

Comments transcribed from the
Stretton Grandison Group Parish
Neighbourhood Development Plan Questionnaire

[] brackets show editorial clarification

[Qnn] refers to a questionnaire where an amended boundary has
been drawn on a map

Andy Towers
31/10/2018

Q1: Do you agree with the Draft Vision?

“Affordable to who? Everything is affordable to someone.”

“Every house is affordable to someone but I think more first-time houses should be built.”

“Village infrastructure limited, so may need enhanced infrastructure.”

“Affordable housing should be in keeping with houses currently in the area.”

“I believe housing should be provided near the employment so the % increase in local housing should correspond to a local increase in jobs, which there doesn’t appear to be.”

“New house design to include energy efficient designs & adaptations eg Tesla roof tiles. New house designs to be forward thinking & in keeping with rural looks & feel, Placement of new houses to cause minimum impact on existing infrastructure.”

“Encourage cottage industry and/or non-intrusive enterprises adjacent but not in settlements.”

“A definition of affordable housing would have been useful here.”

“The vision should include affordable housing, but should not be limited to it. The plan should seek to maintain a mix of housing types.

[Largely illegible comments supporting Affordable housing & energy efficiency levels to passivhouse levels for new build.”

“Would like housing to be built sustainably – eco housing.”

“Truly affordable housing and energy efficiency/self sufficiency are most important.”

“More emphasis on renting”

“Vision & Objectives should be to enhance rural environment & character; support affordable housing; and support sustainable development & energy efficiency.”

“Affordable housing is very important; it would be good to have some shared-ownership or rentable housing – smallish units of good quality & energy efficient.”

“I’m pleased that energy efficiency is included.”

“Affordable housing to be made available to local (long-term local) residents, not incomers.”

“The 3 items within the draft vision are OK but feel you may wish to consider adding the following: @To provide a location which supports small scale local businesses; to support farming that provides local employment.”

“There are 3 issues here & only one answer!”

“B & C contradict A inevitably”

“”The rural environment of the Group Parish would be adversely affected by the provision of ‘affordable’ (i.e. taxpayer subsidised) housing. There is no employment locally and recipients of housing subsidy are best served if their houses are in or close to centres of employment such as Hereford.

Energy ‘efficiency’ is often promoted as a unique selling point for bogus building alterations such as solar panels, badly executed cavity wall insulation and replacement windows, none of which ever repay householders in terms of energy saving. The parish must not be a party to such scams.”

Q2: Do you agree with the Draft Objectives for Housing?

“In broad terms YES, but Lower Eggleton essentially unsuitable for further development.”

“If it is for first time buyers only! £350,000 houses are no use! If this is the case, we will only get retired townies to moving in wanting to change anything in the village.”

“Provided that a) no large group is planned; b) houses are in harmony with the area.”

“Careful consideration to location of sites for housing should be given to ensure views of rolling countryside are not disrupted.”

“Could include more than 18 properties.”

“Is 14% a big enough growth factor , allowing for all variables? Who is involved in the decision making process regarding sites & site assessment? Will the council actually heed AND act upon requests regarding road safety aspects impacted upon bu increase of homes/traffic in the area?”

“Encourage the conversion of redundant buildings into homes particularly starter homes.”

“HO2 is important. However, the identification of sites in other settlements should be encouraged, where they are proportionate.”

“Not sure L Eggleton is as suitable as Fromes Hill.”

“I agree with objectives HO2 & HO3. From the information provided, I thought the parishes had to provide (as a minimum) 14% (18 dwellings) by 2031. Hence the scale of the housing growth has already been identified. Any more than this minimum then I do not believe the parishes would have the necessary infrastructure to cope.”

“What does this mean really?”

“There should be **NO** housing growth across the identified settlements. Any such growth would not only serve to damage the rural environment and character of the Parish but would put extra traffic on the roads as the occupants of any new local housing would inevitably have to commute elsewhere by car to go to work.”

Q3: Do you agree with the Draft Environmental Objectives?

“No farmers, no food, no future!”

“This is a very high cancer incidence area due to pesticide and herbicide agricultural spraying. **MUST BE CONTROLLED!**”

“Again – consideration to ensure rolling countryside views are not disrupted should be given.”

“No poly tunnels”

“[Objectives] 1 & 2 are down to the farmers farming the land.”

“With priority consideration to the farmer/landowner as a provider of employment.”

“England’s green and pleasant land should not become ‘England’s green, yellow(rapeseed) and plastic poly tunnel land!! Ie England’s green, yellow and plastic unpleasant land. Care to be taken this doesn’t happen.”

“There are already too many poly tunnels in surrounding areas. No more permanent poly tunnels should be permitted.”

“Particularly agree with ENO4. Herefordshire is becoming the poly tunnel capital of the UK.”

“Sensitive investment in sustainable agriculture should be encouraged. The local landscape and much local employment depends on agriculture.”

“Also the park landscape at Canon Frome Court, including the avenue of oak trees.”

“Particularly good to keep large chicken factories out of sight!”

“Watch out for ENO2 ‘Views’: Rows of large electricity pylons, solar farms & similar may be **VITAL** to preserve & protect our & the wider environment from the devastation of climate change in decades to come and **MUST BE SUPPORTED OVER ALL OTHER CONSIDERATIONS**”

“I wish to add: protect and enhance remainder of avenue of trees along drive to Canon Frome Court. ENO1.b?”

“Protect ancient/old tree avenues, e.g. at Canon Frome Court, across Homend Park.”

“Protect veteran trees & replant if part of an avenue.”

“Objectives ENO3 & ENO4 slightly contradict each other in that further development of poly tunnel structures can only potentially increase flood risk. I would have thought to encourage agricultural growth but ‘limit’ poly tunnel expansion.”

“We are very much against poly tunnels & plastic on the land.”

“Stronger planning laws for agricultural buildings & structures.”

“Poly tunnels are creeping across the landscape. How does this protect and promote wildlife? Soon we will all be enveloped in plastic.!”

“Homend Park would be best protected and conserved by reversion of the C class road which runs through the Park to become a gated road. This road is inappropriately used by fast and very heavy agricultural vehicles which damage the surface and its verges and by very fast and recklessly driven motor cars as a Newtown Cross by-pass. Reversion to gated road status would inconvenience only one dwelling and would force high speed cars and heavy vehicles back onto the A4103 and the A417 where they belong.”

Q4: Do you agree with the Draft Objectives for the Economy?

“ECO3 – Impractical”

“We keep being told about Broadband. We can’t even get a connection and have been told we never would as we are too far away from the Trumpet.”

“Re ECO1 – Redundant farm buildings could also be converted into homes.”

“The roads are in hell of a state with no signs of being repaired!

“ECO3 – Nil/limited wind turbine approval”

“Allow small retail outlets if sensitively developed eg farm shop or cafe

“Greater public transport”

“It would also be useful for redundant agricultural buildings to be considered for residential or holiday use.”

“Broadband connectivity and enhanced signal on mobiles is essential for local business growth.

“ECO1: Council to be forward thinking & visionary, looking at examples in other countries & not be bound or guided by our own past way. Just because things have ‘always been done this way’ does not mean they should always be done this way in the future. Allow creativity & individualism to show up. With forward thinking & planning we can be a leader in the world making use of innovative designs!”

