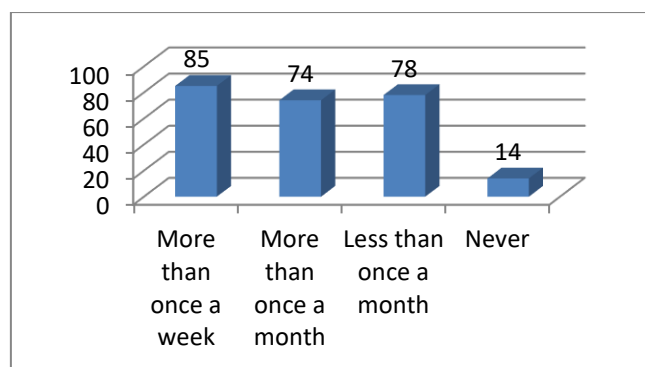


Chart 4- Extract of results from Community Survey

4.5 What changes to the community shop would encourage you to visit the shop more often?

204 respondents – 495 total choices

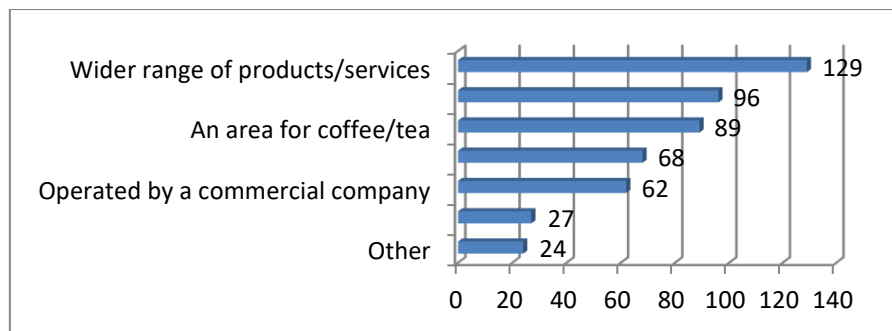


Chart 5- Extract of results from Community Survey

The high level of response to questions identify what residents would like to be provided. However, the size of the shop and its capacity is very limited and insufficient to provide for certain of these needs. Certain could be provided in a separate facility, such as an area for coffee, but provision of most of the identified needs are limited by the very small area of space which the shop has.

At the present time the provision of a social space for community coffee mornings or a place for the older population to meet is facilitated by the village hall which hosts regular weekly coffee mornings.

The survey indicates that the provision of such a facility or an expansion of the shop area to allow seating and serving of coffee in a more pleasant environment could be of benefit to many residents and may also help meet cross generational needs, such as a space for youth. The need and demand for community space and places to socialise and participate in the community experiences can be expected to increase as the population expands.

1.4. Places of Worship

East Hanney and West Hanney are in the Ecclesiastical Parish of Hanney. The main place of worship serving the community is St James the Great (and its burial ground) which is located in West Hanney and is the parish church for both East Hanney and West Hanney. Although it is not located in the village most residents regard St James the Great as the main place of Worship serving the village.

East Hanney has a chapel; other than this East Hanney does not have any other place of worship within the village. Hanney Chapel is a small and popular place of worship.

Because there are no other places of worship, residents of East Hanney look to West Hanney, or further afield for ceremonial services of all denominations, other than that which the chapel provides to its members.

St James the Great in West Hanney has a burial ground; East Hanney does not have any such facilities of its own. Within chapter 3 of this appendix, a Community Action is made under this plan to consider whether such a facility could be made available in East Hanney at a future point, bearing in mind the rapidly growing population.



Figure 3- Hanney Chapel

1.5. Playing Fields and sports facilities

The playing or sports field is located behind the village hall. Whilst the open space provides various facilities approximately half of the land is owned and managed by West Hanney Parish Council. When only the East Hanney portion of the fields are considered, then East Hanney has insufficient space for the current level of population, according to guidance, and is in desperate need of more sports fields for sport and recreation and public open space.

A policy is included in this plan to seek Public Open Space (POS) for the community from all future developments. Also, that these be owned and managed by the Parish Council, so that the Parish Council will be able to ensure that such areas can be accessed and maintained fit for purpose for use by residents. Provision of POS within new developments will help ensure a range of facilities across the village, enabling greater access to areas of green space and places for play, should these be provided within developments.

Ownership and management by the Parish Council would also ensure that the facilities remain dedicated for resident use. There has been recent experience of loss of land intended for residential use as public open space, designated as Public Open Space at planning consent. Examples witnessed include being lost to development infrastructure, by way of sale to residents (unaware of the obligations), and by way of developers seeking to build additional housing on such land, which in one case was granted.

It is also the experience that land designated as public open space is not maintained by the developers appointed management company. Where it has not been maintained, then the space is unfortunately not able to be used fully by residents for its intended purpose and therefore compromised. Whilst a number of enforcement orders have been made these need to be policed. The experience is unsatisfactory for the community and for residents within the new developments concerned.

