



Bourne Parish Neighbourhood Plan

Supported by Bourne Town Council

Vision and Objectives Summary of Responses



Bourne Parish

Neighbourhood Plan Steering
Group

February 2021

Introduction

1. Public consultation on a draft vision and objectives was undertaken in the autumn of 2020. However, due to the Coronavirus pandemic it was not possible to undertake face-to-face consultation and greater reliance had to be placed on written forms of consultation. A [Vision and Objectives Consultation paper](#) (the consultation paper) was included on the [Bourne Parish Neighbourhood Plan](#) website alongside an online survey.
2. An article was placed in the August 2020 edition of '[Discovering Bourne](#)' magazine to raise awareness of the forthcoming consultation. Discovering Bourne is a monthly magazine delivered free of charge to households in the town and surrounding area. Later that month (28th August) an article in the 'Bourne Local' newspaper (Appendix A) directed people to the consultation documents on the Bourne Parish Neighbourhood Plan (BPNP) website.
3. A four page article was placed in the September 2020 edition of the '[Discovering Bourne](#)' magazine to inform residents of the consultation paper and online survey and to invite comments up until 16th October. The article provided a brief summary of the consultation paper and a link to the BPNP website. Residents without access to the internet were invited to contact the Town Clerk should they wish to receive a hard copy of the consultation paper. Residents not wishing to respond to the consultation paper were invited to complete a set of tick-boxes to indicate how strongly they agreed or disagreed with the draft vision and draft objectives.
4. An article by Bourne Civic Society was published in the Bourne Local on 25th September. Whilst this was essentially to request the public to nominate buildings and structures for consideration as local heritage assets, it also directed readers to the consultation on the BPNP website. A further article in the Bourne Local on 9th October acted as a reminder for people to submit comments. The consultation period was subsequently extended until the end of November 2020 with messages posted on the Bourne Town Council Facebook on 7th and 20th November. Copies of the Bourne Local articles and Facebook messages are included in Appendix A.
5. In total, the Steering Group received 150 responses. A comparison between the age of respondents who stated their age and the 2019 ONS population estimates is set out below. Most notably, the figures suggest that the younger population aged 16-34 were significantly under-represented and that, conversely, the population aged 50-64 was over-represented.

	% of total respondents indicating their age	% of total population aged 16+
Age		
16-19	2.5	5.2
20-34	5.8	19.4
35-49	22.5	23.6
50-64	39.2	23.3
65+	30	28.5
Total	100	100

6. The following provides a summary of the responses received to the questions and to the statements included in the Vision and Objectives Consultation paper.

The Draft Vision for Bourne

1. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the draft vision for the Neighbourhood Plan?

Strong support with over 86% of respondents indicating that they agree or strongly agree with the vision and approximately 4% expressing disagreement.

2. How do you think that the vision could be improved?

A range of suggestions/comments were received including:

Placing greater emphasis on reducing carbon emissions and developing a more sustainable community (e.g. greener transport and pedestrianisation of the town centre)

There needs to be greater explanation of how the area is going to be a safe and healthy environment and how it is to be more resilient to climate change.

We should recognise that the town centre ambience can only be improved by constructing a bypass to reduce through traffic.

We need a plan that addresses the impact of on-line shopping on the high street and researches how the town centre can be well used. Words like 'flourishing town that enhances the wellbeing of all those who come to Bourne' should be included in the vision.

There needs to be better leisure, community and health provision; improved provision for young people, including a better high street offer; greater emphasis on the conservation of green spaces and the introduction of new ones; and more emphasis on meeting the educational needs of all.

There needs to be more focus on heritage and history and recognising the historical elements of the town. There needs to be improved and attractive architecture.

There needs to be better transport links to larger towns and improved cycling infrastructure. The vision should mention improved pedestrian and cycling in the town centre as well as the links to the countryside.

Our natural environment and community wellbeing

3. **Draft objective NE1. To protect our most important green assets whilst improving and increasing the provision of open space and green infrastructure links.**

Very strong support with over 97% of persons responding to this question indicating that they either strongly agree or agree with the objective and no respondents expressing disagreement.

4. **Draft objective NE2. To conserve and enhance biodiversity.**

Very strong support with over 91% of persons responding to this question indicating that they either strongly agree or agree with the objective and only one respondent expressing disagreement.

5. **Draft objective NE3. To support the retention and further provision of community facilities and services in Bourne to meet the needs of the population.**

Very strong support with over 94% of persons responding to this question indicating that they either strongly agree or agree with the objective and only two respondents expressing disagreement.

6. **If you think that any of the above, draft objectives could be improved, please explain how:**

A wide range of comments were received, including the following:

The objectives need to be SMART (specific, measurable, attainable, relevant and time-bound). Health, services and infrastructure should be a separate topic area, especially given the need for objectives to link to the vision.

Objective NE1 – the phrase ‘green infrastructure’ should be more clearly explained. Should we be protecting all green assets rather than limiting it to those which are most important? How will it be decided which are the most important green assets? The word ‘natural’ should be inserted before ‘green assets’.

Objective NE2 – There should be greater explanation of ‘biodiversity’ - what does it entail and why is it important? Some respondents suggested specific ideas to enhance biodiversity e.g. less frequent grass cutting in some areas; involving children in planting trees; and planting in the town centre.

