Swinford Neighbourhood Plan

What is a Neighbourhood Plan

- Part of the Government's localism agenda
- Simplification of a remote and complex planning system
- An opportunity for local people to directly shape and influence planning policy on matters that affect them involves drafting planning policies that become part of the decision making process
- The Neighbourhood Plan can’t be used to block all development, but it can include policies to say where new development should take place and what type of housing is needed

Timelines & progress so far

Completed
- Community meeting ✓
- PC agrees to undertake a NP ✓
- NP area designation submitted ✓
- Designation approved by HDC ✓
- Yourlocale appointed as consultants ✓
- Funding bids approved ✓
- Advisory Committee formed ✓
- NP programme agreed ✓
- Questionnaire ✓
- Open Event ✓

In progress
- Theme groups – Start in May 2016
- Draft policies – July/August 2016*
- Further open event – September 2016*
- Pre-submission consultation – Oct/Nov*
- Submit NP to Harb DC - Dec 2016*
- Independent Examination – Feb 2017*
- Referendum – April 2017*
- PLAN MADE! – May 2017*

*Timings approximate

1. Swinford Village Statement

Part 1 Characteristics of Swinford important to you

- Top 3 most important characteristics to you
- Separated from other surrounding villages by fields, countryside
- Open country reaching close to the centre
- Protected open space and paddocks

Part 2 Things you enjoy/love about Swinford

- Local amenities: school, pub, play area, church
- Quiet village
- Rural atmosphere
- "Friendly caring community"
- "Small quiet village"
- "Pub is key"
2. Swinford's Housing

Part 1 What you think about Swinford's current housing?

The majority of residents feel the current housing mix is about right:

- "Needs: more off-street parking, especially for young families and older people."  
- "What we do not need is a large sprawl of densely housed estate of new housing. This will obliterate the character of the village."  
- "Happy for more housing as long as parking and services are sorted too. There isn't access to outside retirement/sheltered rental needs a regular bus service for this."  

3. Swinford's Buildings

Part 1 Where you would prefer to see development in Swinford?

Area 2 was flagged as least suitable of the selection available. Area 3 was deemed suitable.

3. Swinford's Buildings

How many houses should be built in the next 15 years?

How many new homes in the Parish in the next 15 years?

- 2 to 4 homes: 15%
- 5 to 9 homes: 17%
- 10 to 19 homes: 21%
- 20 to 49 homes: 17%
- 50 to 99 homes: 14%
- 100 homes or more: 7%

3. Swinford's Buildings

Part 2 What type of development you would prefer in your village?

Top 3 most important types of developments to you:

- Housing with off street parking
- No desire for one large estate
- Housing with fully adopted utilities (sewers/roads)

3. Swinford's Buildings

Part 3 What type of housing you felt best suits our village?

Top 3 most important types of housing to you:

- No desire to see flats/apartments/masionettes
- No desire to see three storey dwellings
- Housing with gardens

- "Too many cars parked on footpaths"
- "All housing should be in keeping with the style of the village"
- "What the village needs is affordable so that local young people who want to stay and work here can."

4. Swinford Environment

Part 1 Are there any areas within Swinford that need protecting?

As only 11% of residents commented on this question, the group have decided to offer again the opportunity for residents to indicate any area they would like to see protected from development.

On the large map provided please indicate any areas deemed as requiring protection.
5. Swinford Village Facilities

Part 1 The important facilities of your village

Top 3 most important village facilities to you
- Pub
- School
- Playground area

- "Although we value the pub it is important that the pub is an important part of the village."
- "No children but consider school to be a vital part of the community."
- "More recreational space would be a welcome development. E.g. for football or other ball games. Space for children to run around. An area to walk dogs when fields are inaccessible due to livestock."
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- Playground area

Part 2 Amenities you regularly use

Amenities you regularly use
- "Just because you do not use it, does not lessen its importance."

- "My children now 20 and 23 used the school which was excellent."

Top 4 most regularly used village amenities to you
- Pub
- Village Hall
- Playground area
- School

- "We came to Swinford in part because of the school. Kids now grown."

5. Swinford Village Facilities

Part 3 Amenities you would like to see in the Swinford

Amenities you would like to see in the Swinford
- "Residential care home/assisted living desirable if the village has shops etc. and public transport."
- "Post office as part of shop."

Top 2 most important village facilities you would like to see
- Public transport
- Shop

- "Rugby and Lutterworth are close by."
- "Even adult learning changed with more online provision."

6. Education in Swinford

Section 1 How well served educational facilities are in Swinford

A high percentage felt the village was well served with local educational facilities
- "There are plenty of facilities in Rugby and Lutterworth."
- "Rugby and Lutterworth serve Swinford very well."
- "The secondary schools and adult learning facilities in Lutterworth serve Swinford very well."
- "Even adult learning changed with more online provision."

7. Transport in Swinford

Section 1 Key changes you would like to see in transport

Top 3 most important changes desired by the community
- Reduce on street parking
- Reduce speeding
- Bus service

- "The village is becoming choked by on street parking. This will get even worse."
- "On high demand."
- "Parking is the single biggest issue on Chapel St and access to school day."
- "Road maintenance, pot holes and substandard edges. Large potholes on roads turning through village."
- "No off road parking available."
- "Leave space with care for prams etc."

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Section 2 Number of vehicles in Swinford

Section 3 Off road & on road parking
8. Key Concerns To You

Your ranking of key issues

- Dog fouling
- Further Wind farm development
- Inconsiderate parking

Vandalism, and anti social behaviour was not consider a serious concern

Dog fouling is getting ridiculous. I am a dog owner and live on the edge of the village. It's disgusting.

The combination of dog fouling and street lighting can make walking through the village at night a very risky business. It's absolutely disgusting.

9. Swinford Businesses

Section 1 Business in our community

Would you welcome new business?

- Broad band and better phone signal reception
- My home is my registered business address, but there is no traffic / footfall /impact on address
- Faster broadband

There are few businesses in Swinford and little appetite for large scale enterprises.

10. Additional issues to you

Section 10 consistent issues and points raised by residents

- Noise from the motorway can be quite loud. Noise barriers alongside the M1 might improve matters.
- The village needs more facilities for older children/teenagers. i.e. Basketball court, skate ramp, football pitch. A proper village green would also be great.
- We moved here a little over 6 months ago. It was the calmness and quietness that attracted us to the village. For me it is so important to retain this. The size is perfect and I feel a large development would not only impact this but put additional pressure on a fantastic school.

11. Swinford Demographics

Section 1 Resident’s employment status

Section 2 Age groups in Swinford

Section 3 Gender in Swinford

How you can help

- Are you interested in the future of housing development in the Parish?
- Are you concerned about protecting the Countryside from inappropriate development?
- Do you want to safeguard important buildings locally, or protect community assets for future generations?
- Please join us to make the Neighbourhood Plan truly reflective of local need and aspirations.

If so – let us have your contact details and join us for up to 4 meetings and help us to develop meaningful planning policies to shape the future of development within the Parish.

Thank you!