As the provision of public open space is an essential requirement, it is important that all future developments contribute the space mandated under planning policy and that it is protected and made accessible for its intended use. A policy intended to facilitate this for future developments is included in this plan.

Within the East Hanney sports field the Parish provides:

Children's play equipment - serving both villages. This play equipment is very old and needs replacing. It is insufficient for the number of children it needs to provide for. Until October 2022 there was no play equipment for very young children. The upgrade/ provision of additional equipment has been a priority project because of the insufficiency of the pre-existing facilities to meet the community needs.

Consultation with the younger population identified a need for additional facilities, including a MUGA, a zip wire, swings, rugby posts and other pitch facilities. A number of facilities and sports are not currently

available in the village. These are all included in the project list and are a priority. Since the survey to date, a new basket swing has been installed and in October 2022 the Parish Council completed an expansion of the play area and provided new equipment to supplement the older facilities. This initiative has been funded by the Parish Council as very little support has been provided from the new developments, yet the population has doubled with many families newly resident.

The Parish Council has recently (2021) made an application for provision of a MUGA as part of plans to provide and improve the social infrastructure facilities for the community.

Allotments - For East Hanney

Cricket pitch and nets - One of the nets has recently been repaired and replaced. The other is in disrepair and needs investment.

Cricket Hut - Small 1950's style wooden cricket hut. This is obsolete, does not have changing facilities or any refreshment capacity, and is in dire need of replacement with an improved facility such as a pavilion, with facilities able to support and be used by residents, potentially including the various clubs that use the sports fields. It therefore ideally needs to include changing rooms for younger people, some space where people may relax after or whilst watching sport, and potentially space to help meet various community needs. For this to be provided it would be a major project and will require material financial support, some funds have been allocated from the new developments toward this, but additional financial support is required.

Football pitches - There is a strong and expanding youth team, as well as adult teams who use the fields. This has given rise for an additional pitch and refurbishment/maintenance of the existing pitches due to the extent of use. Some funds have been allocated from the new developments toward this and the Parish Council hopes to be able to provide an additional pitch on land which is leased at Kingsleas adjacent to the sports field.

Pitches for other sports, athletics, or fitness - None. There are currently no other facilities, or mixed sports equipment for youth, or a trim trail, or other facility which would provide support for leisure fitness or recreational pursuits. Various requirements are identified through the community consultation as being in need and are included within the project list provided within this Plan at the end of this appendix.

Benches – Additional benches have been installed both along the side of the Brook and at the sports field. These have been provided with the support of families. There is need for more to provide sufficient for the increased population.

Dog waste bins – The number of bins has recently been increased. There is continuing increase in demand for use as the village expands, and additional facilities are anticipated to be required.

Places to walk and exercise dogs - East Hanney sports fields do not have capacity for this. Consequently, the Parish Council has entered a lease of land behind the sports field to give some relief to the demands on the sports field and provide additional space for leisure and recreation. The intent is to also provide for a trim trail and certain other facilities including a small fruit/natural orchard potentially here. A recent communal tree planting event in part of the newly leased land was well attended.

1.6. Coffee shop

There is no coffee shop, but it is a facility that is desired by all residents. Young and old. If possible, the ambition would be to include this with the shop or provide it through a community hub facility linked to a new sports pavilion. This therefore forms part of the project list but would need to be funded. The village hall currently hosts regular coffee morning events which provides an essential social facility.

1.7. Public house and places to eat

There is just one public house in East Hanney, which is the Black Horse. It is located on Main Street.



Figure 4- Black Horse Public House

In addition to the Black Horse, the village also has an Italian restaurant, and the British Legion.

1.8. Clubs and societies

The community spirit of East Hanney is excellent and the residents pull together, which makes this a good village with a positive community spirit. The sense of community is evidenced by the extremely high level of response to the community survey, showing the number of people in the village who care about the village and the character and environment in which we live. The resident's views are very important and given in sincerity because the village cares. It is therefore very important that policies are put in place to help enable the wishes and requirements of the community. Also, that investment in facilities for residents is made to support the increase in population growth and future community numbers and needs.

The Hanney's have a local magazine called the Hanney News, which highlights community events and is a mouthpiece for clubs and societies. The village hall tends to be the main venue used by clubs, but the capacity at the hall is limited. There are limited alternative venues other than the village hall, the British Legion being a main secondary venue used by clubs and societies. Some use is also made of Hanney Chapel for related purposes. Whilst some younger residents' clubs such as cubs can make use of the school, there is no dedicated space for use by the younger generations.

The British Legion is a private club and plays an important role within the village; it is also naturally the centre piece on Remembrance Sunday. The British Legion regularly puts on social events. It serves as both a club meeting space and a hall, as well as being the home of the East Hanney Branch of the British Legion. As a club it has a drinks licence, facilitates a bar, and also provides limited parking for users.