Objective NE3 – There should be greater emphasis on providing facilities for young people and children. Further facilities should provide for the needs of the Parish rather than the wider area. Additional provision of facilities should not be provided to the detriment of green spaces and natural wildlife.

Bourne's unique identity

7. **The Neighbourhood Plan should designate areas as Local Green Space where they are important to the local community.**

Very strong support for this statement with over 98% of respondents wishing to see areas designated as Local Green Space and no respondents expressing disagreement.

8. **To prioritise access by walking, cycling and public transport, cultural and community buildings serving the needs of the town of Bourne should, where possible, be located in the town centre.**
Strong support for this statement with over 80% of respondents wanting to see cultural and community buildings directed to the town centre, where possible. Just over 6% of respondents disagreed with the statement.
9. **Draft objective BUI1. To conserve and, where possible, enhance Bourne's distinctive historic character as a market town.**
Very strong support with over 92% of respondents indicating that they either strongly agree or agree with the objective and one response expressing disagreement.
10. **Draft objective BUI2. To protect and, where possible, enhance key landscape and townscape features and important views.**
Very strong support with over 94% of respondents indicating that they either strongly agree or agree with the objective and nobody expressing disagreement.
11. **If you think that any of the above, draft objectives could be improved, please explain how:**
Objective BUI1 - Comments referred to the need to retain particular buildings; encourage the use of traditional materials; and ensure that town centre developments are sympathetic. One respondent thought that, to achieve the objective, unsympathetic alterations would need to be reversed and doubted that this would be possible.
Objective BUI2 - One respondent thought that 'landscape' and 'townscape' should form two separate objectives. Another suggested that, in the interests of consistency, the word 'protect' should be replaced by 'conserve'. One respondent would like the phrase 'without taming the wilderness of any green spaces' to be included while another thought that the BPNP should raise awareness of the natural areas in the Parish. It was suggested that all plans should have reversing climate change, protecting green corridors and biodiversity as their priorities. Several respondents referred to the need to retain particular features.
12. **Traditional shopfronts should be retained and their restoration should be supported.**
Strong support with over 84% of respondents indicating that they either strongly agree or agree with the statement. Approximately 3% expressed disagreement.
13. **The possibility of reinstating the Ostler Memorial Fountain in the Market Square should be explored.**
A majority of respondents (~55%) think that reinstatement should be explored. Approximately 15% disagree or strongly disagree while the remainder (~30%) neither agree nor disagree.

14. The possibility of improving the visibility of the Red Hall from South Street should be explored.

A majority of respondents (~53%) think that improving the visibility of the Red Hall should be explored. However, 16% either disagree or strongly disagree and the remainder (~30%) neither agree nor disagree.

15. Building/structure (e.g. a bridge) that might be of local architectural or historic interest

While the suggestions included a number of buildings which are either listed (e.g. the Old Grammar School, the former Town Hall, the Chapel of Rest and Eastgate House) or designated as a scheduled monument (Bourne Castle), a number of buildings and structures which are not protected were referred to. These include railway bridge 234 at Elsea Park, Toft Tunnel, South Lodge (38 South St), historic rail-related buildings on Austerby and Mill Drove, the Old Tudor Cinema on North St and the outdoor swimming pool.

16. Bourne Woods, the Bourne-Eau, the Fens and Car Dyke are the key landscape features important to the setting of the settlements within the Neighbourhood Area/Parish.

The majority of respondents (over 95%) agreed that these are the key landscape features. Less than 2% disagreed/strongly disagreed.

17. Other features of key, positive importance within the landscape:

Other features referred to by respondents include Elsea Wood, Elsea Meadows, Elsea Park Spinney, Math Wood, the Wellhead Park and adjoining land, the Kesteven Uplands, the 'big skies' of the Lincolnshire Fens and the Chalybeate Well and surrounding field. Several respondents made reference to particular buildings including shop fronts, the Abbey Church, Baldock Mill, the Old Grammar School, Shippon Barn, Bourne Castle, Eastgate and the former BRM workshops, Wake House and the outdoor swimming pool.

18. Favourite views outside the Conservation Area

Several views were referred to including Stamford Rd looking towards the town centre and surrounding area; looking east from Queens Bridge at Eastgate; looking west from the A15 north of the town towards Cawthorpe and Bourne Woods; and the view of Bourne Abbey Church across the meadows and taking in the Red Hall.

Building a prosperous economy

Employment

19. Draft objective BPE1. To support the provision of employment opportunities in Bourne.

Strong support with over 88% of respondents indicating that they either strongly agree or agree with the objective. Just over 2% expressed any disagreement.

