

# 1. WELCOME



The Parish Council has decided to prepare a Neighbourhood Plan for the village so that the village influence where any new development goes over the next 20 years.

Here's your chance to find out about Neighbourhood Plans and how you might help with Elmsett's Plan.

## What is a Neighbourhood Plan?

It is a new kind of planning document designed to allow local people to play an active part in planning their area. It can guide the development and conservation of the village.

It can, for example, also identify proposals for:

- Improving areas;
- Providing new facilities;
- Sites for new development;
- Protecting sites of environmental or historic quality;

When complete, it will form part of the statutory development plan for the area, meaning Babergh District Council and Planning Inspectors will have to take note of what it says when considering development proposals.

## Why we're doing it

Our village is coming under increasing pressure for new development. Babergh have just decided to approve 41 new homes off Hadleigh Road and it's likely that more homes will be needed over the next 20 years.

Preparing our own neighbourhood plan gives us the opportunity to shape the future by deciding how and where the village will grow and what is needed to support that growth.

## YOUR VILLAGE

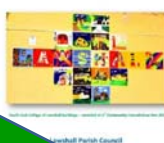


NEEDS YOU

EAST BERGHOLT  
neighbourhood plan  
2015-2030



LAWSHALL NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN  
2016-2036  
Referendum Plan  
Autumn 2027



Strumpshaw Parish Council  
Neighbourhood Plan



Adopted version  
July 2014

Neighbourhood Plans have been produced for:  
East Bergholt  
Lavenham  
Lawshall  
Hadleigh  
Hartest  
Glensford  
Great Waldingfield  
Little Waldingfield  
Long Melford

## YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD YOUR PLAN



# 2. BACKGROUND



## What a Neighbourhood Plan can and cannot do

A Neighbourhood Plan can...

- Decide where and what type of development should happen in the parish
- Promote more development than is set out in the Local Plan.
- Include policies, for example regarding design standards, that take precedence over existing policies in the Local Plan for the parish – provided the Neighbourhood Plan policies do not conflict with the strategic policies in the Local Plan.

A Neighbourhood Plan cannot...

- Conflict with the strategic policies in the Babergh Local Plan.
- Be used to prevent development that is included in the Local Plan.



## Who prepares the Plan?

The Plan will be prepared by a Working Group that consists of Parish Councillors and volunteers from the village.

We have secured the support of Town Planning Consultants who have considerable experience in the preparation of local and neighbourhood plans.

If you would like to get involved then please let us know. We'll need people to distribute questionnaires, gather information and analyse surveys.



# 3. THE PROCESS



## *How it's prepared*

There are a number of stages that have to be completed, as illustrated. Some of these stages are governed by the regulations for preparing neighbourhood plans and so there is no short cut. The Plan will be prepared by the Steering Group advised by specialists when necessary. We encourage YOU to get involved too, either with the Steering Group or at the various consultation stages like today.

**At the end of the day, it's YOU that will decide whether the Plan should be approved.**

Community Involvement is a major part of the process and it must be approved in a local referendum before it can be used.





# 4. PLANNING RULES



This board provides details of the current and emerging planning policies that our Neighbourhood Plan will have to conform with.

## National Planning Policy Framework

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) came into force in 2012 with the aim of making the planning system less complex and more accessible, to protect the environment and to promote sustainable growth.

It encourages local people to “shape their surroundings, with succinct local and neighbourhood plans setting out a positive vision for the future of the area”

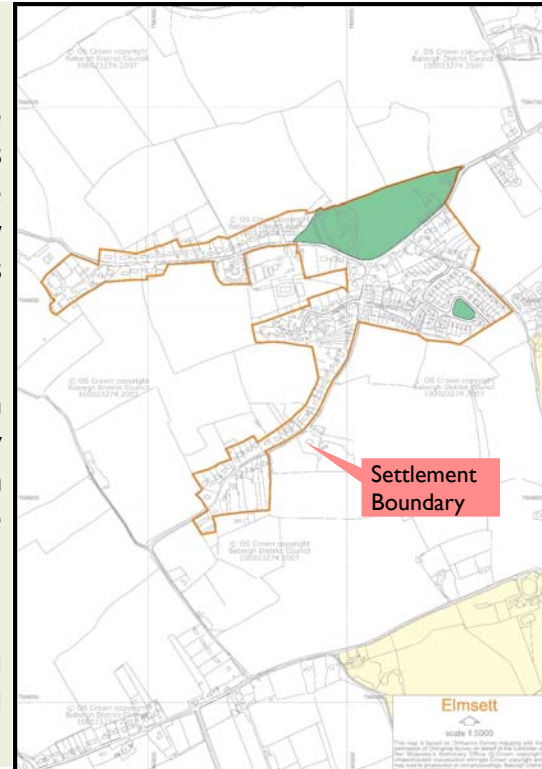
Neighbourhood plans should not promote less development than set out in the Local Plan or undermine its strategic policies. Outside these strategic elements, neighbourhood plans will be able to shape and direct sustainable development in their area.