It is clear from the rapid expansion of the village being experienced, that there will be a continued growth in demand for space available for community use purposes. Should any of the venues be lost, the basic infrastructure to support a thriving community would be affected. Accordingly, a Community Action is given within Chapter 3 of this Plan to seek Asset of Community Value status for the British Legion and for the Black Horse Public House, should there be a need to do so. There is also an action to seek to provide a sports pavilion facility, that may help support the needs of all age groups.



Figure 5- British Legion East Hanney

1.9. School

St James C of E Primary School.

The school is a primary school and was founded to jointly serve the residents of East and West Hanney over a 100 years ago.



Figure 6- Hanney Primary School

Recently the school has been expanded to increase capacity to accommodate additional demand for places anticipated to arise from the new developments in the village. The photo above is a view of the rear of the school, where works have now taken place.

The recent expansion work provided 4 new classrooms and a multi-use playing area and extra parking. It has given teachers a fit for purpose work room away from the children and break out rooms for children to work in small groups. A new preschool building was included in the expansion.

The school is part of village life, and it is valued by families for children in the village to be able to attend the village school. The school provides not only education, but also is a centre piece for community activities for the young and for families who through the school are able to meet and build friendships. There is a thriving PTA and a number of key events for children and families are organised and put on by the school during the year. The school is important for many reasons and an essential part of the social wellbeing of the community.

The school is now part of the Vale Academy Trust chain and although it has benefited from expansion, for certain year groups (as of 2021), it is now full for most of the year groups. Future capacity for additional pupil numbers is therefore anticipated to be limited.

There has been a need prior to the recent expansion of the school, for children in the village to be bused out to other schools. The school has recently expanded from mixed year groups into single year group classes. The expansion meant that the practice of having to bus children out ceased. When children were bused out of the village, they not only suffered the inconvenience of travel, but also lost the experience of going to their own village school and the associated benefits of friendship groups founded through the school within the village.

There is concern that any of the new capacity which remains will be quickly absorbed, this is because there are still new homes approved which are yet to be built or occupied. There is also now no spare land left for the school to be able to expand further. The school had to lose some play area space because of the expansion and is likely to be under the minimum play area requirement threshold for any future expansion, should it be required. Capacity for the future is therefore of concern.

There is a lot of traffic at pick up and drop off in the vicinity of the school. There is concern about the risk of accident as there is no dedicated parking for parents at the school or a place to safely drop off and pick up their children. Consequently, parking for parents and drop off is an issue, with most parents using the village hall car park and walking children to the school. This itself is also an issue, as the footpath from the village hall parking area to the school is narrow and does not meet current standards, such as for disability needs and is the responsibility of Oxford County Council.

Drop off, road safety, and parking in the vicinity of the school is a major concern to residents, parents, the school, and both East and West Parish Councils. There are a number of parties engaged in trying to determine a solution. The matter has been referred to Oxford County Council.

1.10. Listed buildings and conservation areas.

East Hanney is a rural and historic village. Its history has given the village a legacy, which includes narrow roads, historic stone walls, green verges, and several historic and listed buildings. In the centre of the old village, there are 2 conservation areas and some 32 listed buildings. The listed buildings include 2 historic mills that are on Letcombe Brook.

The brook weaves its way through the village and historically provided water through water ways to the homes. These waterways remain and are still an important feature of the village. They still provide a basis for flow of water from the brook around the village.

Many of the listed buildings are built in red brick Georgian style, or as old farming cottages; others are made of stone. Roof types include slate, red brick and some stone. The village also has a number of thatched cottages. The density of the settlement reflects the rural setting and typically the older village is of low density with large gardens and some paddocks. It is important to the residents, as evidenced by the survey,

that the character of the village is not lost to new development, which does not reflect the style of the materials of the village, setting, density and rural design features.



One of the 2 mills along Letcombe Brook in East Hanney.

Figure 7 - Dandridges Mill

The diagram below shows the conservation areas and highlights the extent of the village which is within the areas of conservation and thus identified and recognised as being worthy of conservation.

Much of the established village settlement can be seen from the diagram to be within a conservation area and typically represents the old historical heart of the village. As the amount of the village within a conservation zone is extensive, these areas have an important influence on the character of East Hanney. The fact that the areas of conservation are so extensive compared to the size of the settlement, underlines the extent and importance of the village as a settlement worthy of preservation and protection.

The community questionnaire clearly identified the need for the character and identity of the village to be protected and retained.

The conservation areas and related parts of the village are described in more detail within the Character Assessment provided as part of this Plan.