- 20. If you think that the objective could be improved, please explain how:**
A wide range of responses were received, including the following:
- be more specific about the types of employment that would be supported;
 - encourage a more diverse range of opportunities;
 - Improve the infrastructure, notably roads and broadband, to encourage employment;
 - Provide incentives such as low rents and support apprenticeships and other training opportunities;
 - Identify specific sites and encourage the use of existing buildings and sites in the town
 - Encourage office development including 'office hubs' for small businesses, shared office facilities and offices in unoccupied shops with flats above.
- 21. We should encourage more home-working provided that this will not have an adverse impact on local residents.**
A majority of respondents (~68%) agree or strongly agree with the statement. ~6% disagree and the remainder (~26%) neither agree nor disagree.
- 22. We should support opportunities to improve the environment of existing industrial estates.**
Strong support with over 89% of respondents indicating that they either strongly agree or agree with the statement. ~ 1% expressed disagreement.
- 23. The ELS indicates that some demand for small offices is likely. We should encourage such developments particularly in the town centre and on the land allocated for employment at Elsea Park.**
Strong support with 75% of respondents indicating that they either strongly agree or agree with the statement. ~ 9% expressed disagreement.
- 24. We should encourage proposals to provide affordable and adequate workspaces for start-ups and micro businesses.**
Strong support with 86% of respondents indicating that they either strongly agree or agree with the statement. ~ 3% expressed disagreement.
- 25. Proposals which will create 10 or more jobs (i.e. small businesses and larger) should include a travel plan which encourages sustainable travel (e.g. car share, cycling and walking).**
Strong support with ~77% of respondents indicating that they either strongly agree or agree with the statement. ~ 4% expressed disagreement.
- 26. The Local Plan allocates 3 sites for employment (see above). We should consider including site specific principles in the BPNP to guide the development of these sites.**
Strong support with ~80% of respondents indicating that they either strongly agree or agree with the statement. ~ 3% expressed disagreement.
- 27. Are there other actions that we should take to achieve the employment objective? (please specify up to a maximum of 3 actions):**
A wide range of suggestions were made. These included:

Employment uses: diversify the employment base; attract major businesses as well as more local companies; encourage 'green jobs'; boost tourism; encourage working from home; encourage more retail in the town centre

Buildings and sites: improve the energy efficiency of buildings; ensure that buildings are architecturally sympathetic to the heritage of Bourne; use existing buildings and use empty shops to provide 'work from home' office space and develop affordable meeting spaces for home workers and others; build on the land designated for industrial use at Elsea Park; ensure that planning applications for employment areas include space for outdoor activity and services such as benches, nurseries, cafes and gyms.

Infrastructure: improve public transport and cycle/pedestrian links; install electric charging points and secure cycle storage; provide parking, including dedicated parking for employees working in the town centre; ensure that the road network has adequate capacity and pedestrianise the town; provide a bypass; encourage the early rollout of fibre to the premises and the improvement of mobile phone signals;

Other measures: Provide opportunities for young people; ensure local employment information is made available in secondary schools; provide skills training; provide IT support for people who need it; charge affordable rents and lower rates; improve the entrance to Bourne from the south; support SME businesses to access funds and expertise for reducing carbon pollution.

Town Centre

28. Draft objective BPE2. To support uses and proposals that enhance the economic vitality and viability of Bourne town centre.

Very strong support with ~93% of respondents indicating that they either strongly agree or agree with the statement. ~ 3% expressed disagreement.

29. If you think that the objective could be improved, please explain how:

Traffic management: The most frequently referred to issue was the need for a bypass. One respondent commented that whilst this is not currently part of highway planning this should always be the aim with pedestrian safety and priority taking precedence over traffic if footfall is to be increased in the town centre. One respondent suggested that consideration should be given to encouraging some larger vehicles to bypass the town centre by using the Elsea Park bypass and Exeter St route. Other traffic related issues included the need for greater pedestrianisation, wider footpaths, more cycle racks, weight restrictions and ensuring that the footpath from Elsea Park to the town centre is tarmacked throughout. One respondent referred to the need for free parking whilst another would like to see charging for all car parking.

Retail: Comments referred to actively discouraging out of town retail development; greater diversity including clothes shops and more retail to provide for the needs of young people; using empty shops for housing; holding events where the town centre is traffic free for a few hours; expanding the market and introducing a regular farmers'

market; revamping the Burghley Centre; charging affordable rents and providing tax breaks for local traders.

How strongly do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

- 30. The town centre should diversify with a range of uses beyond its traditional retail role (e.g. leisure, entertainment and cultural facilities, services and business uses).**
Strong support with ~78% of respondents indicating that they either strongly agree or agree with the statement. ~ 5% expressed disagreement.
- 31. We should support events, festivals and cultural activities to provide entertainment for all ages.**
Very strong support with ~91% of respondents indicating that they either strongly agree or agree with the statement. ~ 1% expressed disagreement.
- 32. We should seek to distinguish Bourne as a retail centre that is somewhat different to that of higher order centres such as Grantham and Peterborough.**
Strong support with ~85% of respondents indicating that they either strongly agree or agree with the statement. ~ 4% expressed disagreement.
- 33. The retail offer should focus on encouraging more independent retailers providing goods which are not easily available elsewhere.**
Strong support with over 82% of respondents indicating that they either strongly agree or agree with the statement. ~ 6% expressed disagreement.
- 34. Given the close proximity of the town centre to local shops and services, we should support more housing in the town centre/edge of the town centre, including specialist housing for groups such as older people.**
Approximately 43% of respondents agree/strongly agree with the statement while ~22% expressed disagreement/strong disagreement.
- 35. Opportunities to improve the public realm/streetscape should be supported (e.g. tree planting and high quality surfacing materials and street furniture).**
Very strong support with over 90% of respondents expressing agreement/strong agreement with the statement. ~2% disagreed.
- 36. Access for disabled people needs to be improved.**
Strong support for the statement with over 74% of respondents indicating agreement or strong agreement while ~2% disagreed/strongly disagreed.
- 37. We need to reduce the volume of traffic in the town centre.**
Strong support for the statement with over 82% of respondents expressing either strong agreement or agreement while ~ 4% disagreed/strongly disagreed.
- 38. We should encourage greater use of cycles, walking and public transport to access the town centre.**
Very strong support for the statement with over 94% indicating agreement or strong agreement while <2% expressed disagreement/strong disagreement.