“To encourage the development of existing small businesses.”

“Improvement in broadband infrastructure is most important.”

“Home working and small businesses could be key contributors to the future economic sustainability of the Herefordshire villages. Good local broadband would help.

“Transport is very important – buses have a very limited service; agree with renewable energy schemes.”

“It would be great to encourage more public transport, to enable more people to not have to drive to work, whether in our parish or out of it.”

“Yes, work/live units”

“ECO2: I’m assuming means PUBLIC support. ECO3: Renewable energy _ LOCALLY sourced & genuinely renewable, e.g. wood.”

“ECO3 the most important.”

“Better broadband is absolutely essential – its been promised for years and not happened. The bus service could be slightly re-routed to enable better access [to Canon Frome].”

“I do not agree with increased use of wood-burning heat schemes; PV yes.”

“ECO1 will only create short term employment. What about other economic development e.g. agriculture or other businesses? ECO2: public or private transport?”

“All this will do is make roads busier and landscape less green.”

“‘Local employment opportunities’ is a euphemism for unsustainable low wage, low skilled jobs. Employment needs to grow in towns and cities where higher wages are more realistically achieved, in technically and scientifically based enterprises.

There is no chance whatsoever of Herefordshire Council finding funds to subsidise any increase in bus services. ‘Local infrastructure’ in this case can only mean use of personal transport such as cars and motorcycles and to suggest otherwise is to ignore reality.

‘Renewable Energy Schemes’ is a euphemism for taxpayer and consumer-subsidised wind turbines and solar panel fields that despoil the rural environment and hit hardest the pockets of the poorest people. The Parish must not be a party to scams whose only true effect is to enrich salesmen and foreign investors.

It is complete nonsense to suggest that community heating schemes might be introduced into such a scattered community.”

Q5: Do you agree with the Settlement Boundaries marked on the maps?

“The maps are too small to read properly. Surely there is enough fast traffic on this road without adding any more onto it. Surely Upper Eggleton would have been better.”

“Wonder why some housing has settlement boundaries drawn in and others not, eg Lower Eggleton & Canon Frome maps.”

“Area hatched on Stretton Grandison map should not be included in that settlement area.”
[Louise, this is site 6]

“No development on [Site 6] at Stretton Grandison.”

[Comment refers to site 6] “Development in this field would impact on several properties including our own. It would block our only view and impact on surface water run off.”

“All settlements should be included.”

“Stretton Grandison, as bottom of garden floods regularly when heavy rain.”

“I agree to all boundaries, however, for Stretton Grandison if new housing is to be introduced, this will increase traffic turning on/off A417. As such, enforcement of the 30mph limit should be considered....a speed camera?”

“Stretton Grandison: The ‘green’ site east of Townsend is too large an area (the only open site marked on all the plans) encouraging a large development in proportion to the existing village. There are no social facilities such as shops, pubs, buses etc and not even pavements”

“Stretton Grandison: I would not consider that the field between Townsend and Brinsop is within the settlement boundary.”

“We presume that new build does not include change of use from redundant agricultural buildings to residential.”

“Not sure”

“There are obvious small plots of farm land along the road at Lower Eggleton that can be utilised better rather than cramming more houses into people’s back gardens.”

“Boundaries seem limited to garden infill sites for the majority, rather limiting the nature of provision.”

“Upper Eggleton should not be exempt from the process. I feel this has been done as a sole person dominates ownership in this area.”

“Why are we just limiting ourselves to certain areas? Why is Upper Eggleton excluded? Is that fair?”

“No access to any likely new build”

“See circle on Canon Frome map. There is no access without going into a ‘green area’.

“Do not know the area well enough”

“Fromes Hill settlement boundary too small”

“Infill development in Lower Eggleton would appear appropriate as would it be in Stretton Grandison.”

“Not sure why the Court has such a big space for building as they are not a housing association. The maps are not v. detailed and don’t even show th whole of the paris, (eg Canon Frome).”

“The settlement boundary for Canon Frome could be improved by including properties near Canon Frome Court and the existing cartilage of Rochester House (as marked on the map).” [Q43]

“I would like some of our land at Vicarage Cottage to be included in the area for potential settlement (affordable housing) see on map” [Q42]

“I understood from your earlier discussion document that for all four of the settlements you were looking at the possibility of slightly looser boundaries but these boundaries have all been drawn very tightly allowing minimal further development. We would like to include our site for potential suitable modest development. See map.” [Q41}

“I understood from your earlier discussion document that for all four of the settlements you were looking at the possibility of slightly looser boundaries but these boundaries have all been drawn very tightly allowing minimal further development. We would like to include our site for potential suitable modest development. See map.” [Q40]

“On the Canon Frome map we would be interested in a small plot (as shown) being developed for affordable housing,” [Q39]

“The objective is to provide infill, therefore I think that more areas along the road would be suitable at Lower Eggleton and in Canon Frome. I also think the area around Canon Frome Court could be extended. I have drawn this on the map.” [Q35]

“There are potential infill sites around Canon Frome Court, If the church of St James is ever de-commissioned it would make sense to develop it as a residential space.”

“Include utility area next to farm buildings (tractor shed)” [Canon Frome Court]

“Regarding Canon Frome Court, there may be space for a few infill sites.”

“Regarding Canon Frome, there may be space for infill sites.”

“The settlement boundary at Canon Frome rightly excludes Dove Cottage & Mill Cottage sites, (significant flooding at Mill Cottage a few years back, Dove also at risk) BUT includes the 'swimming pool' area at Canon Frome Court & the lower part of the stable block at equal risk of flooding, so UNSUITABLE. Other areas at Canon Frome Court might have appropriate potential. Overall I am struggling to find areas within your boundaries not already excluded by owner-occupation.”

“Why has the large green area south of the road been included in S Grandison settlement boundary?”

“Have suggested alternative boundary [map Q11]: Canon Frome Court might want to leave its options open to possibly develop one or two low-impact housing units potentially anywhere on CFC land.”

[Q11] also queried the tight settlement boundaries drawn round Fromes Hill and Lower Eggleton when these are preferred villages for expansion.

“Canon Frome Court boundary needs enlarging – see map.”[Q19]

“Difficult to answer this question as unknown who drew up settlement boundaries and what criteria were used to select these areas. Why were other areas not considered? Why include areas in Stretton Grandison and Castle Frome when the Core Strategy identified growth in the other two areas?”

“We might as well turn the rural landscape into towns – not happy at all.”

“Lower Eggleton & Fromes Hill: The settlement boundaries imply that new housing might be built within the existing cartilages of the properties. Such development would result in overcrowding and would destroy the scales of development that have evolved naturally. Increased vehicular traffic from new dwellings entering the A4103 where reckless driving abounds would present an unacceptable road safety hazard.

Stretton Grandison: The settlement boundary nearly coincides with that of the conservation area which would be overwhelmed by any new housing. New traffic flow resulting from housing development would present a further road safety hazard, the A417 being a road on which all classes of vehicle are driven recklessly, at speeds far in excess of the statutory limit.”

Q6: Should the Site Allocation process include sites in all the above settlements or only some?