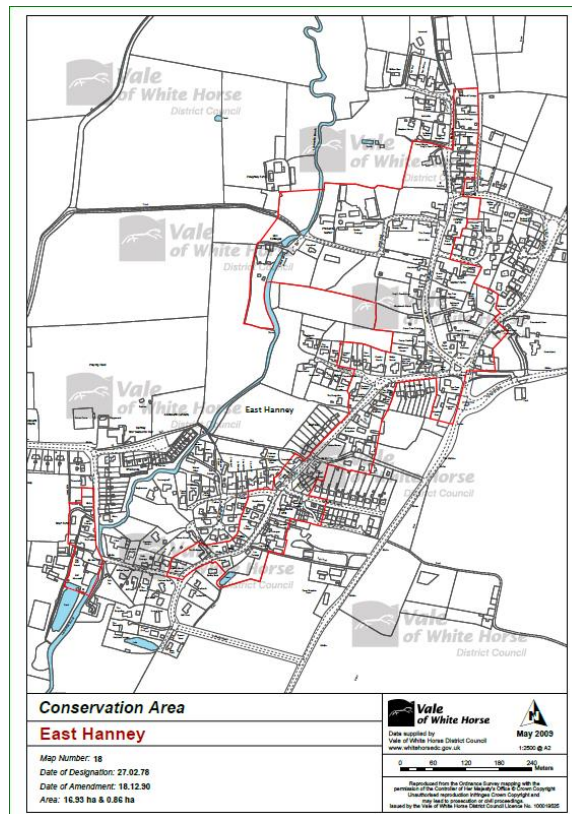


Figure 8 - Map of conservation areas

1.11. Environment - Letcombe Brook water quality

The Letcombe Brook is a rare chalk stream and provides a wildlife habitat corridor for many species. Until 2020 the waterflow was augmented during low flow periods, by pumping water from a bore hole on the Downs into the source. Whilst extraction has ceased, treated water from the Wantage Sewage treatment works at Grove continues to be discharged into the Letcombe Brook, upstream of East Hanney. With the much increased population planned for Wantage, Grove and the immediate area, the amount of sewage to be treated will increase. Consequently, there is concern as to the quality of the water in the future, and whether water levels will be maintained. The brook has also experienced regular events of release of raw or untreated sewage into it at peak flow periods. A reduction in water quality could affect wildlife populations along the brook, which include brown trout, water voles and an otter population, as well as the state and condition of the brook through the village. Policies are included in this plan to help protect the quality of the brook and its environment within the Parish, there being a policy dedicated to the Letcombe Brook, and a second on Nature Recovery and Climatic change.

1.12. Environment -Loss of ancient orchards

East Hanney used to have extensive fruit orchards, but these have gradually been lost to housing development. There are some old orchard trees remaining, but many are in a poor state and in places, they are not managed. There is a desire to retain these last remnants, and any development should not cause further loss of this link to the history of the village. It is an objective in the project list to seek to replant fruit trees where possible, including on a small area within Kings Leases. A policy is included within the plan for Retention of trees and hedgerows.

1.13. Environment – green and open spaces

One aspect of the village which all residents enjoy, is the verdant landscape, and in particular, the green areas or green amenities that remain in the village. Historically, as a rural village, there were extensive orchards and traditionally farmed fields. The orchards are lost save for just one historic example, but some green amenity spaces remain. Through this plan, where the space qualifies, the Plan seeks to nominate specified areas as Local Green Space.

Attached to Letcombe Brook, there is a natural wildlife corridor. This, together with the existence of established green spaces at points along the brook, effectively gives rise to a green corridor, which follows the path of the brook and provides environmental benefit to the village. This forms an essential part of the character and natural essence of the village.

This plan includes a policy for Local Green Spaces and also recognises the green corridor along the route of the brook through the Parish.

1.14. Village character

A significant concern to the community is the risk of loss of village character and identity. The impact of both the number of new homes and the extensive use of standard designs within the new builds being witnessed, is of great concern. The issue is that much of the new housing is being provided by national housebuilders, who tend to have standardised design forms and therefore are not necessarily seeking to identify with aspects of the nature of the village, character features, or environment. Or if they do so, it is typically limited. Consequently, this is leading to a more homogenous looking village and dilution of East Hanneys 'Hanney-specific' identity, particularly at the approaches. Through consideration of character in house design, the intrinsic character of East Hanney could be better served.

The building types, layouts, materials and designs, together with other aspects of the village such as green spaces, footpaths and hedgerows, as identified in the Character Assessment, jointly help form the character of East Hanney that the community identifies with and wishes to preserve.

Accordingly, this plan provides policies intended to help maintain the sense and feel of the village, for example, with new developments required to use local materials and styles, so that the character and sense of place is retained. A Design Code and Guide is provided.