39. **Having regard to the convenience that cars provide; the negative impact that they have on our environment; and the need to maintain the vitality and viability of the town centre, do you think that the amount of car parking:**

Approximately 63% of respondents thought that the amount of car parking is about right while ~30% thought that provision should be increased and ~4% would like to see a reduction in the number of spaces.

40. **There are other actions that we should take to achieve the town centre objective (please specify up to a maximum of 3 actions):**

Transport: Plans for a bypass should be encouraged. Greater pedestrianisation is needed and better/wider pavements and pedestrian crossings. Direct northbound traffic along West St and Exeter St.

One respondent suggested that disabled access in Bourne is good. Better cycle routes and cycle parking are needed and walking/cycling should be encouraged. On-street parking should be reduced to enable wider pavements/cycle routes (e.g. North St). Limit free parking. Provide local people with a free parking pass. Introduce competitively priced electric charging points. Improve public transport.

Shops and other buildings: Encourage greater diversity. Support chain stores. Encourage specialist shops such as butchers and delicatessens, shops serving the needs of young people and pavement cafes. Accept that the viability of shops will decline. Support flats above shops and encourage shared living. Develop the land between North St (west) for low mobility residents. Focus on building stronger communities by providing more opportunities to meet including making more use of the Town Hall.

The market: Bring the market back into the street, make more use of the market square and activate road closures on holiday weekends. Introduce special out-door markets.

Other: There should be more tree planting and regular events to encourage people into the town centre. Rents/rates should be reduced for new businesses. Schools should be involved – ask families for their thoughts on what would bring them into the town.

41. **If you are aware of any town centre site that might be suitable for redevelopment, please provide details of the location and ownership, if known.**

The sites most frequently referred to include the former Fenland Farms premises on Abbey Rd and the building acquired by Weatherspoons on North St. Other sites included land opposite the cricket ground on Abbey Rd, the former ATS tyres building, empty shops and banks in the town centre. It was also suggested that the Burghley Centre is not fit for purpose and ought to be replaced by leisure development.

Tourism

42. **To what extent do you agree with draft objective BPE3? (To support the visitor economy whilst protecting the unique culture, environment and heritage of Bourne).**

Strong support for the objective with over 82% of respondents expressing either strong agreement or agreement while ~ 3% disagreed/strongly disagreed.

- 43 If you think that the objective could be improved, please explain how:**
One respondent suggested that the objective should be amended to: 'To promote Bourne and support.....' while another thought that the objective should also be to 'enhance and re-vitalise'. A number of actions to support tourism were made and these are referred to in question 49, below.

How strongly do you agree or disagree with the following?

- 44 A visitor strategy for Bourne is required.**
Strong support for the statement with over 72% of respondents indicating agreement or strong agreement while ~6% disagreed.
- 45 We need more accommodation to attract overnight visitors.**
Strong support for the statement with over 74% of respondents indicating agreement or strong agreement while ~7% disagreed/strongly disagreed.
- 46 A high quality caravan park is required**
Over 47% of respondents either disagreed or strongly disagreed with this statement while ~20% agreed/strongly agreed.
- 47 We should support opportunities to develop the heritage of Bourne (e.g. links to Charles Worth and Raymond Mays).**
Strong support for the statement with over 83% of respondents indicating agreement/strong agreement while ~3% disagreed/strongly disagreed.
- 48 We should develop and publicise footpath routes of varying themes and lengths.**
Very strong support for the statement with almost 90% of respondents indicating strong agreement/agreement. Less than 1% disagreed.
- 49 Other actions are required to support tourism (please specify up to 3):**
Events: Suggestions included historic motor events; live music; an invention day; more food fairs; reinstate the Bourne Cicle event; and encouraging live street musicians; more markets; a bigger Saturday market with a greater variety of stalls; a national rated sport event; a marathon; and rambles.
Accommodation: A quality hotel with a health club; a budget hotel; lodges in the woods; holiday cottages; a camping venue; and a caravan site (though see 46, above).
Facilities: Suggestions included; using Bourne Wood to encourage tourism focused on enhancing healthy lifestyles and sympathetic to the unique ecosystem; hides for bird watching; introducing a cycle path route; hard surface footpaths linking areas of the town; well-lit footpaths with CCTV; developing links to the national cycle routes; and enhance the profile of the market (e.g. signpost its location)
more retail; quality restaurants; café culture; developing the leisure centre; a bandstand on the Wellhead; a cinema/outdoor cinema; fishing lakes; a play activities centre for children a small information centre; and improve the displays at Baldocks Mill.
Environmental improvements: tidy/clean buildings; and regular street-cleaning

Other: There needs to be commitment to a long-term plan for supporting events; someone to promote tourism; local tour guide volunteers; increase awareness/education of local history; more information around the town of footpath routes; advertise events on local radio; and better public transport from large towns.