“To distribute new build equally”

“(Fromes Hill) Already well developed village. Has amenities eg shops. Church, pub, garage (repairs) café. Has 40mph speed limit & pavements on A4103.”

“Sites in Lower Eggleton and Fromes Hill seem most suitable, being on the main road.”

“Fromes Hill & Lower Eggleton are suitably situated for ease of access/provision of services.”

“Keep new housing close to existing”

“Feel this is fair and would rather houses dotted around than in one section.”

“Its fair that there should be the potential for even distribution of housing.”

“Canon Frome small housing estate has thrived providing housing for families.”

“Not Stretton Grandison as no infrastructure to support more housing – no shop, pub, village hall & dangerous bends on main road”

“Canon Frome small housing estate is thriving for families but they are too dear for first time buyers.”

“To ensure that all potential sites are considered on an equitable basis”

“Every site should consider expansion & Upper Eggleton should be included.”

“As Stretton Grandison does have a tendency to flood in some areas and the other area is a main local housing road.”

“To avoid all housing in one place”

“Stretton Grandison has unique historical value.”

“No worthwhile facilities available without travelling some distance.”

“Facilities very limited”

“All should be considered, including Eggleton”

“proposed areas appear acceptable.”

“The group parish can easily accommodate more properties without impacting house values and infrastructure.”

“Many landowners may consider this option following the Brexit vote and loss of EU funding for farming and should be given the option to do so.”

All areas should be taken into account.”

“Yes for all of them”

“What will be the case if there are no landowners willing to offer their property for development? What is the plan then?”

“Main road access is good at Lower Eggleton & Fromes Hill, and is in line with Herefordshire Plan. Limited safe access at Stretton Grandison.”

“Use the total Group Parish area for development so that the new homes are spread out.”

“Development to be spread fairly”

“[Development should] be shared proportionately.”

“I wouldn’t presume to know sufficient detail to comment on all sites. I could just say ‘anywhere but mine’, NIMBYism, but I’m not!”

“In order to minimise the impact upon all residents in all areas.”

“Access to transport and local facilities that are not available in Canon Frome or Stretton G.”

“[Fromes Hill] close to main road.”

“Each of the settlements includes opportunities for proportionate development of brownfield sites and redundant structures. There is no obvious reason to discount these at the outset.”

“There is potential for development in line with the size of the settlement.”

“All settlements should be included but any development should be sensitive to its current site.”

“A few houses on each site would mean no over big developments nor lots more traffic in one area.”

“We have done this consultation to come up with these areas.”

“There is suitable space and I would like for there to be growth in this area.”

“Ah – it will be good that developments are spread over parish, want to avoid one big development”

“Better if homes are spread out.”

“Sites should be allocated in all settlements for fairness.”

“I would prefer the developments to be spread and be higher than 18 units.”

“Spread any potential development across parish.”

“This is part of the core strategy as identified by Herefordshire Council. The other areas do not have the necessary infrastructure to support any further development.”

“Lack of public transport makes Fromes Hill & canon Frome development less sustainable.”

“Already planning at Wheatsheaf Inn [Fromes Hill] for 21/23 houses.”

“None of the sites are suitable for further housing development.”

Q7: Please identify, in order of preference, settlements where development would be acceptable.

“Who is going to pay for all these houses?”

“Hamlet of Lower Eggleton (not village) is totally unsuitable. The section of the A4103 is one of the few places where vehicles can overtake safely (60mph) so difficult to leave and enter properties. Cannot walk safely to garage/shop one mile away as no pavement and even no grass verge on dangerous bridge corner. No amenities. “

“We feel this is not possible to answer – we only know our [immediate] area.”

“No number5 [choice] as Upper Eggleton excluded”

“We need homes that are small and affordable for first time buyers.”

“All sites should be considered on an equal footing so I see no advantage to creating a system of preference which can only open the door to nimbyism.”

“ I don’t know.”

“While I have respected comments regarding no development in Eggleton, I feel this should be reconsidered to allow 1-2 houses to ensure a fair distribution.”

“No preference”

“Wherever possible, a village should be kept, created developed & no ‘estates’.”

“Recommend no new development at Upper Eggleton. No new development on River Frome flood plain which covers most of Canon Frome and Castle Frome parishes.”

“Lower Eggleton is a small settlement on a major road with no pedestrian pavements. Development here should only be considered if suitable road safety provisions are included.”

“Subject to accessibility, prioritise site with mains power & drainage, where environmental concerns do not actively nudge potential elsewhere & where access costs will be easy & therefore building costs reasonable. Priority for where housing can be located to capture sun etc re passive construction.”

“None of the settlements are settlements where development would be acceptable.”

Q8: If additional homes are to be built in your village, how many in total should be permitted by 2031?

“No change”

“No more than 10”

“With no amenities within the village it would be hard to justify a laege additional housing stock unless a shop was included in the plan – as per the development of the Cadbury Schweppes site in Colwall.”

“Depends on land availability”

“Suitable site in S. Grandison for 6 or so”

“No more than 8”

“Stretton Grandison has potential areas for 3-4 houses, so slightly more than 2, but 10 would be far too many!”

“Though Upper Eggleton is not included, we would not object to 1 or 2 sensitively built houses.”

“Enough for housing local workers”

“No social housing”

“No large scale housing sites”

“Houses to be built in keeping with current ‘spread’ & spacing of properties.”

“The total should not be on one site but scattered across the community with consideration of existing houses.”

“It really depends where buildings will be; this is difficult to answer without more information.”

“Unless the lane is upgraded or restricted or improved any more traffic would be a problem, especially over the old canal bridge.”

“18 dwellings/5 areas = 3.5 on average in each area.”

“3-4 houses maximum”

“This [max 10 houses] would be subject to the identification of suitable sites that would be consistent with the character of the village.”

“I think no more than 10 houses and these should be affordable.”

“Ambiguous! Would be happy with 2 and perhaps a few more.”

“To be built in a style to be within keeping of the village and surroundings.”

“3 to 5 houses on each site, that would be less obtrusive.”

“I think the additional houses should be spread over most of the settlements.”

“The 18 dwellings should not be in one settlement.”

“Canon Frome has undergone two radical expansions in the last few years. Further development would endanger the rural character of the village.”

“I would be happy to agree to up to 10 dwellings – so long as sensitively sited.”

“Probably no more than 5 in reality.”

“I’d like the option for Canon Frome Court to build up to 3 new units and would be open to a few more being built elsewhere in ‘the village’.”

“Between two and ten but ten probably too many.”

“If development has to be promoted and forced upon the parishes then the development plan should only allow small scale developments so that it does not spoil the environment.”

Q9: When land is allocated for housing, what are your views on the size of each housing development that should be allowed?

“We live in a beautiful part of the country. Why would we want an estate?”

“Each house should have an appropriate amount of land around it befitting countryside living.”

“That would depend on the site available.”

“Stretton Grandison is a village and cannot take a development of any size without impacting views and village feel.”

“No cheap housing estates please!!”

“Ideally individual plots”

“Estates ruin villages; see Whitbourne & Alfrick for evidence of this.”

“A single large estate may have a disproportionate impact on the settlement it is in. It would not be necessary to accept this as long as the call for sites brings forward a range of suitable and proportionate locations.”