1.15. Maintain the good health of local residents

The nearest doctor's surgery and pharmacy are in Grove and Wantage. Whilst the new developments have typically introduced a new younger population and families, there is still also a large older population. Much of the population resident in the village at the time of the 2011 census remain, although naturally there has been some transitional movement and people have grown older. Accordingly, as the East and West Hanney demographic diagrams illustrate, it is considered that there will remain to be a significant population with older housing and personal needs. At the same time the village also has need to accommodate the needs of a rapidly growing younger and family orientated new population. This creates issues for the village and the services that it needs. The issue is significant for the older population, as typically that population is less mobile and has specialist housing needs.

A population with aging residents has the following needs:

- Provision of or access to healthcare facilities

- Provision of suitable housing such as bungalows, including housing intended for the elderly or less able
- Provision of suitable transport systems and in the case of East Hanney access by public transport to nearby centres for basic services and medical care/support
- Maintenance of a suitable environment with appropriate pathways, and leisure facilities/places to meet that suit all generational needs
- Provision of social facilities, structures and opportunities to combat loneliness

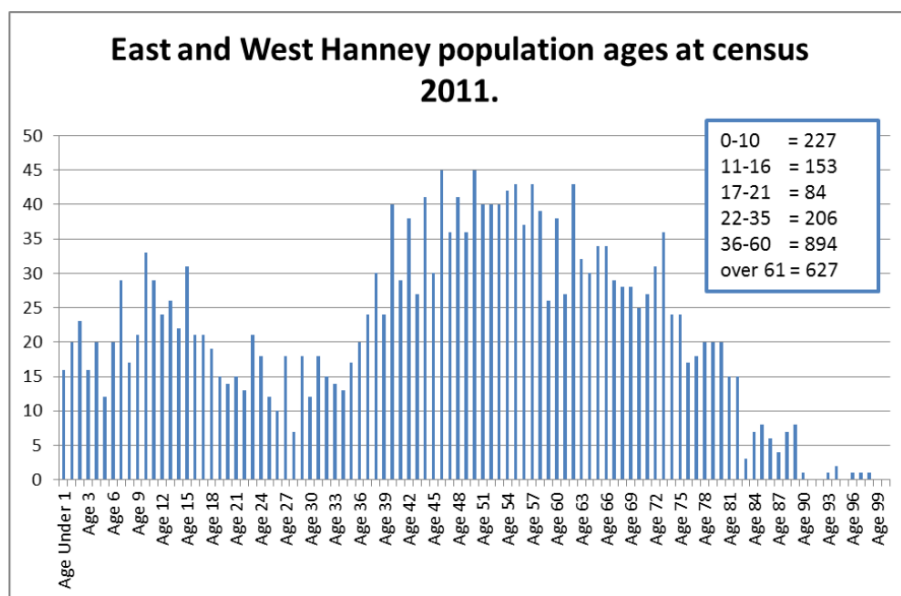


Chart 6- Age Demographic as at 2011 census

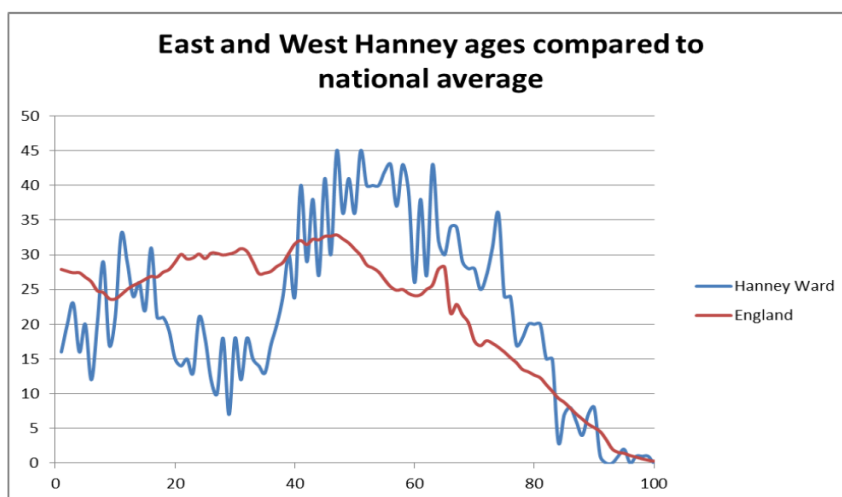


Chart 7- Comparative Age Demographic as at 2011 census

There are pharmacies located in Grove and Wantage, and analysis by South-West NHS shows that East Hanney has good access to these services compared to other rural villages. However, as there are no services of this nature in the village, access needs to be by bus or car.

The illustration below shows that the nearest pharmacy to East Hanney is Grove and Wantage, and that the drive time is between 5 and 10 minutes in order to access this basic service.