Housing our community

- 50. Draft objective HOC1: To plan for a minimum of 100 new homes in sustainable locations which are well connected to local services and facilities.**
A majority of respondents (~58%) agree or strongly agree with the objective. ~23% disagree or strongly disagree.
- 51. Draft objective HOC2: To provide for a mix of house types, sizes and tenures which reflect the housing needs of Bourne.**
A majority of respondents (~62%) agree or strongly agree with the objective while ~21% disagree or strongly disagree.
- 52. If you think that either of the above objectives could be improved, please explain how:**
Some respondents were opposed to more housing while others considered there to be a need for particular house types/sizes including starter homes; genuinely affordable housing for local residents; and small dwellings for the elderly. A concern expressed by a number of respondents was the need to improve infrastructure. One respondent suggested that both objectives could be enhanced with 'alongside a commensurate uplift in necessary services and facilities'. A respondent suggested that the focus should be on brownfield sites.
- 53. I would support the inclusion of land for more than the minimum Local Plan requirement of 100 new homes.**
A majority of respondents (~57%) disagree or strongly disagree with the statement while ~22% agree or strongly agree.
- 54. I would support the inclusion of land for more than the minimum Local Plan requirement of 100 new homes if it would result in the provision of facilities for which there is an existing need (e.g. additional sports facilities).**
This statement received a more even response than question 53. ~44% of respondents expressed agreement or strong agreement while ~38% either disagreed or strongly disagreed.
- 55. Given the close proximity of the town centre to local shops and services, we should support specialist housing for different groups, including older people, within the town centres or edge of centre.**
A majority of respondents (~59%) either agreed or strongly agreed with this statement while ~16% either disagreed or strongly disagreed.

56. **Do you or any member of your household have a housing need or expect to have a need within the next 5 years or so?**
Approximately 19% of respondents indicated that they or a member of their household would be likely to have a need in the next 5 years or so.
57. **If 'yes' what type, tenure and size of dwelling will you/they be looking for?**
The responses indicated a need/anticipated need for 2 and 3 bed properties (~75% and ~25%) with people primarily looking for houses (~50%) and bungalows (~32%). More limited demand was expressed for flats, specialist housing for the elderly and self-build housing. A majority of those who indicated a tenure type said that they would be looking for owner occupied housing (~60%) while others expressed a need for social rented (~20%), private rented (~10%) and shared ownership (~10%).
58. **If you are aware of any sites that might be available for housing within the town of Bourne, please provide details of the location and ownership, if known.**
There were 4 responses to this question. Land off Mill Drove was referred to in 2 of these responses.

High quality design

59. **To what extent do you agree with draft objective HQD1? (To encourage walking, cycling and the use of public transport as alternatives to the car).**
Very strong support for the objective with over 92% of respondents expressing either strong agreement or agreement while less than 1% disagreed.
60. **To what extent do you agree with draft objective HQD2? (To minimise the impact of new development on the highway network).**
Strong support for the objective with over 88% of respondents expressing either strong agreement or agreement while ~3% disagreed or strongly disagreed.
61. **To what extent do you agree with draft objective HQD3? (To promote development that contributes positively to its neighbourhood while embracing high quality design and energy efficiency).**
Strong support for the objective with over 83% of respondents expressing either strong agreement or agreement while ~3% disagreed or strongly disagreed.
62. **If you think that any of the objectives could be improved, please explain how:**
A number of respondents suggested a range of measures that could contribute towards the achievement of the objectives. These included the following:
Objective HQD1 - Public transport serving the villages is inadequate. The provision of subsidies should be considered to reduce the cost of bus fares. Footpaths need to be maintained. Access to wide cycle paths would be safer for children to get to school. To improve road safety and health, parents should be discouraged from delivering children direct to school and buses should not pick up/drop off directly at the school.
Objective HQD2 - The highway network needs to be improved. Developers should provide through road access. The A15 southbound is in dire need of upgrading.

Objective HQD3 - Consideration needs to be given to the importance of outside space as some developments are very cramped. Adequate parking and width of roads is essential for any new development. All new build should be environmentally friendly and energy efficient. All new housing should have solar panels. We should assertively encourage electric vehicles.

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

- 63 Secure cycle parking is inadequate; new provision is needed at key locations such as the town centre, parks and leisure facilities.**
Strong support for the statement with over 82% of respondents in strong agreement or agreement and nobody expressing disagreement.
- 64 Adequate provision has been made for parking on new housing developments built in Bourne during the last few years.**
Approximately 12% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed with this statement while ~61% either disagreed or strongly disagreed.
- 65 If more safe and accessible cycle/pedestrian routes connecting residential areas to the town centre, key facilities and the countryside were available, I would be more likely to walk or cycle.**
Strong support for the statement with ~75% of respondents in strong agreement or agreement and ~4% expressing disagreement or strong disagreement.
- 66 My children would be more likely to walk/cycle to school if safer routes were available (please respond only if applicable).**
A majority of respondents (~68%) expressed either agreement or strong agreement with the statement while ~6% disagreed or strongly disagreed.

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

- 67 Unless superseded by national policy, the Plan should set standards of energy efficiency in new homes in excess of those currently stipulated in the Building Regulations.**
Strong support for the statement with ~86% of respondents in strong agreement or agreement and ~2% expressing disagreement or strong disagreement.
- 68 We should set standards of energy efficiency for non-housing developments in excess of those currently stipulated in the Building Regulations.**
Strong support for the statement with ~83% of respondents in strong agreement or agreement and ~1% expressing strong disagreement.
- 69 We should support other sustainable design features to help our community to minimise its carbon footprint and adapt to climate change. (Measures could, for example, include the use of technologies that use renewable energy, tree planting, water retention features, orientation of buildings to optimise solar gain and recycling storage areas).**

Very strong support for the statement with ~94% of respondents in strong agreement or agreement and nobody expressing disagreement.