“Comfortable with individual plots, (within reason) and garden infill.”

“All better than a large estate”

“Allow smaller developments but less than 4 houses.”

Q10: When land is allocated for housing, what are your views on the style of housing development that should be allowed?

“And also includes a high level of energy conservation”

“Parking 2 spaces for each dwelling & further parking for visitors. No garages”

“Must have off street parking. Modern = Properly modern of architectural interest/cutting edge particularly if environmentally strong (Paris Halls).”

“A variety of styles & architecture sympathetic to the area. Not several houses of the same design & size.”

“A mix of housing types and uses would be consistent with the characters of the villages.”

“Energy conservation, eg passive/ low impact house & affordability most important.”

“I agree to flats as a type of affordable housing but not to a massive tower block,”

“A mix is good – not too constrained.”

“Whatever type of housing is chosen energy efficiency should be the main priority.”

“Access to community allotments/orchard if small gardens”

“Style of housing should be sensitive to the specific site. Affordability is important.”

“Affordability is more of an issue for me and style/design should reflect this.”

“Houses should be passive house standard or at least as energy efficient as is possible.”

“High level of energy conservation most important.”

“I particularly would favour designs that fit with local building styles.”

“Homes with high level of energy conservation very important to me.”

“Also affordable”

“Depends on the location of the dwelling and needs of the community.”

“We should adopt ‘One Planet Living’ policy to maximise sustainability.”

“Would prefer houses to be built to passivhouse standards – i.e. require little or no heating.

“To encourage growth in the parishes and maintain families in the parishes then affordable housing should be the priority.”

Q11: When additional houses are to be built, which size or type should they be?

“If you decide on larger than 2 bedroom properties no local youngsters are going to be able to buy them. All we will end up with are people coming out of the towns complaining about tractors, working late or no street lights.”

“Supported and retirement[housing] should not be lumped together.”

“? = would the people requiring these types of accommodation be drawn to an area with no facilities?”

“I would prefer additional housing to help young people locally to get work and accommodation.”

“A mix of the above types will be required”

“Must be able to register business at home address”

“Provide housing required by local community, not dormitory style housing for people working in Hereford, Worcester, Birmingham etc.”

“Adapted/easy access does not mean restricting to single storey. A family home with 1 disabled member could have a 2 or 3 storey home with ground floor adaptation.”

“Local people should have priority.”

“A variety of styles, designs, architecture, size & on varying sizes of plots, to suit a variety of financial ability to purchase or rent.”

“What is local? Is Ledbury local?”

“Do not know the facts & figures for what is needed.”

“A mixture of housing types and uses would be consistent with the characters of the villages.”

Affordable housing should be a priority.”

“I would rather not encourage the building of expensive homes for people who work a long way away & commute long distances.”

“Affordable housing allowing local people to stay in the area”

“I wouldn’t like to see any executive homes. I don’t want low income people/families to be left out.”

“Affordable housing should be the priority.”

“Sustainably built & high level of conservation most important.”

“ Happy with most. Affordable should have option for cashing in & profiting thereby, given the financial climate. NO RENTAL. Retirement/easy access needs not useful in poorly resourced area.”

“Very important that all of the above have a high level of energy conservation.”

“All potentially acceptable depending on location & needs of community.”

“New development should support ‘One Planet Living’ to ensure sustainable development objectives.”

“Please make accommodation for local young people born & bred in the area and older people (farmers) needing to downsize.”

“Would prefer affordable housing for locals.”

“And possibly bungalows”

What does this [local] mean? Passports at the ready then?!”

“The term ‘local people with local connections’ is meaningless. Is it supposed to mean people who can trace their ancestry exclusively from the British race, or people related to existing inhabitants, or people who are employees of Herefordshire Council, or people whose parents and grandparents were born within a mile of the Parish, or excluding Jews, Arabs and Negroes, or what? The Parish should not be a party to anything resembling ethnic cleansing.”

Q12: Do you wish to make any other comments about housing?

“No”

“It is a pity that currently there is no provision for members of the family to purchase or rent houses near to where they were brought up.”

“A priority would be to keep the rural tranquillity and style of housing, so that the feel of the areas isn’t overwhelmed.”

“Affordable houses for first time buyers that do not want to live in a large town or city.”

“More easy access properties needed for people with poor mobility/ increasing ageing population”

“There are plenty of areas in towns; keep out of the country.”

“No social housing”

“No social housing”

“No social housing”

“Celebrate, through architecture & design, that which is unique & special to Herefordshire, its residents & history.”

“Do not forget the impact of extra traffic created by new homes if they are located along our poorly maintained country lanes.

“The rural nature of the roads requires dwellings to have off-street parking for at least 2 cars due to the poor public transport.”

“Affordability & energy efficiency are extremely important to me.”

“Building a sense of community is important; housing should provide a connection in many ways & not exclude those on lower incomes. All new housing should be affordable for those on low incomes and have the best practicable energy efficiency levels.”

“Mixed suitable to site & area. Consideration given to creating/supporting community”

“Need to be made from sustainable building products with high level of conservation features.”

“Affordable”

“I prefer small scale development, sensitive to local community and environment.”

“New development should support ‘One Planet Living’ to ensure sustainable development objectives.”

“I am particularly in favour of environmentally sensitive construction.”

“I would like there to be more affordable and low-energy housing. I wouldn’t want to impose too many restrictions at this stage. I think each proposal should be considered on its particular merits.”

“Measures to discourage second homes should be encouraged.”

“The rural landscape doesn’t need to be spoilt by more housing.”

Q13: Should the Plan include a policy for development in the wider countryside or leave it to the Herefordshire Core Strategy?

“We need to have a policy so we can have a say in local rural industries.”

“Opinions are likely to be strong regarding this, therefore local consultation is required.”

“This was the most awful written and difficult to understand document.”

“Always sympathetic to the countryside, nature, skyline & lay of the land.”

“Don’t trust Herefordshire to consider our views fairly.”

“Not enough knowledge to make a decision.”

“Don’t really agree with such workers being given priority & affordable housing; other employees provide important services to the local community, not just those listed above. Charcoal burning!!! Much prefer housing to go to district nurse or even postman; charcoal burning – Joke!”

“Affordable housing for agricultural workers is important, where this is in short supply as agriculture is at the heart of the distinctive landscape and character of the Group Parish.”

“I think it is good to have an explicit policy on this to assist local workers in gaining housing.”

“Make clear support for local workers”

“There should be no development in the open countryside.

“Any development in wider countryside must support ‘One Planet Living’, otherwise it is unlikely to be sustainable development.”

“Work premises & housing for people making a living in the countryside is very important.”

“Yes to people working the local rural industries.”

“Let’s not make this more complicated than it needs to be!”

“Suggest a policy is wise, or else it will be dictated to by the authorities that could change its policy at any time.”

“No more growth”

“The policy for development in the wider countryside should be that there is **no** development in the wider countryside. There is and is never likely to be any employment that requires housing close to work places. Agricultural employment is likely to decline as mechanisation progresses and although there is one location where small scale forestry takes place this does not require there to be housing nearby.”

Q14: Which of the following are important to you? [in protecting the landscape]

“All farms are on some sort of conservation scheme.”