## Babergh Current Local Plan

The current Local Plan Core Strategy designates Elmsett as a “Hinterland Village” where only a limited amount of new housing that serves local needs is expected to be built.

The Local Plan identifies a Settlement Boundary (illustrated right) within which new homes will normally be allowed to be built.

But the Plan also allows housing to be built outside but adjoining the Settlement Boundary.

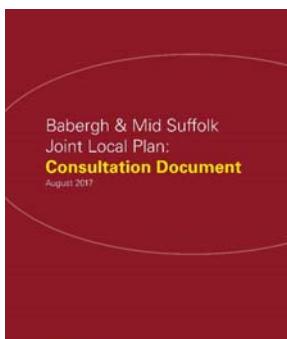


## New Local Plan

Babergh are just starting work on a new joint Local Plan with Mid Suffolk that will guide where development goes up to 2036. They’ve just finished consulting on preliminary matters .

The initial consultation document proposes that Elmsett would be designated as a Core Village, taking higher levels of growth than Hinterland Villages. The Parish Council has contested this proposed designation.

The new Local Plan will take about 2 years to complete.



# 5. HOUSING

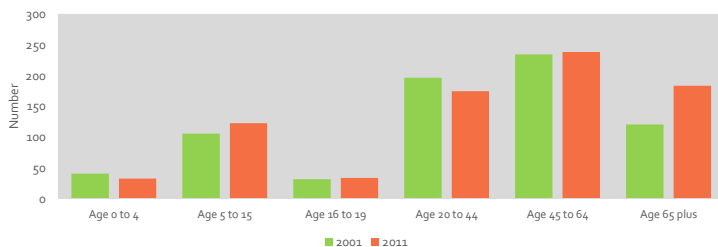


We think that the Neighbourhood Plan should focus on identifying where new homes will be built between now and 2036.

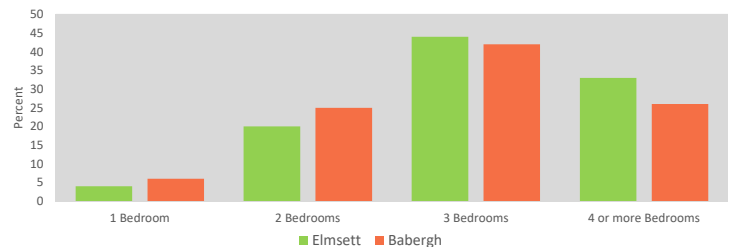
There is an expectation that we must build new homes to meet the needs of the local area. The population continues to grow because of people moving into the area and due to the fact that people are living longer.

- Between 2001 and 2017 there were 43 new homes built in the village.
- This represents a 14% increase over that time.
- By comparison, the number of homes across Babergh grew by 12% in the same period.
- If the rate of growth over the last 15 years continues we'd need to plan for 51 new homes by 2036.
- The recent consultation on the emerging Local Plan would suggest that, whichever category of settlement Elmsett would fit in (Core Village or Hinterland Village), there would be a minimum need for a further 37 new homes by 2036.

Elmsett Population  
2001 and 2011 Comparison



House sizes  
(2011 Census)



Use red or green dots to indicate if we do or don't need these

But we do need to consider what type of housing we need for the village

- Do we need more small homes (1-2 bedrooms)?
- Do we need more family homes (3 -4 bedrooms)?
- Do we need more large homes (5 bedrooms)