70 We should support the retrofitting of existing buildings with measures to generate renewable and low carbon energy.

Strong support for the statement with over 80% of respondents in strong agreement or agreement and ~2% expressing disagreement.

71 Do you think that there are any key issues that we have not mentioned in this document? If there are, you can briefly specify up to 3, below:

Climate change and energy efficiency: Develop Bourne as an eco-town with a truly green environment. Work with others to push for a national climate action plan. Does SKDC have a climate change strategy and is the BPNP in line with this? Encourage businesses focused on green energy production. Identify areas suitable for renewable energy in the Local Plan. Improve recycling facilities. The Written Ministerial Statement of 25th March 2015 indicates that it is not appropriate to refer to any additional local technical standards or requirements relating to the construction or performance of new dwellings in neighbourhood plans. Ensure builders use energy and noise reduction plans. Provide electric car charging points.

Transport and parking: Provide better links to schools. New houses must have off-road parking for at least 2 cars. Provide parking to prevent pavement parking. Maintain free parking locations near the centre of town - the pay and display parking near M&S is a terrible idea that drives people away from the town centre. Improve public transport, especially late at night and to major towns.

Other: Increase infrastructure provision (e.g. doctors, dentists, schools, a bypass and provision for activities for all ages). Reduce litter in public spaces. Reduce pollution in the town centre. Provision of the skatepark. Bourne Grammar School should not continue to expand and encourage students from other areas who need to be driven in. Encourage planting, reduce the density of development and improve the character of development.

LOCAL NEWS

Consultation starts on a document to help shape future planning decisions

Have your say on 'town guide'

BY SUZANNE MOON
suzanne.moon@thepublishing.co.uk
Twitter: @thebournelocal

People are invited to comment on a document which could help shape a town's future development.

The 'vision and objectives' document is part of Bourne Parish Neighbourhood Plan, which sets out land use and planning guidance for the town, plus Dyke, Cawthorpe, Twenty and the surrounding countryside.

The plan can protect open spaces, and define where buildings can go, what they can be used for, and what they might look like.

Roy McKinney, a town councillor and chairman of the steering group for the neighbourhood plan, said: "The consultation outlines key issues facing Bourne today, together with a draft

vision and objectives to clarify what the plan should focus on to help address the key issues.

"The purpose of this consultation is to determine if the key issues facing Bourne have been identified correctly or if there are other issues that should be addressed as part of the plan, and if there is a high degree of consensus around the draft vision and objectives or if these need to be amended."

The plan is required to allocate land for a minimum of 100 new homes and a number of sites have been put forward for development. The current consultation provides opportunity for other sites to be identified.

Coun McKinney added: "As explained in the consultation paper, we will consult on the sites once we have determined the objectives of the plan and have assessed each site against those objectives."

The 'vision and objectives' document can be found at www.bourneparishneighbourhoodplan.org.uk together with an online survey and further information. Those without access to a computer can call the town clerk on 01778 426123 for access to a hard copy.

People responding to the survey will be entered into a prize draw to win one of three £50 vouchers and all comments on the document must be received by October 16.

A neighbourhood plan allows a community to set out its vision for its local area. It can provide details on how district-wide planning policies should be applied in a local area, to reflect the aspirations of the community.

Once adopted, a neighbourhood plan must be taken into account during consideration of planning applications.



People are being asked to comment on a document setting out visions and objectives for Bourne

• INVESTMENT PLANNING • RETIREMENT PLANNING • PROTECTION • INHERITANCE TAX PLANNING • MORTGAGES • TAX AND TRUST PLANNING •

YOUR NEWS

Exciting opportunity for all of us to get involved in making nominations for 'Bourne's Unique Identity'

What makes parish special?

WRITTEN BY
ANTHONY JENNINGS

A member of Bourne Civic Society

The Bourne Parish Neighbourhood Plan steering committee has prepared a draft Vision and Objectives statement for Bourne.

Its purpose is to find out what we, the local community, want Bourne to be like in 2035.

By the time this article goes to press, a consultation will be under way, so that everyone can have their say on it.

The online consultation document is on the Neighbourhood Plan website at www.bourneparishneighbourhoodplan.org.uk

In this article I just want to discuss just one aspect of this consultation, and that's the request for people to nominate buildings or structures of local architectural or historic interest.

If we make these nominations, they can be used to create a Local Heritage List, conventionally called a local list.

A local list is a list of buildings or structures that play a part in our lives, those that we particularly cherish and want to preserve for future generations.

This is an exciting opportunity for all of us to get involved and make our nominations, so do please answer question 15 in section 5, 'Bourne's Unique Identity' in the online consultation questionnaire.

We need to understand what buildings qualify for a local list.

In the case of Bourne they can be anywhere in our parish, which includes Cawthorpe, Dyke and Twenty.

However the buildings on a local list cannot be listed buildings, because those already have statutory protection. In Bourne there are more than 70 listed buildings, all of which are described in my book *The Bourne Identity* (for which all sale proceeds go to Bourne Civic Society).