“Views and nature are key to this area, while buildings should be sympathetic to area. Listing of historic buildings is not important.

“The management of listed buildings needs to be done hand in hand with modern living. People should be allowed to upgrade listed building keeping key features.”

“Historic/listed buildings must not be preserved in aspic at the expense of modern living.”

“Not more than 2 storeys high & sympathetic to the lay of the land.”

“Poly tunnels to be strictly controlled. We do not want to look like Spain.”

“Previous planning permissions in this area are evidence that views and vistas cannot be protected.

“Existing protections are strong. The rural nature of the Parish and its environment should be protected, but such protection should be reasonable and sensitive.”

“With the proviso that measures that enhance minimising impact of climate change on our & others environments MUST override all else.”

“Protecting the environment e.g. ancient trees & avenues of trees is most important.”

“Less factory farming, more measures to encourage & re-introduce wildlife, less intense farming.”

Q15 did not ask for comments

Q16: Which important local landscape features should be protected and why?

“Whoever has designed this form has too much time on their hands. I have now decided I don’t want to carry on with it”

“Homend Park, Stretton Church and the majority of the fields and farms to protect the unique nature of the area. Too many new houses would make our villages into urban areas, thereby creating extra traffic; also lighting up the night sky and alienating our much loved wildlife.”

“Mature woodland, Green Lanes and old meadows are all important for preservation of fauna and flora. “

“Homend Park; farm land in front of Stretton church “

“All of them.”

“The parkland.”

“Homend Park”

“Homend Park”

“Homend Park: Its an example of the Herefordshire School of Gardening, has wonderful trees and is a beautiful parkland.”

“Homend Park, because of its importance to the school of Picturesque Gardening, early 19c”

“Homend Parkland; Views & Vistas; Churches & their immediate surrounding areas.”

“Homend Park: of local historical significance; this area should be protected from development.”

“The Park; St Lawrences Church & churchyard; Laurel Square.”

“Homend; St Lawrence’s & Churchyard”

“Homend; St Lawrence’s & churchyard”

“Views to and around Stretton Grandison Church. Views over the valley from existing properties.”

“Homend Park for its historical value. The open fields and vistas for wildlife.”

“S.G. church but perhaps convert to make home(s)”

“All the countryside”

“Pleas preserve the woodland and waterways!”

“Street lights not required; if you live in this area, you accept and expect dark skies.”

“All trees around Canon Frome Court are declining and natural features [are] needed to maintain beauty & diversity.”

“Dark skies are desirable but the night sky is no longer dark in Canon Frome!”

“Tourism brings money to the parishes”

“The monument on top of Gains Hill (Castle-Canon Frome) is hidden by trees but years ago was a prominent local feature. Please get it re-instated.”

Q17: Which areas of Local Green Space should be protected from development?

“Homend Park: mature trees, exercise, dog walking, recreation”

“Homend Park: Recreation, Historic, especially trees”

“ Homend Park: this is important for conserving flora and fauna already flourishing. It is an ancient estate with lovely walks. St Katherine’s Well is a well known feature.”

“Homend Park “

“All farm land is a wildlife habitat ie hedges and trees and their food source.”

“Homend Park.”

“All of them.”

“The parkland between upper Eggleton and Lower Eggleton.”

“Homend Park.”

“I do not know of any others.”

“Homend Park”

“Homend Park”

“Homend Park: Area of outstanding natural beauty, historic planting & vistas, local historic interest, valuable access, wildlife preservation, recreation.”

“Homend Park is of local historical significance both in original design/layout & in local farming history.”

“Homend Park should be protected.”

“Homend Park should be protected.”

“Homend Park – including restricting the traffic that goes across the Park. It is used as a rat run.”

“Homend Park – historic significance & fine example of parkland associated with historic house”

“Homend Park – historic significance & fine example of parkland associated with historic house”

“The land around St Lawrence’s church to ensure the continued tranquillity.”

“Homend Park; the Canal Line. [These] areas of natural beauty/views which are relaxing, historic and tranquil. These areas allow wildlife to breed and act as flood plains.”

“Homend Park; naturally beautiful & a conservation area, important for wildlife & nature”

“Homend Park, the Canal Line, the woods around and walk ways. Because I think there are too many houses about and if we keep building there will be no land space left.”

“Lovely old trees in 18/19 century landscape; keep build elsewhere [than Homend Park]”

“Many mature & newly planted trees; good for exercise” [Homend Park]

“Woods and fields surrounding our villages so that people do not feel hemmed in.”

“Homend Park is quintessential English countryside which should be considered as the centre and hub of the village.”

“South of the unclassified road leading from the A417 to Homend Park, as any buildings on that field would totally spoil the view of the Church when approaching the village from the south.” [Site 11]

“Social Aspect; Dog walkers etc; Mountains; unspoilt countryside”

“Keeps farming in area and adds to beauty.”

“There is nothing obvious within the marked settlement boundaries. Everything else is farmland.”

“Surely Homend Park is privately owned land? It should remain grazing rather than be opened up for dog walkers & non local residents.”

“[Homend Park] is key for the local community of Upper Eggleton for exercise and recreation. It should be accessible to all and not at the will of local farmers.”

“Homend Park is dying. More trees must be planted to replace the ones that have gone (now).”

“Green spaces are important to the area so no mass building sites are about.”

“A good example of Parkland in a sea of agriculture.”

“Even in the countryside, undeveloped green (that is ,unfarmed) areas are important. I have also heard that there is a Roman villa under the wood. It is a lovely place to wander & just breathe! Glebe pond should be better maintained.”

“For wild life conservation and to keep a clear view of the church; particularly to conserve the bird population”

“Damage to the visual beauty of the environment is less important than less visible degradation such as pollution & farming practices that adversely affect the soil and wildlife.”

“Homend Park must **NOT** become a designated Local Green Space. Busybodies such as mebers of Steering Groups are apt to believe that unless they actually take some positive action they are not doing their job. If Homend Park becomes in some way ‘designated’ then what will follow will be expensively-provided and visually intrusive car parks, information boards, waymark signs and sculptures, all of which would destroy what is the essence of the Park, an unspoiled area. The attractiveness of the Park lies in its complete lack of any man-made artefacts and it must not be urbanised in the way that councils seem to pursue. The best way to preserve the Park is to do nothing new.”

Q18: Please describe any local built features which are distinctive in this area.

“Half-timbered and brick houses”

“Wood frame buildings; stone buildings “

“Red brick, welsh black slate, oak timber frame buildings “

“There are none.”

“Church.”

“Houses are brick built with wooden features.”

“N/A”

“Black & White cottages; small Victorian brick-built villas”

“Wood frame, red brick, slate, thatch.”

“St Lawrence’s Church”

“St Lawrence’s”

“St Lawrence’s”

“Black & White timbered houses; converted barns”

“Traditional red brick; slate roof; thatched roof”

“Don’t be afraid of modern C.F. – Grand designs”

“All building should be sympathetic to the conservation area at the centre of the village.”

“Oak framed and local brick and stone could be used in a contemporary style rather than just as a pastiche.”

“There are many sympathetic innovative designs which do not involve trad red brick & slate roofs, which have far more aesthetic appeal than red brick!”