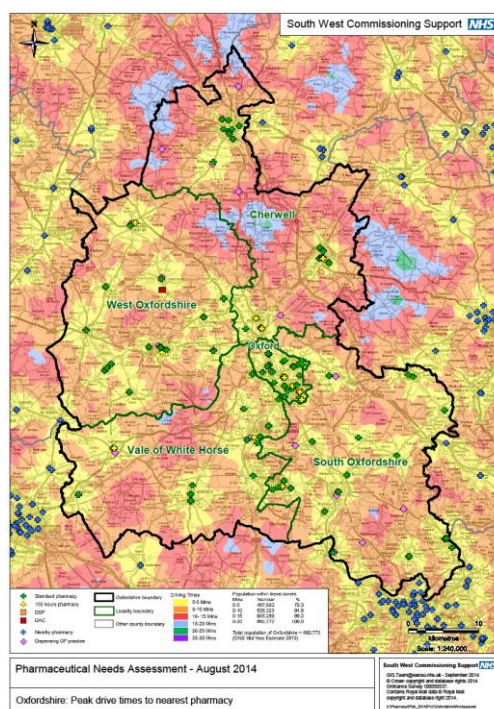


Figure 8- Illustration of drive times to nearest pharmacy

In summary, the village does not have a good service base or facilities to support specific needs of a growing population, those with special medical or routine pharmacy needs, or the needs of an aging population. This means that the population is dependent on either public transport or car.

For the aging and those with disability, there has been no new housing seen to be delivered which is designed to meet the needs of these groups.

1.16. Thriving local economy

East Hanney is primarily a residential community with little employment. This means that residents in the main, either drive from the village to employment, or rely on a bus service. A small percentage of the population are able to work locally, either remotely from their place of contract (home working), or in small businesses that rely on home as the place of work.

Of the few businesses that provide a service or source of employment, the following are the main entities:

- Black Horse public house
- La Fontana restaurant and hotel
- Dews Meadow Farm shop
- Motivation vehicle servicing and repair
- Vale Housing Association Centre

In addition, there is the Hanney primary school and two horse livery yards.

Employment opportunities within the village are therefore very limited. The survey identified that, of the population, only 36 people have the Hanneys as their main place of Work.

There is a small industrial estate, part of which is owned by the East Hanney Parish Council which includes buildings used by Vale Housing Association and Motivation.

There is an area called Davies Yard. This was used as transport yard which has recently been subject of an application for residential housing (refused at District Council Planning Committee 2020).

When asked through the survey if provision for further limited commercial development was a requirement for the village the feedback from the community survey was as follows:

Table 1 from Community survey results- should the NP provide limited commercial development?

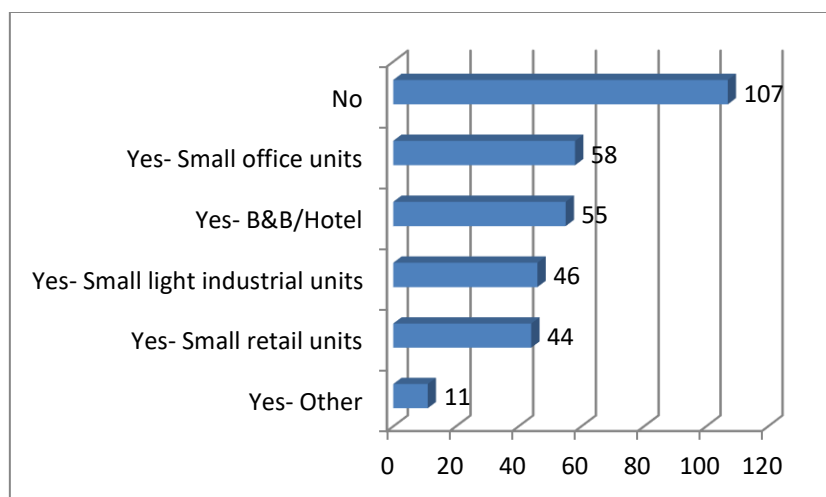


Chart 8- Extract of results from Community Survey

The parish council does not own any land that could be developed for further commercial development and there is no obvious location which would be suitable for development of this nature.

1.17. Bus services

The village has a good bus service running north/south, this links Wantage to Oxford. It is also possible to travel to Abingdon, although this is not as regular. As a result of new developments, new additional bus stops, aligned to the new developments along the A338, have been proposed for south/north travel. It is a question as to whether these are necessary as there are already existing bus stops on the A338. The funds might be better spent improving footpath links to the existing bus stops within the village and improving those facilities. However, this is a matter which is determined by planners and OCC.

Bus services running through the village remain, but at a reduced level. There is insufficient service to West Hanney; therefore, by comparison, East Hanney is better served than our neighbour.

Capability to travel East /West by bus has been an issue. Previously available East/West services were lost during the period of austerity and there was no public means of travel to Didcot or the scientific Vale site, for example, toward Milton Park or Harwell Science Centre, which are intended places of work set out in the Local Plan.

Supported by funding from new developments on the Steventon Road, the infrastructure for a new bus stop for East/ West services have been implemented, with a new service which commenced in 2021.