But those are the only specific exceptions to a local list. You can nominate unlisted buildings anywhere in the parish, including those in the conservation area.

Bourne has a conservation area which covers most of the centre of town and, as well as listed buildings, contains 'positives' and 'negatives'.

You can see these on SKDC's conservation area maps on their website.

The positives are the buildings that are considered to enhance the area by the contribution they make to the streetscape.

You could nominate a positive in the conservation area for the local list.

You can also nominate structures, eg bridges or monuments.

To be on a local list, a building or structure has to comply with the Historic England guidelines.

Have a look at these on the internet at Historic England Advice Note 7, at <https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/local-heritage-listing-advice-note-7/> and in particular page 9.

You will see that the basic criteria are age, rarity, aesthetic interest (including good examples of local vernacular), what is called 'group value', historical association, landmark status and social and communal value.

It's all quite easy to understand and frankly more or less common sense, but the Historic England guidance is very helpful.

When we use the term 'local vernacular', we refer to the style of the ordinary houses typically developed by local builders over the ages, particularly from the 17th to the early 19th centuries.

Good examples of these are quite rare and may qualify for the local list.

An excellent reference book for these buildings is *Lincolnshire Houses* by David Roberts, edited and published by Shaun Tyas in 2018.

It's a good read for anyone who likes buildings, and although I'm not at all biased of course, it must be good because my house is on the cover.

Many local authorities already have their own local list, but South Kesteven as yet does not, so it may well be that if the council is happy with a local list chosen by us, the public, for the purposes of the Neighbourhood Plan, it will adopt it as its own local list as well.

You may ask what legal protection a building on the local list has for planning purposes. The answer is that, while it doesn't have the protection of a listed building, under the NPPF a locally listed building is a material consideration in a planning decision for any development that might affect it. So it's true to say there is a definite planning benefit in having a local list.

While a candidate for the local list can't just be any building or structure you happen to like, that's always a



The Pyramid Club in West Street - a candidate for the Local List?



The End hairdressers shop - a quirky little building

good start. You could draw up a list of what you like by having a walkabout (subject of course to current regulations), which is always fun anyway, and then narrow your list down with the help of the guidelines.

As a general hint, houses built after 1840 are less likely to qualify. Victorian or later houses were built in much greater numbers because of the exploding population, and also vernacular building skills were being lost by then.

However they could still qualify if they are architecturally exceptional or associated with a famous or historic name.

Any inappropriate alterations to a building, like bad replacement doors and

windows, also make it more difficult to get on a local list.

But don't regard this as a chore.

Have fun thinking about it and making your list.

I'm sure we all have a favourite building in Bourne or a building we'd be very sad if it were to disappear, so I do hope as many of you as possible will contribute your ideas.

Bourne Civic Society has a role in this project because we will be acting as an independent assessor of all nominations received by the Neighbourhood Plan group in the online consultation.

So, as I say, do please send in your nominations to the online consultation.

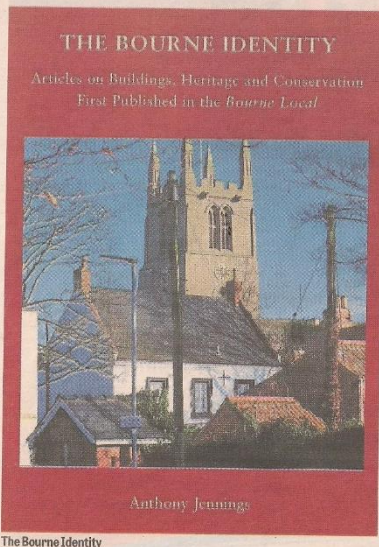
My own choices?

One would be 63 West Street, the Pyramid Club.

It's an intriguing Georgian building with some interesting bits and ends and a wonderfully pompous Victorian facade stuck on the front. Some time ago I suggested to SKDC that it should be listed but I was told too many alterations had been made, like the unfortunate replacement windows.

I still think it's good enough for listing at Grade II but I will certainly nominate it for the local list.

Another of my candidates is the quirky little building not far down the road from the Pyramid Club on the other side in front of the Baptist Church, currently a hairdressing salon.



The Bourne Identity

Bourne Local article of 25th September 2020.

LOCAL NEWS

Company sees sales of its luxury hampers rocket over the past year and through lockdown

Business is unhampered

BY STEVE CHESWELL
 steve.cheswell@bournelocal.co.uk
 Twitter: @stevechewell

A Bourne business that creates luxury hampers has enjoyed its most successful year yet selling more than 100,000 hampers to customers worldwide.

It seems the coronavirus lockdown sparked huge interest in the gourmet delights and fine wines found within Hay Hampers.

The success certainly caught the attention of international company Moguntia Food Group, which has now bought the business for an undisclosed sum.

Company directors Gabriele Da Re and Elisabetta Och said their accomplishments were down to fantastic staff and keeping the community at the heart of their work.

Gabriele said: "For a family-run business such as Hay Hampers, it's all about people. It's our people who have made the biggest difference even in the most challenging times during lockdown."

To all our colleagues at Hay Hampers goes our deepest appreciation and thanks for their hard work and the goals achieved in the last years together. With great people, you have great business."

He added: "We are delighted to be able to announce this deal with the international firm Moguntia Food Group which we believe creates the next phase in Hay Hampers positive trajectory as it will open new business opportunities and markets."