“Brian Wilder says the estate houses (such as Homend Lodge) were built out of a catalogue. Perhaps we should use that as a template.”

“The area would not be enhanced by extensive new build employing standard modern styles.”

“New development should be in keeping with traditional local styles.”

“I would like to see some flexibility & innovation in approaches to design. Red brick & slate could be restrictive in terms of energy efficiency & affordability. A good architect can design in sympathy with the landscape & local design – but not be ruled by it; i.e. I would be very happy with wooden clad buildings.”

“It is desirable to build low cost housing using, for example, modular systems with innovative rather than traditional materials. However, I do feel that materials and design need to be sensitive to the environment.”

“Please NOT more like Canon Frome hamlet – modern, anonymous Barrets look-alike!”

Q19: What should be included in a policy to guide the re-use of existing disused farm buildings for employment uses?

“Small scale”

“Suggest investigate current usage in the locality, (Leighton Court, Hoppocket units and independent businesses working from home) before forcing workshops etc. Also suggest residential use, thereby negating the need for new build.”

“There aren’t any left in Stretton or Eggleton .”

“Any disused building should be included.”

“This already happens on the estate.”

“No idea”

“Access to main road – visibility & safety at junctions.”

“Due care over increased noise & traffic”

“No noise or pollution; Off – road parking; Safe access”

“Nothing toxic, ie Polluting businesses”

“Sensitivity to local landscape regarding the environment, dark skies, local vistas etc”

“Sensitivity to local landscape regarding the environment, dark skies, local vistas etc”

“Small offices possibly in partner to larger businesses in local towns. Rural craft workshops for self employed”

“Sympathetic conversions for local businesses”

“Only maintain those which have architectural value.”

“Re-use of buildings should take into consideration whether activities are noisy and whether employment is 24 hourly.”

“Risk assess impact of traffic”

“Rural buildings can be used as offices without negative impact.”

“Occasional residential use and holiday use bringing both families and recreational use to the area.”

“Very sensitive”

“A rural friendly timber business, for example, results in large delivery lorries, constant customer traffic whilst a car business (specialist mechanic) sees very little traffic in & out daily. A yoga studio with no dedicated parking sees blocked gateways and restricted access for agricultural (pre-existing) business & residents.”

“If buildings are too derelict & run down they should be taken down, or kept tidy. The Netherlands has very few run-down or derelict buildings in the rural areas. Ideas can be sought from them re policies.”

“Small workshops if the demand is there; otherwise housing.”

“The re-use of the building should not be a nuisance to other residents.”

“Insufficient information/knowledge to comment”

“Better broadband required to make this a success.”

“Self contained e.g. off road parking”

“Employment patterns are changing, with a greater emphasis on home-working. Good local broadband would help this.”

“Such use should be environmentally sensitive and not have a significant impact on the traffic levels on the small roads.”

“Individual shops, holiday flats etc to try and encourage tourists and bring money into the countryside.”

“NOT intensive farming or damaging industries (environmental protection).”

“Not intensive farming inc pig or chicken facilities.”

“I’m not certain this applies to our parish but would support creation of local jobs.”

“Disused farm buildings should be available to use for light industry, craft or housing.”

“NOT executive homes.”

“I think this should be on a case by case basis. It might be more appropriate to do new build, depending on the economic activity, e.g. if someone wanted to start a particular business I think they shouldn’t be constrained by the availability of old farm buildings.”

“To do it sensitively to the local environment.”

“Difficult to answer. Suggest a consultant should be employed to help draw up this policy.”

“Should be no policy”

“If such buildings are re-used then they must be disguised as much as possible by planting of trees and bushes and prohibition of large and colourful signage. No use should be allowed that produces sound above current ambient levels.”

Q20: What should be included in a policy to guide new agricultural development of large farm buildings?

“To ensure that trees are planted to disguise the buildings; to also choose the colours of the buildings and their roofs to make them blend into the countryside, especially the view from Fromes Hill.”

“Not new houses as people don’t understand that farming isn’t a 9-5 job. For any farm to survive they will have to grow and maybe also specialise i.e. poultry house.”

“Tree screens to be used ”

“New buildings should be built near to existing farm buildings.”

“Not in Stretton Grandison”

“Use of non-intrusive colours, low structures to blend in with contours of land.”

“Access, suitability of site, sympathetic choice of materials”

“Sensitivity with regard to a) usage (eg no large chicken farming units), b) noise, c)smell, d) traffic & parking. I am in favour of craft workshops, (e.g. wood & metal craft).”

“Effect on local vistas; fit in with local landscape”

“No more plastic”

“No more poly tunnels”

“No more poly tunnels”

“They should be sympathetic to the environment and use materials that weather to blend with the landscape.”

“Sensitivity to the local landscape regarding the environment, dark skies, local vistas etc”

“New buildings to house ‘necessary’ machinery but they need to match existing builds”

“I am not in support of further industrialisation of farming.”

“Landscape new features”

“No plastic poly tunnels!”

“Keep them low and blending with their surroundings.”

“Factory farming would be unsuitable for this ancient village.”

“Low lying buildings”

“Rolling views should be considered at all times. Buildings should be low in height.”

“Must be in proportion to existing buildings”

“Should be in proportion to existing buildings”

“Large farm buildings take away from look and feel of area.

“Modern agricultural buildings by their very nature are incongruous but essential.”

“Use reclaimed bricks/timber; employ local workers”

“No opinion”

“Agricultural business needs better a grain store & dryer or cattle housing than a wind turbine or solar panel field site.”

“This should only be considered where local road infrastructure allows for lorry access on an unrestricted basis.”

“No mega-dairies”

“It would be nice if they were brick-built, (fat chance!). Should be subdued colours to fit in the landscape.”

“To be built out of sight of settlement”

“Its not the large farm buildings that are causing aesthetic concerns, it’s the poly tunnels.”

“Investment in agriculture should be encouraged where it is not detrimental to the amenity value of the area. The landscape is defined by local agriculture and the Group Parish is heavily dependant on successful farming businesses within it.”

“Water run-off; no more poultry houses.”

“Each case should be considered individually.”

“Farm buildings shouldn’t be allowed to compromise neighbours, ie noise, smell, visual impact.”

“Not impinging on neighbouring properties with visuals, noise”

“Old redundant buildings should always be developed first, any new buildings should be located within existing farm complexes.”

“A very loaded question. We need productive, energy- and resource- efficient farming. Sustainable farming does not need to be ‘industrial’ at all. [Illegible further comment].”

“Prefer not to encourage large farm buildings.”

“Biodiversity from sensitive design & location. Also adopt good practice design to minimise wider impacts, e.g. nitrogen deposition from dairy/poultry units.”

“Planning permission should be refused for massive poly tunnels and battery farm buildings.”

“Only if essential to support local farmers and businesses; no corporates or multinationals.”

“Difficult to answer. Suggest a consultant should be employed to help draw up this policy.”

“Should be no policy”

Q21 did not invite comment

Q22: If so what sort of [community] energy schemes would be appropriate here?

“A water mill would be a true Green Energy scheme! Solar panels are also good on large farm buildings.”

“On roofs of new buildings in a sympathetic manner.”