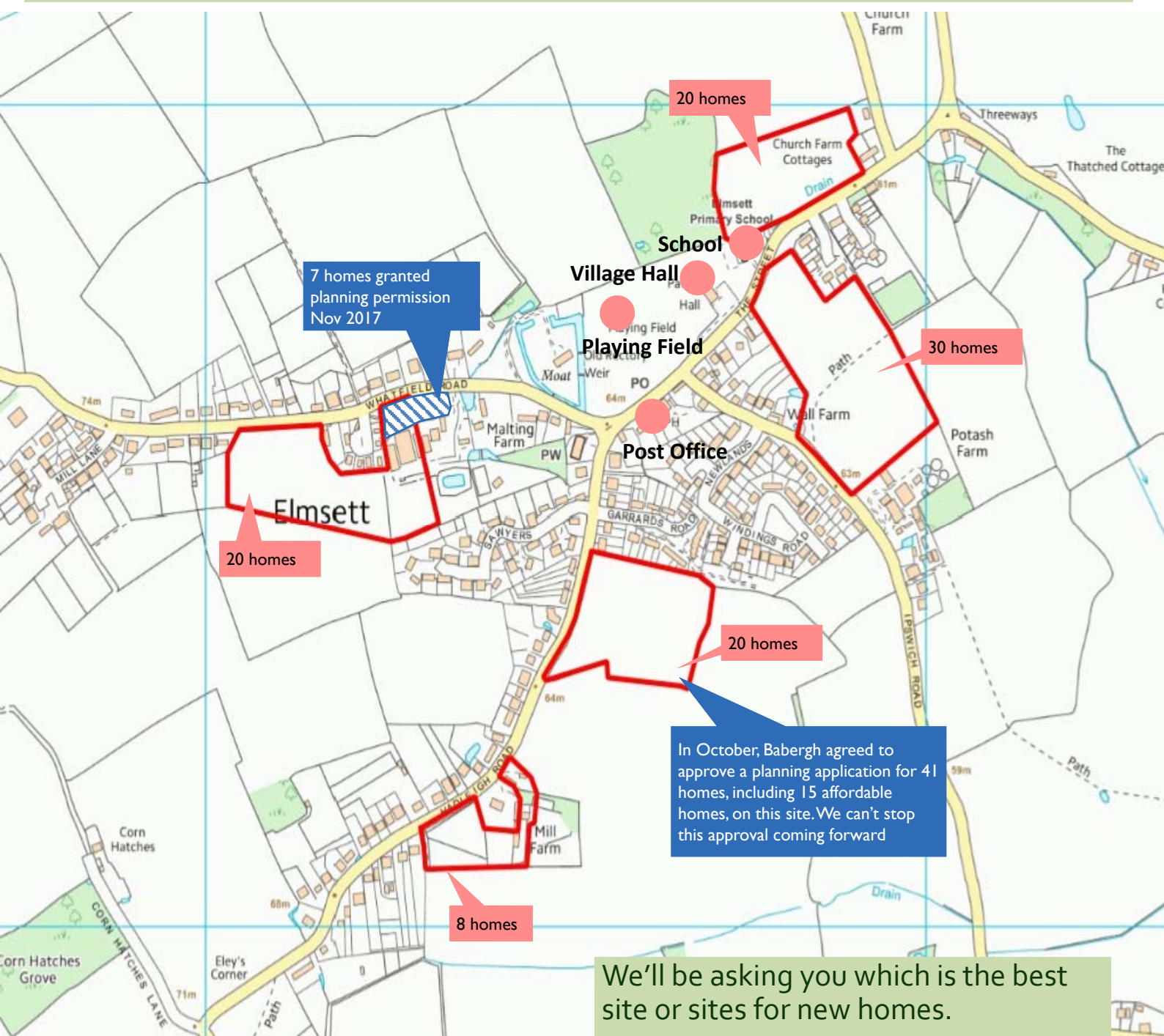


# 6. HOUSING SITES



The recent Babergh Local Plan consultation draft identified a number of sites that they considered might be suitable for housing. The map identifies where they are and the number of homes Babergh suggest might be built on each site.

But we won't need to have all of them to meet our needs.



# 7. SITE SELECTION



Currently, Babergh Planning Policy takes into account the following matters when considering sites for new homes in the village

The housing should:

- i) be well designed and appropriate in size / scale, layout and character to its setting and to the village;
- ii) be adjacent or well related to the existing pattern of development for that settlement;
- iii) meet a proven local need, such as affordable housing or targeted market housing identified in an adopted community local plan / neighbourhood plan;
- iv) support local services and/or creates or expands employment opportunities; and
- v) not compromise the delivery of permitted or identified schemes in adopted community / village local plans within the same functional cluster.

We will consider these criteria when considering the location of any further new homes that might be identified in the Neighbourhood Plan

What other matters should we consider when thinking about sites for homes?

Use post-it notes  
to add comments



# 8. LIKES & DISLIKES



To help us prepare the Neighbourhood Plan we would like you to tell us what you like most about the village and what you'd like to see improved.

**MOST CHERISH**

Use post-it notes  
& coloured dots

**LIKE TO SEE IMPROVED**





# 9. WHAT NEXT



Over the coming months the Steering Group will be focusing on a number of projects to provide the evidence to support the Plan

## Questionnaires

You'll soon be receiving a detailed questionnaire which will help us to get up to date information and views about the residents of the villages and your needs.

## Statistical Data

We're gathering information about the parish, its residents and the environment.

All of this will help inform what we should include in the Plan.

## Site Assessments

As mentioned on the previous board, we're going to see which potential sites are best for development and when that work is done, we'll consult you before choosing any sites.



**Can you help?**

**If you want to get involved, even if it's only for a specific piece of work, then please let us know**

Keep up to date – visit the Neighbourhood Plan pages on the Parish Council website

<http://elmsett.onesuffolk.net/neighbourhood-plan/>

**YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD  
YOUR PLAN**