Founded in 1984, Hay Hampers was taken over by the family-owned Italian company Dure & Dure Limited in 2014. Since then, it has made a name for itself in the upmarket gift industry.



Gabriele Da Re, of Hay Hampers, and Paul Veates, of CEO of the UK division of Moguntia Food Group

Criminal damage witness appeal

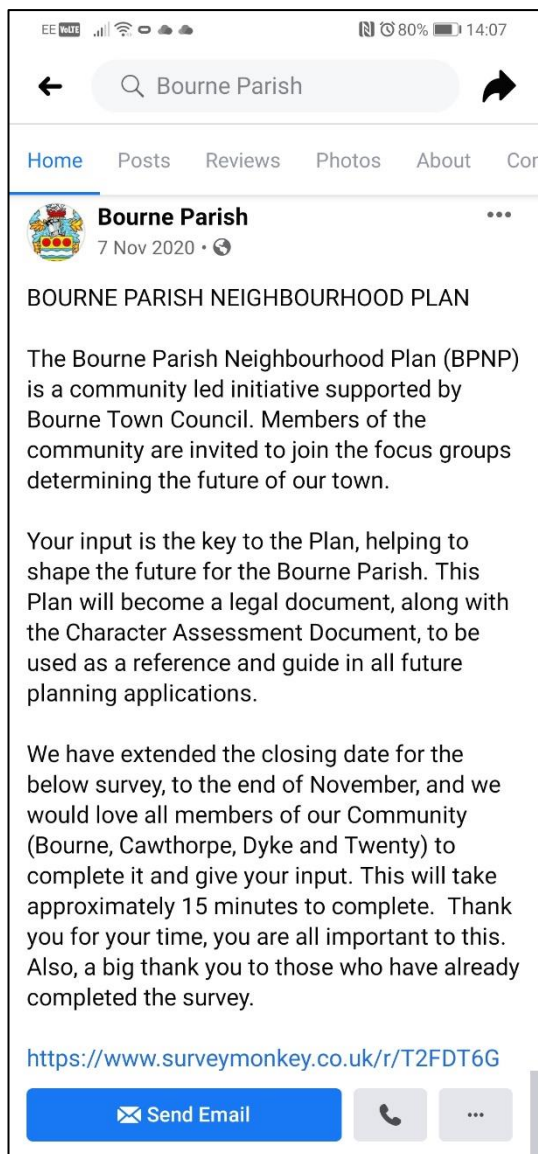
Police are looking for witnesses after a vehicle had its tyres slashed.

The incident happened between 11am and midday on Sunday (October 4) in Vine Court, Billingborough.

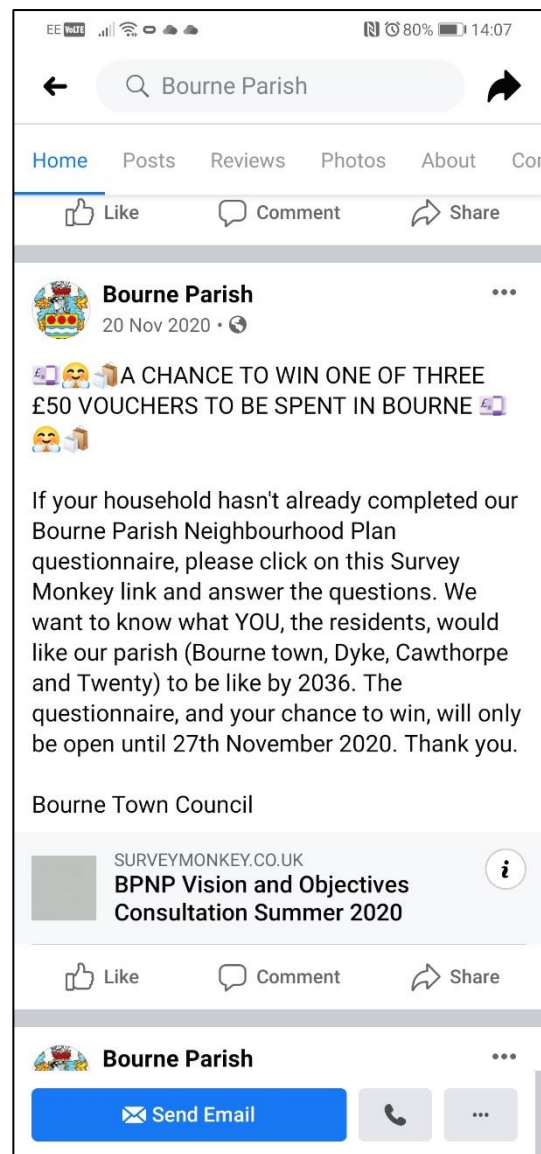
Anyone with information about the criminal damage should email force-control@lincs.pnn.police.uk quoting crime number 20000521933.

Last chance for questionnaire

Residents in the parish of Bourne, which includes Cawthorpe, Dyke and Twenty, have until Friday next week to fill in a questionnaire relating to the Bourne Neighbourhood Plan. This will help influencing development to 2036 and help to protect open spaces and influence what new buildings look like. Visit: www.bourneparishneighbourhoodplan.org.uk.



Bourne Town Council 7th November 2020



Bourne Town Council 20th November 2020.