“Local conditions would not be suitable for water or wind power but with the local preponderance of forestry and livestock farming, biomass energy would be worth serious consideration.”

“Don’t know; not expert in this”

“Not one”

“Renewables must be included in future developments and listed status must allow for renewables.”

“Biomass for individual properties and business/agricultural premises should be encouraged. Wind power is an over hyped waste of money, ugly/inefficient.”

“No wind turbines”

“Allow, encourage & support innovative ideas & plans,”

“Solar farms would be as acceptable as large areas of white plastic sheet.”

“Large scale installations must be out of view from settlements.”

“To be encouraged.”

“Probably too small scale to be viable enough to cover capital costs, maintenance and distribution.”

“But it [community energy scheme] can’t be a condition on which to build as they would be individual dwellings, so not part of a community.”

“Embedded renewable energy schemes of a suitable scale to use local resources and meet local energy needs should be encouraged.”

“Apart from the odd property boundary on the River Frome there is little opportunity to use water power.”

“I think all houses developed should be completely energy self-sufficient.”

“The community at Canon Frome Court have a very successful Biomass heating system & 40 kW array of solar panels; happy to help with this in other villages.”

“Possibly solar if purposely per household.”

“Not sure if wind is appropriate here as there is not enough of it!”

“Sustainable energy is very important to me.”

“Area not suitable for wind power as low wind speeds: have examined screw water generation: Biomass only if genuinely local & sustainable (NO IMPORTED CANADIAN WOOD CHIPS!!) and use manure for agriculture as first choice.

“Very important to support renewable energy.”

“Local biomass”

“Biomass conversion is appropriate for clusters of ten or more adjacent dwellings. The others entail conversion to electrical energy and are appropriate to a more spread out community. Detailed examination would determine which, if any, are economically viable and visually acceptable.”

“All renewable energy schemes should be encouraged.”

“Small scale locally owned. Not a huge solar park/farm.”

“I would like the NDP to support such schemes but I don’t think a very detailed policy is needed – more general principles of support.”

“Individual homeowners should also be able to install sustainable energy production for their properties without planning obstruction.”

“All of these would be unsightly and be against the interest of the natural environment.”

“‘Community Energy Scheme’ is not defined. Electrical power generated by whatever means is fed into the National Grid system for use throughout mainland Britain. No-one should try to pretend that a power station situated in a particular place provides power just for the local area, as in: ‘this wind turbine will provide electricity for 50 nearby homes’ as put out by the scammers.

Serious consideration should be given to identifying sites suitable for small modular nuclear power stations when they become available. These plants are small, quiet, entirely safe, usually unmanned and have no noxious emissions.”

Q23: Do you know of any areas where flooding (eg flash floods and surface water flooding) is a problem?

“Occasional at the River Leadon.”

“The Lugg drainage board has done a GREAT job of clearing the river of timber and fallen trees.”

“Frome River area “

“In fields near Homend Park estate.”

“Edge of flood plain adjacent to Homend estate.”

“From River Frome (edge of flood plain); from our pond and ponds seen in Homend Park”

“Area between Stretton Grandison and Blacklands”

“Area of low-lying land between Stretton Grandison and Ashperton”

“Along Back Brook & Watery Lane”

“Field run-off occasionally through Old Hop Barn and Stretton Court Farmhouse and into Old Threshing Barn property.”

“The Threshing Barn [Stretton Grandison].”

“Surface water runs off the field behind S.G. church, is concentrated at one point between the development at The Grange & The Hop Barns. This has been a problem but the residents have had to build in flood defences which cope with the worst of it.”

“Frome Valley”

“Watery Lane; Coppy Cottage at Stretton Grandison”

“Locally Watery Lane to Yarkhill”

“Not within the village boundaries”

“Townsend suffered flash flooding in 2007 due to field and road run-off; inadequate drainage.”

“A417 flash flooding”

“Use design technology such as used by The Netherlands. Which works well to keep areas drained & flood free.”

“Environment Agency should enforce maintenance of drainage ditches to prevent flooding.”

“These areas [fields adjacent to drainage ditches and River Frome] should never be considered for development. In fact, they should be allowed to revert to water-meadows.”

“As drain blockages don’t get cleared by the council, this has caused the ditch to overflow and cause flooding along Canon Frome Lane.”

“Innovative ideas such as properties on stilts should be considered.”

Q24: Has your property suffered from flooding in the last 10 years?

“Ditch has been cleared. No further problems incurred – was a result of potato ground run off.”

“The Threshing Barn at S.G. has had to spend £25k+ to remedy flooding issues from surface water, other properties and the main road.”

“Not in the 4 years we’ve lived here”

“However, road drainage on A417 very poor, causing rain water to amass. Also, poorly maintained as drains not cleaned regularly by council.”

“Our house is up high!”

“My house is over 400 years old. Looking at where old properties are sited gives a clue as to the lowest flood risk.”

“A417 road surface collects large puddles which cause excessive spray in rainy conditions.”

“Property doesn’t flood but surrounding roads do.”

Q25: What aspects of community living do you think we need to address to ensure that our parish thrives as a place in which to live, work and play over the next 20 years and beyond?

“Impractical”

“There is already a milkman/paperman that hardly is supported by the locals now. I was born in Lower Eggleton, christened in Stretton church, went to school in Ashperton and run a business in Lower Eggleton. To keep myself in the village the housing plans need to be affordable homes for the LOCAL people working in the area.”

“A village hall for Stretton Grandison would be useful. This could also be used by Eggleton.”

“We are only a small village”

“There are already ample community facilities. Consideration needs to be given to greater & wider use of them.”

“ 1) Flood Control; 2) Pedestrian Access; 3) Better Broadband; 4)Traffic speed control enforcement in our area; 5) Mains gas supply”

“Better broadband; no footpaths, so dangerous to walk; Mains gas supply”

“Better broadband; Mains gas supply”

“Encouraging support and companionship for local elderly people.”

“Essential if villages are to survive.”

“In small villages a multifunctional meeting place would be good, but who runs it?

“Transport links would be good. Walking & cycling would require calming of speeds (ie enforcing 30mph zones) as currently A417 has no pavement and speeding cars around blind bends!”

“Complete lack of bus services in some villages. Road too dangerous to walk or cycle – no pavements. It is impossible to walk anywhere in Stretton Grandison other than over private farmland.”

“No buses. Walking dangerous along A417 – no pavements. No facilities in Stretton Grandison; have to use car to post a letter!”

“A pub in the area is required, especially in Newtown crossroads.”

“Keep the Post Offices open”

“Walking routes very important”

“Need easy support from council, not being restricted by red tape & bureaucracy, but being led by visionary, open, forward thinking”

“None of the settlements except Fromes Hill have any public facilities.”

“Stretton Grandison has no community/village centre as such, except the church. Not sure its big enough to warrant them but the church should be safeguarded.”

“Improve public transport, or car use will continue to rise. Roads are not maintained adequately. No local employment so young will always move away. Community facilities in and around Canon Frome are non existent.”

“As a minimum requirement homes should meet government standards but I do not see a need to exceed them.”

“By employment, I understand this would be in easy-to-reach towns & cities, not in the villages.”