2 Village and community projects

2.1 Project List

The following is the list of projects identified as being in need for the village arising from the Neighbourhood Plan process, particularly from the consultation events and the community survey. A number of projects have been identified as a priority. Much of the funding for the projects is reliant on support from grants, section 106 monies and the newly introduced Infrastructure levy. Certain of the projects remain subject to available funding and planning consent (where appropriate).

Project List:

PROJECT NAME	NEED	COMMENT
Sports Pavilion/club facilities	The village does not have a useable facility dedicated to support sport, youth and other clubs.	The Parish Council is in receipt of money from developments towards the cost of this, although additional funding is needed.
Coffee Shop/place to meet	The village does not have a facility for this purpose either run commercially or by volunteers.	
Improve/Expand village shop	The shop has limited space which restricts its capacity, a large number of respondents to the survey would like this expanded.	
Larger car park for village hall.	<p>The car park provides parking for users of the village hall, visitors to the shop, sports field users and is also used for school drop off.</p> <p>There is need for additional spaces as the existing facility is often full to capacity.</p>	<p>The village hall committee gained planning permission for extension of the parking area at the hall, this was subject to funding.</p> <p>As the need is essential the Parish Council have considered how to provide for spaces near the hall and a new application for extension of the car park has been approved. A project plan is in place. Any improvement/extension will require to be funded.</p>

Improve children play space and equipment	Until October 2022 the equipment at the sports field was old, insufficient for the number of children in the village and did not cater for all ages. The increase in population is already creating need for more space for play and facilities, the first new developments did not provide for these on site, more recent developments do have some limited provision.	The Parish Council has sought for more recent developments to include provision of play areas and equipment. This NP includes a policy for any future developments to provide for space for play and Public Open space. The Parish Council has also recently provided some new equipment and is planning for improvements in the facilities at the sports field.
Local Green Spaces	Qualifying Local Green Spaces within the village to be recognised and nominated.	Provided for within this Plan.
Provision of a MUGA	This will provide a multi-games area.	The Parish Council is in receipt of money from developments towards the cost of this, although additional funding is likely to be needed. A Planning application has recently been approved subject to various conditions.
Zip wire	This was the most popular choice of new facilities highlighted through consultation with the younger members of the community.	The Parish Council have provided this as part of the improvements for children's play at the sports field delivered in October 2022.
Rugby pitch/posts	The village does not have this, young people consequently need to travel outside of the village to participate in this sport.	The Parish Council is in receipt of money from developments specifically for the provision of posts as a minimum.
Improvements to sports field/football pitches.	The sports fields and football pitches are intensively used. The increase in population will add to demand. The fields require maintenance.	The Parish Council is in receipt of money from developments which may help support this. Actions are being taken to provide for an additional football pitch on land

		leased adjacent to the sportsfield.
Trim Trail/Outdoor gym	Currently no facility in the village	Being considered as part of the provision of facilities at the sports field/Kingsleas subject to available funding.
Community Orchard	The village historically had many orchards. A community orchard could be enjoyed by all and future generations.	A community tree planting initiative was recently organised by the Parish Council, planting of fruit trees is also planned for, subject to available funding.
Zebra crossing on A338	The A338 is a fast and dangerous road, a zebra crossing is needed for safety reasons enabling safe crossing from housing to the centre of the village and school.	The Parish Council has been working with Oxford County Council supported by members of the community. This was provided in the spring of 2022.
Installation of speed recording equipment at hot spots throughout the village. /Actions to encourage road safety and speed reduction	Required in order to reduce and manage speeding drivers. There has also been a recent increase in volume of traffic. At the same time our village roads are historic and narrow unsuitable for speeding traffic.	The Parish Council participates in the Speedwatch programme and has also recently installed some speed recording equipment. Subject to consultation arranged by Oxford County Council the village is also set to participate in the '20 is plenty scheme' which may be applied to certain of the roads within the village.
Community Library/book sharing facility	The mobile library service has been withdrawn by Oxford County Council from the village, removing access to a library facility in East Hanney.	Members of the community have recently worked with the Parish Council to provide a small facility using a telephone box purchased by the Parish Council for this purpose.
Cycle Routes: Cycle path linking East Hanney to Grove	This would require funding and support from Oxford County Council but would be of use to residents.	

Promotion of a green cycle route across the village.	This could be developed in principle by the Parish Council using the existing lane network.	
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3. Community Actions

The consultation undertaken, together with the response to the community survey, also identified a small number of Community Actions.

These are not tabled as policies but are instead by their nature commitments, which the Parish Council and Community have identified through the consultation to support.

○ Community Action Policy (1)

The provision of the protection of the gap between East and West Hanney will be implemented by way of the inclusion in this policy of a community action to work with West Hanney to support a 'green gap'. – 'The Hanney Gap'.