“We need affordable housing both owned and rented for low income rural workers. Further development to unused agricultural building would provide additional employment opportunities. Look at how the Scotch Egg Company has provided jobs.”

“Encouraging new industry will help younger people live in our villages, also they need affordable leisure activities and maybe one new primary school/ sports hall/field not on the main road.”

“A sustainable community is vital; I think all these things should be conditional to new developments. Encouraging lift-sharing by developing an app would be helpful.”

“Consideration of materials used in development/building ie embodied energy & wider environmental impacts of various materials. Faster broadband would enable people to work from home.”

“Poor broadband/web access hinders working locally. There is a massive need to improve broadband infrastructure.”

“Homes – rental, low energy, family sized: provide public transport: much of Canon Frome Court & hamlet commute DAILY, bringing employment locally: Broadband.”

“Public transport is a problem – would be good if it improved. Homes with gardens where families can grow their own food.”

“It is unlikely that we can justify a bus service sufficiently frequent to cover such essentials as local medical and dental services or even one which links up to services to Hereford.”

“Cycling is almost impossible given the narrowness & state (pot-holes) of the roads, & the speed of traffic. It would be great to have safe cycling lanes to Ledbury/Hereford to link with railway stations.”

“Investment in public transport badly needed. What about a ‘hop-along’ type?”

“No more new homes should be built whether or not they exceed energy efficiency standards.

No land should be ‘allocated’ to enable residents to grow their own food. This is an entirely uneconomical and impractical way to feed people and public funds should not be used to support it. ‘Allocating’ is not defined. Does it mean confiscation of someone else’s land so as to provide allotments to those who demand them?

Going by bus more will not happen and need not be addressed. There are no funds available to subsidise further bus transport. Walking and cycling are best encouraged by removing from the roads altogether those that drive motor vehicles aggressively and wish to kill and maim other road users.

No type of community facility is defined but there should be no new building work for such ventures and no urbanisation of the local countryside in any way.”

Q26: In your opinion, are any changes needed with regard to the following transport issues:

“Currently there are no footpaths so walkers need to walk on the busy A4103 and jump on to the grass to avoid traffic. The brambles and trees have been left to grow out of control. If new houses are to be built, thought will need to be put into a footpath/cycle path to enable walkers to Homend Park or even Newtown shop. There is room on the side of the road for this.”

“ Lower Eggleton is merely on a fast main road.”

“ The pot holes are terrible; no signs of being repaired! The road need re-surfacing 9has been years since last done).”

“ Pot holes are an issue. The main problem is speed of traffic along the A417 in the 30mph area in Stretton Grandison. The bend is dangerous and speed limits need enforcing.”

“ Road maintenance and footpaths should be paid for by residents.”

“Need restricted access through Homend Park – which is now used as a “rat run”.”

“Dangerous corner near the church where people are trying to turn right. Would a mirror in the right place help? Alternative would be traffic lights. This is a busy road at times.”

“ The turning from A417 into Homend Park is a blind corner; please consider a mirror to aid visibility.”

“Stretton Grandison: The sharp bend in the road is a blind corner for traffic heading in and out of Homend Park. At the very least, there should be a mirror.”

“ Speed bumps through the Park; A417 chicane very dangerous – Speed camera needed!”

“Motorists frequently drive over 30 mph through Stretton Grandison which make turning right (from Ledbury) into the lane past the church, on the blind corner, very tricky.”

“A permanent camera on the bend to slow down vehicles especially lorries on the A417”

“We have virtually no council facilities – street lights, pavements etc!!”

“Village poorly served with all the above amenities. Ability to drive and possession of a car essential.”

“Footpaths and gates are often neglected. Greater public transport provision is essential.”

“Road by the Stretton Grandison 30 mph bend: turning into Upper Eggleton is bad and dangerous, something needs to be done to make this safer.”

“Any housing developments should include adjustments to the roads to allow for increase of traffic & safety for children & walkers & cyclists.”

“30 mph speed limit through Stretton Grandison is frequently ignored, especially by heavy vehicles. Suggest traffic calming devices, or a bypass.”

“Too many lorries use the lane and many vehicles aped along, including local cars.”

“Our lane is a ‘rat-run’ to cut off corner & traffic lights at Newtown. Lorries destroy road surfaces. Tractors destroy verges but are necessary evils! More passing places needed.”

“Very badly catered for here [by bus service] and the only transport is your own car. Should the village increase in size this would be a priority.”

“Intending to move to Ledbury in order to access local services.”

“Traffic volumes are not excessive in the villages. Speed restrictions should be considered in Lower Eggleton if development is to focus there. The condition of many of the local roads poses a growing hazard to most classes of road user. The quality of repairs should be improved so that pot-holes do not keep re-appearing in the same places.”

“Not able to use footpaths on Canon Frome Court”

“Maybe an opportunity to have a minibus service (dial a ride)

“More buses running more frequently; train – re-instate stop at Ashperton.”

Bus service to Canon Frome has been cut completely; would be great to see it re-instated and more use encouraged. Bike Lanes – could encourage more people to be active and use cars less; especially if there was an off-road but tarmac path to Hereford so people could commute. A possible way to do this would be to work with the Hereford & Gloucester Canal Society which is aiming to re-instate the canal and tow path.”

“Cycling to Hereford would be more possible if improved at the Hereford end.”

“The bridge by Canon Frome Court gates needs a ‘road narrows’ sign.”

“Re-instate train stop”

“Support cycle routes to Hereford/Ledbury”

“Better provision for cycling if that was possible. Its quite frightening sometimes cycling on the roads as traffic passes you closely & fast. If I felt safer I would cycle more.”

“The traffic on A417 comes extremely fast down towards Blacklands garage – this is potentially a hazard at the Canon Frome turn off – pulling out is concerning. Visibility to the left as you pull out is also poor.”

[Largely illegible comment about lack of bus services through Canon Frome to Ledbury & Hereford]

“Public transport for young people who don’t drive and older people is lacking. Footpaths on farmland need to be enforces – not grown over.”

“More buses needed along A417 – most settlements accessible from this main road.”

“A pavement/cycle lane from Blacklands to Trumpet.”

“The five parishes are too spread out to make a central village hall viable, and similarly, shops and pubs. There are no commuter objectives within reasonable walking or cycling distance.

“Need more frequent bus service during the day and at weekends.”

“Bus service not viable BUT it would be brilliant to facilitate lift sharing somehow.”

“We want more regular bus services for youths trying to get into Ledbury/Hereford. Also cheaper and bus pass to 18.”

“Better provision of bus & cycle services.”

“Farmers are making footpaths less & less accessible across their fields.”

“Parking for bikes at bus stops, particularly at junctions: Cycle paths please.”

“Poor road maintenance damages vehicles & is a potential hazard to many types of road user.”

“Try reducing traffic speeds along Watery Lane – it is 60 mph at the moment – accidents waiting to happen – used as a rat-run now – traffic tripled in 2 years.”

“Reckless and dangerous driving along the A4103 through Upper and Lower Eggleton: This stretch of road should have a speed limit of 40 mph, strictly enforced.
Parking in Stretton Grandison: Limited non-overnight parking for visitors is available at the church and is convenient for visitors who wish to walk locally. The church might wish to encourage such limited use by overtly suggesting that donations be left at the church.”