East Hanney Parish Council will support our neighbour West Hanney in seeking to avoid reduction of the identified green gap between East Hanney and West Hanney that compromises the visual separation between the two communities.

○ Community Action Policy (2)

Use of the Community Infrastructure Levy.

The Community Infrastructure levy has replaced section 106 as a method of managing developer contributions to local infrastructure. With a Neighbourhood Plan in place, the percentage of contributions arising from a qualifying development increase to 25% from 15%.

The consultation undertaken to inform this plan included an assessment of the village needs and projects which the community requires. This includes infrastructure and accommodation to benefit the community including provision of facilities that are either currently inadequate to meet the community's needs, or currently does not exist in the village. For example, despite having a sports field, the village does not have a sports pavilion or changing rooms specifically for younger people, which could be within a new pavilion. Nor is there a coffee shop nor a community hub, which could provide a place for younger groups or older groups to meet socially.

The consultation included input from younger groups and sought to identify the needs of younger people.

There is a substantial list of identified projects, for which financial resource is urgently needed. New developments are bringing additional population which, without investment, will result in additional burden on the limited infrastructure and older facilities that currently exist.

It is the intent of the Parish Council to ensure that contributions raised from developments are used in the village for the benefit of the community on the projects that have been identified as needed.

It is the experience of the village that some monies allocated under the section 106 system have been applied to schemes outside of the village, and therefore have not been of direct benefit to East Hanney. For example, monies allocated from developments in East Hanney to the proposed new Wantage leisure centre which is now not proceeding are lost to this community, yet this village has great need for financial support for facilities in order to be able to provide for the community.

A policy is therefore included within this Neighbourhood Plan to provide for CIL monies received/allocated from developments to be utilised on projects in East Hanney as identified in this plan all of which are essential for this village and the community.

Community Action Policy: Community Infrastructure Levy contributions from development will be used for the benefit of the community, with priority given to the projects listed in this Appendix B, under the community project as detailed above.

○ **Community Action Policy (3)**

To secure various village community assets as Assets of Community Value, as appropriate.

As described in this Appendix B, there are certain facilities within the village, which are important to the Community, in terms of both use and enabling the existence of a thriving village community. If these were to be lost, they would have an adverse effect on the availability of social and communal space as well as on the sense of community and services enjoyed in the village. Planning provides for an Authority to make the case and apply for such assets which are important to the community to be nominated as an asset of Community value, for a limited period. Such an application would only apply if need arose to protect the asset for the community.

There are currently two such potential assets identified in the village, which under this Plan, the community, through the Parish Council, would wish to be protected, should the need arise. These are:

1. The land and buildings known as The Royal British Legion (66 Club), East Hanney.

The Parish Council resolved to seek advice from the ward District Councillor in this regard in its meeting of May 2020. The British Legion being not only a social club, but also an important place for clubs and societies to meet.

2. The Public house known as the Black Horse. This is the last remaining Public House in the village and therefore a centre for meeting and social enjoyment, which if lost would have a significant adverse effect on the village.

○ **Community Action Policy (4)**

Identification and Nomination of land suitable for use as a burial ground

East Hanney does not have any of its own facilities for burial. The Parish Council has an obligation through its public service responsibilities to provide such a facility for residents. Currently, the Parish looks to St James Church in West Hanney, (East Hanney and West Hanney are in the Ecclesiastical Parish of Hanney). The community survey has helped highlight the number of elder members in the community which is higher than the average within the UK. Also, many residents have been in the village for long periods, indicating that for

many, East Hanney is their place of choice for the long term. The size of the village is also expanding rapidly, the number of homes expected to have nearly doubled from just over 340 as recorded in the census of 2010. The demographics are such, that there is anticipated to be a future need.

It is therefore a community action policy to review land within the village and to make appropriate application for use as a future burial ground, should land appropriate for this use to serve the community be identified.

○ **Community Action Policy (5)**

To consider the issue of parking provision at the village hall/playing fields.

To review whether additional spaces could be provided. This is being undertaken as part of a review of the facilities at the sports fields and be subject to availability of funding. The Parish Council has progressed this and a planning application for additional spaces has been made and is approved.

○ **Community Action Policy (6)**

To continue through the Parish Council to seek to address the issue of speeding traffic and the issue of large and heavy vehicles travelling through the village.

The Parish Council continue to support initiatives to monitor traffic speeds and volumes through the village. Reports are made to appropriate authorities and to seek provision of facilities to reduce speeds. For example, outside of the school, the Parish Council are looking to promote a '20 is plenty!' scheme which is in development with OCC Highways.

○ **Community Action Policy (7)**

To promote cycle routes and footpaths through the village.

The Parish council encourage cycling and healthier lifestyles. They are seeking to develop a green cycle route through the village and to support the principle of a safe cycle route to Grove. Also, they seek to ensure that footpaths within the village are maintained, the majority of footpaths being the responsibility of OCC or respective landowners.